

**MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2020**

The McDonough County Board of Health regular meeting was held in the board office on Wednesday, June 10, 2020. The regular meeting was called to order at 6:59 by Dr. Amy Waschull, President.

**Members Present:** Dr. Tim Fitzgerald, Carrie Pedigo, Dr. Karen Blakeley, Dr. Amy Waschull, Pat Smith, Dr. Nancy Parsons, Marcia Moll and Marcia Twaddle

**Members Absent:** none

**Staff Present:** Lynnette Cale, Chris Adams, Kerri Allen, Ben Thompson and Kathy Cleer

**Visitors Present:** none

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**Call to Order:**

Meeting was called to order at 6:59 by President Dr. Amy Waschull.

**Minutes:**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. NANCY PARSONS AND SECONDED BY MARCIA MOLL TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 12, 2020 MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. NANCY PARSONS AND SECONDED BY MARCIA MOLL TO APPROVE THE MAY 11, 2020 MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. NANCY PARSONS AND SECONDED BY MARCIA MOLL TO APPROVE THE MAY 11, 2020 MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH CLOSED SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Claims:**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY CARRIE PEDIGO FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2020 THROUGH FEBRUARY 29, 2019 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,452.60. MOTION CARRIED.**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY CARRIE PEDIGO FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2020 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$35,002.52. MOTION CARRIED.**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY DR. CARRIE PEDIGO FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF APRIL 1, 2020 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,486.97. MOTION CARRIED.**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY DR. CARRIE PEDIGO FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF MAY 1, 2020 THROUGH MAY 31, 2020 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,092.97. MOTION CARRIED.**

## Reports:

Board of Health- none

County Board- Marcia Twaddle had nothing to report. She did inquire as to whether they needed to make a declaration of disaster for the next month. Lynnette thought it would be advisable to do so but would check into it and let Marcia know.

Directors Reports-

### Environmental Health Division

Chris Adams, Environmental Health Director

Chris reported that EH did water week curbside service this year. They had 10 residents participate with four of those having issues. Body Art and Tanning will open in Phase 3. Schuyler County Health Department had their very first water week this year. They have been collecting mosquito batches for West Nile Virus. Environmental Division is getting ready to start food facility inspections and we progress in to Phase 4. We are dealing with all sorts of complaints from outdoor dining, mask complaints and how the food facilities are operating. It has been very challenging.

### Community Health Division

Kerri Allen, Community Health Director

Kerri reported that her staff is very busy with COVID-19. Some programs have been stopped but WIC is still operating by phone and curbside service. They will be converting WIC over to the IWIC system this summer and will be doing some trainings on the new system in August. Kerri said they are currently finishing out the grant year and spending out funds. We may need to return unspent funds this year. Kerri just wanted to say how proud she is of our team and efforts put forward during the pandemic.

### Administrator's Report

Lynnette Cale, Administrator

Lynnette reported that we are working on yearend of FY20 and finish up spending out grants. The last part of the fiscal year has been a wash. FY21 grants are coming out and we received our State Flu Contract today. She has been working on the Contact Tracing grant and yearend reports. There has been level funding at IDPH. There will be a \$1 million increase for Public Health this year. We will see a small percentage of those funds. Lynnette will be working on the MCHD budget from July to September and also working on Covid. Other administrators at health departments still have their buildings locked. The neighbor contacted us about purchasing her house. We are still contracting with SCHD.

## NEW BUSINESS

NONE

## OLD BUSINESS

**Ben Thompson provided an update on Corona Virus (Covid-19). We have purchased 7,827 items of PPE. This includes masks, shoe covers, and gowns and it has been distributed to first responders, the hospital, congregate settings and schools. Ben reported that he is at the EOC at WIU one to two times a week and does video conferencing on the other days. He is currently working on plans for an outdoor immunization clinic if the weather permits. Long term care needs to come up with a plan for COVID-19 testing. First test is for a base line and then maybe every 2 weeks, but it is up to each facility to make their own plan. The facility**

nurses could administer the tests or IDPH can send out people to do it. They have to make their plans public. Two facilities have already done their testing, Heartland and Wesley. Bickford is an assisted living facility. McDonough County has five facilities that are required to do testing and they have received PPE from IEMA and FEMA. It may not be what they wanted but they did receive some PPE. People are comparing our nursing home facilities to others. Our numbers at present are two in the hospital which brings our total at this point to 93 positive. Kerri Allen said that we sent out a press release retracting 2 cases that MDH reported without getting confirmation on two rapid tests. They have to be PPR confirmed. Presently we have 16 deaths listed within our county. Fifteen are confirmed Covid-19 and 1 is listed as probable. Lynnette reported that the teenagers that contracted Covid-19 and submitted to the virus were not healthy. The coroner listed pre-existing comorbidities. The nursing homes are extremely susceptible. There are over 1 million tests at the state and private labs. The communicable disease labs are catching up. There is a 92 percent recovery rate from the virus. McDonough County has a five percent infection rate. We sent out a press release a couple of weeks ago on all the things Heartland has done and the outbreak. They are doing everything they can. IDPH did a walk through about donning and doffing PPE and they reported that it is being done properly. It's not uncommon to have an outbreak once it gets into a long term facility. They were reluctant to share info but now they are very forthcoming with information. We have been getting a lot of complaints. In the daily briefing from Governor Pritzker and Dr. Ezike, they are telling people to call their local health departments. We find out at the same time as the general public with no advanced warning of what will be discussed that day and what guidance we are to be giving the general public. Guidance comes in after the briefing and we have been inundated with phone calls wanting information that we don't have yet. The State is not communicating with us. The State has told athletic divisions, schools with graduations and townships with annual meetings to contact the health department with their plans. We are to review them and send them a letter that we have approved the plans. They have done the same thing for schools going back into session in the fall, summer school sessions, parks and pools. They were told to contact us for guidance we hadn't received yet. We do have some good news. We received one grant for \$42,000 for Covid-19 but have used the money quickly. We are in the process of applying for a contact tracing grant. We received it a week ago and it was due yesterday. It will be good through June 30, 2021 with the possibility of a one year extension. The requirements for the grant are to expand on our contact tracing, improve literacy and communications. Edgar Rodriguez did a Spanish PSA. Currently the staff at MCHD and SCHD are taking a specific course on contact tracing. This contract tracing grant is a federal grant and is \$2.8 million. It is federal pass through money and we will have a year to spend it out. Public Health has been underfunded for years and now they are trying to make up for that. The plan that was submitted has not been approved yet. It came with no instructions or any allowable or unallowable items. The plan included hiring four contact tracers on a contractual basis and a Health Educator/PIO contractually for two years. She submitted for updating computers, servers, buying the house next door, parking lot, backup generator, mobile unit, staff time/benefits and some remodeling. We would receive \$700,000 up front and would have to submit for reimbursement for each quarter after that. We would need to establish a line of credit in order to pay for future purchases. Lynnette did reach out to Joe to clear up a lot of misconceptions. Some money will go for WIU testing. We work with Beu on a regular basis on STDs and communicable diseases. We would do more education in schools about social distancing and handwashing. We would purchase additional PPE and handwashing stations. Lynnette budgeted high on things and can do budget adjustments later to move the money where it is needed. Right now we are dealing with a lot of things. Civil unrest, second wave of Covid-19, staff wanting to take vacations, etc.

#### CLOSED SESSION

NONE

#### PUBLIC COMMENT PER LETTER OF INTENT

NONE

**Adjourn:**

**MARCIA MOLL MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY DR. TIM FITZGERALD TO ADJOURN AT 8:00 PM. MOTION CARRIED.**

Kathy Cleer  
Business Office Manager/CFO

***NOTE: The next BOH meeting will be Wednesday, July 8, 2020 at 7 pm.***