

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

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

Members Present: Dr. Amy Waschull, Terra Litchfield, Dr. Karen Blakeley, Christy Foster, Gwynne Worthington, Andrea Ratermann, Dr. Nicholas Doll and Dr. Richard Minter

Members Absent: Roger Ward

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

Visitors Present: none

Call to Order:

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

Introductions:

All present at the meeting introduced themselves to new members Dr. Nicholas Doll and Andrea Ratermann.

Public Comment:

none

Minutes:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. RICHARD MINTER AND SECONDED BY TERRA LITCHFIELD TO APPROVE THE JUNE 9, 2021 MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

Claims:

TERRA LITCHFIELD MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY CHRISTY FOSTER FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF JUNE 1, 2021 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2021 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$361,627.40. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN. MOTION CARRIED.

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

**ANDREA RATERMANN-YES
TERRA LITCHFIELD- YES
ROGER WARD-absent**

**DR. NICHOLAS DOLL-YES
DR. RICHARD MINTER-YES
GWYNNE WORTHINGTON-YES**

Reports:

Board of Health- none

County Board- none

Directors Reports-

Environmental Health Division

Chris Adams, Environmental Health Director

Chris Adams reported that they did temporary food inspections for Heritage Days in June and Schuyler County Fair for a total of 35 food inspections. They are back in the field doing food, water and sewage inspections. They did first test on a batch of mosquitoes for the West Nile Virus grant and the batch came back negative. He stated that they had an interesting call on a ground hog bite. They sent it in to be tested for rabies. Chris went over the different services that his division provides for the community. There are three sanitarians in his division: Niki Duffy, Stefanie Johnson and Chris Adams. Ben Thompson is also in the Environmental Division as PHEP coordinator and EH also has a program assistant, Anaiah Payne. At Schuyler County, Reeves Huston is the sanitarian and covers everything there.

Community Health Division

Kerri Allen, Community Health Director

Kerri reported that in her division, services are fully open. Her staff does WIC, blood draws, vaccinations, blood pressure checks and various other health services. She has been keeping very busy with final reports for the end of the state fiscal year. WIC is the largest grant that Community Health has. The link card and unemployment are giving more money so the WIC numbers are down. Kerri explained what the WIC guidelines and talked about the Susan G. Komen program and IBCCP.

Administrator's Report

Kerri Allen, Interim Administrator

Kerri talked about the amount of money spent out in claims. Gretchen DeJaynes sent Kerri an email with the tax amounts that the health department owed the county. That has been sent to them and is in the claims total. She said it would be six to nine months before we hear what the penalties and interest will be. She filed for an extension for IPLAN for both McDonough and Schuyler. Kerri said that County Board Chairman, Scott Schwerer, contacted her about needing to know what our profit/loss was from FY16 to present for the ARAP grant. She sent an email to Scott and Gretchen about if the health department will receive any money from this grant but hasn't heard back from them yet. Kerri presented each board member with a binder with BOH information. She plans to attend a conference on August 11th and 12th and will not be at the next Board of Health meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID 19 UPDATES

Ben Thompson said they are reporting cases weekly. McDonough County has 30 new cases, 24 newly recovered, and 61 deaths. Cases are on the rise across the United States. Region 2 has a 2% positivity rate and McDonough County is at a 7.9% test positivity rate which put us on a warning status. The population is at 37.54 being vaccinated. Salesforce is the software program we are using for contact tracing. There are 9521 total records in Salesforce and this includes contacts. There have been 12,133 vaccinations given in McDonough County and this includes vaccinations given by fire departments, Lifeguard Ambulance Services, pharmacies, the hospital and the health department. Vaccine clinics are now being done on a walk-in basis on Thursdays at the health department. All three vaccines are available. Some of the international students are coming back and we are working on getting them vaccinated. The CDC came out with information on guidance for schools on Friday and Ben had a conference call with IDPH about school guidance on Monday. He drew 10 names today for incentives to get vaccinated. Ben did a hot wash on July 13th with staff on what worked and what didn't work with our Covid-19 plan. He also did a CPR class with staff today. Ben mentioned there is funeral assistance available if it's Covid related. He sent out letters to residents with pamphlets on how to apply. The Bionex tests

that are purchased at the pharmacies are not reportable. The health department can do a rapid test, you just have to make an appointment. Saliva testing is available for schools that want to participate.

NEW ADMINISTRATOR SEARCH

Dr. Amy Waschull said that the consultant, Miriam Link-Mullison, met with the Search Committee, the county partners, Mayor Inman, County Board Chairman Scott Schwerer, and the staff of the health department. She put together a report of her findings and Dr. Waschull sent a copy of it to each of the Board of Health Members. They will discuss the report at a later date. Miriam revised the job duties of the administrator and the job ad. She basically gave us a road map of what we need to do now. She gave notes on the strategic plan for the health department. Miriam recommends hiring an HR person to help with the search. Dr. Waschull has spoken with Bill Corbin who works at MDH as being a possible consultant. He said he would be interested but she wanted to bring it to the BOH before acting. He has been in the healthcare field a long time. We need to get the job ads placed with an apply by date of August 31st. The administrator search committee is Dr. Waschull, Gwynne Worthington, Terra Litchfield and Holly Cain.

STORAGE, BUILDING, GROUND DISCUSSION

Kerri said that she and her husband trimmed the ornamental pear tree on the east side of the building. Chris said that the city is planning to remove a dead ash tree in a couple of weeks that is located at the south end of the health department lot. We had a limb fall on the neighbor's house from a soft maple tree on the boundary between our property and theirs. It was suggested possibly removing the tree and planting another tree in memory of lives lost to Covid. Kerri contacted the Buildings and Grounds committee about our parking lot. She would also like to get our restrooms up front handicap accessible. The dental clinic at Schuyler is currently being gutted so they can start remodeling before they lose their donor money. Kerri contacted the state about a storage building and they said they would only allot \$3000 towards the cost and there would be stipulations. The container units are still available. A two car garage would be big enough for our needs. We could always take the pods and resell at a later time. We need to wait for lumber prices to start coming down before we plan to have a building constructed. Chris is working on getting the stained glass windows out of the shed and taking pictures of them so we can work on getting them sold. Dr. Blakeley said she would like to purchase one. Board members then took a tour of the building after meeting was adjourned.

NEW BUSINESS

NONE

Adjourn:

CHRISTY FOSTER MADE A MOTION AT TO ADJOURN AND WAS SECONDED BY GYWNNE WORTHINGTON AT 9:02 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Cleer
Business Office Manager/CFO

NOTE: The next BOH meeting will be Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 7 pm.