

**MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021**

The McDonough County Board of Health regular meeting was held in the board office on Wednesday, April 14, 2021. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Dr. Amy Waschull, President.

Members Present: Dr. Tim Fitzgerald, Dr. Amy Waschull, Dr. Nancy Parsons, Terra Litchfield, Dr. Karen Blakeley, Christy Foster, Roger Ward, Gwynne Worthington and Dr. Richard Minter

Members Absent: none

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

Visitors Present: Helen Spencer

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 by President Dr. Amy Waschull.

Introduction of Board Members and MCHD Staff

Board of Health members and MCHD staff introduced themselves at the beginning to the meeting. We had four new board members appointed and this was their first meeting.

Minutes:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TERRA LITCHFIELD AND SECONDED BY DR. TIM FITZGERALD TO APPROVE THE MARCH 10, 2021 MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

**DR. KAREN BLAKELEY-YES
CHRISTY FOSTER-YES
DR. AMY WASCHULL- YES**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD- YES
TERRA LITCHFIELD- YES
ROGER WARD-YES**

**DR. NANCY PARSONS- YES
DR. RICHARD MINTER-YES
GWYENNE WORTHINGTON-YES**

Claims:

DR. TIM FITZGERALD MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY DR. NANCY PARSONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2021 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$215,175.58. MOTION CARRIED. ROLL CALL WAS TAKEN:

**DR. KAREN BLAKELEY-YES
CHRISTY FOSTER-YES
DR. AMY WASCHULL- YES**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD- YES
TERRA LITCHFIELD- YES
ROGER WARD-YES**

**DR. NANCY PARSONS- YES
DR. RICHARD MINTER-YES
GWYENNE WORTHINGTON-YES**

Reports:

Board of Health- Dr. Waschull reported that she has had several meetings with the Mayor Inman, County Board Chairman Scott Schwerer and MDH CEO Brian Dietz in the last couple of weeks. The goal is to get vaccines in arms and has been very successful.

County Board- Terra Litchfield said she participated at the vaccine clinic and was pleased with how well it went. Everything ran smoothly and she thought everyone did an awesome job.

Directors Reports-

Environmental Health Division

Chris Adams, Environmental Health Director

Chris reported that EH staff are back to doing food inspections at restaurants, schools and nursing homes. We are seeing an increase in childhood lead cases and doing more case investigations. We will be having a tire pick up next week for towns and cities. It's a good way for township supervisors and city workers to get rid of stuff that they have picked up over the last year.

Community Health Division

Kerri Allen, Community Health Director

Kerri said she basically wanted to talk about health check. We will start doing BinaxNOW testing, immunizations and bloodwork starting on April 5th. We got the BinaxNOW tests free from the state and they will expire at the end of June. WIC has a new policy/procedure section. They implemented a new program last summer and they are just now developing their policy and procedure. STD cases are on the rise. State alerted us that we are in gonorrhea outbreak status.

Administrator's Report

Kerri Allen, Interim Administrator

Kerri handed out the history of the health department, Board of Health meeting schedule for the rest of the year, contact list, information on the Open Meetings Act and a copy of the Board of Health Bylaws. She has been working on the end of the 3rd Quarter grant reports, moving money for line item adjustments, signed the Mass Vaccination grant and the Tobacco grant. Grants are opening up for FY 2022. Kerri is currently working on PHEP, Tobacco and Smoke-free grants for FY 2022. We are in the process of updating the served and WiFi router. The building is in need of having the cabling replaced.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID-19 UPDATES

Ben reported that last Saturday marked a year for our first reported COVID-19 positive case. There have been seven million vaccinations administered so far. The state opened up vaccinations for 16 years old and up. State numbers are rising as well as county for a positivity rate. People are becoming complacent and activities are increasing. We have 2520 confirmed cases, 48 active, and 2420 recovered and 52 deaths for McDonough County. Schuyler County has 671 confirmed cases, 5 current cases and 16 deaths. There have been 15,441 vaccinations administered and this includes long term care facilities, pharmacies, hospitals and the health department. In McDonough County, that would be 7,118 people or 23.76 percent of the population. If a resident goes somewhere else and gets vaccinated, it gets reported for our county if they are using their home address. We have multiple clinics going on and the National Guard is in town to do vaccinations at WIU. They have switched from Johnson & Johnson to Moderna. There were 131 people vaccinated at WIU today and the National Guard will be back tomorrow from 9 to 6 at WIU. We had gotten Pfizer vaccine this week and has worked with three school districts to vaccinate 16 to 18 year olds on the 26th. Parents are excited about us coming to the schools to do the vaccinations. We will go back to the schools when it is time to do the second dose. We did clinics at NTN Bower and Pella for first dose and will go back to do second dose. On the 27th, we will be at Bushnell Fire Department from 10-2 to do Moderna or Johnson & Johnson. Adams County has an RV bus to take around for their clinics. We have seen a decrease in the number of appointments being made for the big clinics. People would prefer the smaller clinics. Thank you to the Board of Health members that helped

at our clinic at the Farm King building. The state would like to see 80 percent of the population to be vaccinated. Pfizer is trying to push to get to do younger people with their vaccine. We do plan to do some large clinics but are waiting for the state to take the Johnson & Johnson vaccine off pause. IDPH will probably tell us to use the Johnson & Johnson vaccine instead of sending it back. It was asked how we are comparing to other counties and Ben said IDPH has a map you can click on to see the numbers. It was asked if people are still having trouble getting signed up for appointments and Dr. Minter said yes. He has lots of older clients having trouble getting scheduled. Dr. Minter commented that it would be helpful if we had brochures to give to the clients with the information on how to set up an appointment or who to call to help. The next challenge is to get the undecided people to get vaccinated.

APPROVAL OF CONCRETE PADS AND FENCING ON EAST LOT

Chris reported that he has been working with some contractors' getting quotes. Smiley Construction gave a bid of \$3400 for the fence and \$6670 for the concrete. He received another bid for \$6000 from Carnahan for concrete. Hollister's gave a bid of \$4370 to run electricity to the containers for lights. Chris said AMP was going to place a quote but he hasn't received anything from them yet.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH

Dr. Waschull and Terra Litchfield are on the search committee for a new administrator. Dr. Waschull feels that they shouldn't be in a rush to hire a new administrator. She thought it might be a good idea to hire a consulting firm to do the search. She was going to make some calls to IPHA and IDPH to see who they would recommend and would bring the information to the next board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

NOMINATE AND APPROVE BOH VP AND SECRETARY

DR. AMY WASCHULL NOMINATED TERRA LITCHFIELD FOR VICE PRESIDENT AND WAS SECONDED BY DR. RICHARD MINTER. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN:

**DR. KAREN BLAKELEY-YES
CHRISTY FOSTER-YES
DR. AMY WASCHULL- YES**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD- YES
TERRA LITCHFIELD- ABSTAIN
ROGER WARD-YES**

**DR. NANCY PARSONS- YES
DR. RICHARD MINTER-YES
GWYENNE WORTHINGTON-YES**

MOTION CARRIED.

TERRA LITCHFIELD NOMINATED DR. KAREN BLAKELEY FOR SECRETARY AND WAS SECONDED BY DR. RICHARD MINTER. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN:

**DR. KAREN BLAKELEY-YES
CHRISTY FOSTER-YES
DR. AMY WASCHULL- YES**

**DR. TIM FITZGERALD- YES
TERRA LITCHFIELD- YES
ROGER WARD-YES**

**DR. NANCY PARSONS- YES
DR. RICHARD MINTER-YES
GWYENNE WORTHINGTON-YES**

MOTION CARRIED.

Kerri handed out a draft copy of the FY 2020 annual report for the Board of Health members to review. It will be approved at the next Board of Health meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT PER LETTER OF INTENT

NONE

Adjourn:

DR. NANCY PARSONS MADE A MOTION AT TO ADJOURN AND WAS SECONDED DR. TIM FITZGERALD AT 8:18P.M. MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Cleer
Business Office Manager/CFO

NOTE: The next BOH meeting will be Monday, May 12, 2021 at 7 pm.