

**MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2022**

The McDonough County Board of Health regular meeting was held in the board office on Wednesday, January 12, 2022. The regular meeting was called to order at 7:06 by Andrea Ratermann, President.

Members Present: Dr. Amy Waschull, Dr. Karen Blakeley, Terra Litchfield, Becky Mahr, Roger Ward, Gwynne Worthington, Andrea Ratermann, Dr. Nicholas Doll, and Dr. Richard Minter

Members Absent: none

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

Visitors Present: none

Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 by President Andrea Ratermann.

Public Comment:

none

Minutes:

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DR. RICHARD MINTER AND SECONDED BY DR. AMY WASCHULL TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 10, 2021, MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH REGULAR MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

Claims:

DR. AMY WASCHULL MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY DR. NICK DOLL FOR THE APPROVAL OF CLAIMS FOR THE PERIOD OF DECEMBER 1, 2021, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$91,716.32. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: BLAKELEY-YES, DOLL-YES, LITCHFIELD-YES, MAHR-ABSTAIN, MINTER-YES, RATERMANN-YES, WARD-YES, WASCHULL-YES, WORTHINGTON-ABSTAIN. MOTION CARRIED.

Reports:

Board of Health- NONE

County Board- Terra Litchfield reported that the ARPA money is getting freed up. She met with the ESDA Coordinator and Kerri Allen about the joint building. The building is on county property and the money for ARPA is less restrictive.

Directors Reports-

Environmental Health Division

Chris Adams, Environmental Health Director

Chris said the XRF lead gun has been ordered and will assist in doing lead inspections. Food inspections are going digital. Chris and his staff are meeting weekly for Health Space trainings. We have a couple of new restaurants opening, Bubba Deans is going in the old Italian Express location and Phoenix is going in the old Java House location. We also have a new tattoo parlor opening on Jackson Street. Cottage food can now sell online. Chris has met with the County Board before about cottage food licenses.

Community Health Division

Jennifer Plate, Community Health Director

Jennifer reported that she has hired two part time nurses Joby Miller and Janene Shockency. Joby will be helping with clinics, IPLAN, Health Education and Outreach. Janene is only working Covid. She is working on hiring more contractual nurses. Alicia Napier was hired to fill Jennifer's position. She is doing lead and WIC. We put out an ad yesterday and have had five applications so far.

Administrator's Report

Kerri Allen, Administrator

Kerri reported that she celebrated her 10th anniversary with the health department last week. She has received paperwork from IDPH that she is officially appointed as administrator. Ben will share the Covid updates. We have done very well at spending out Covid funds. We plan to hire additional nurses and staff to get our regular staff back to their jobs.

OLD BUSINESS

COVID 19 UPDATES

Ben Thompson gave the Covid updates for McDonough and Schuyler Counties. Covid numbers are going up. Region 2 is at 21.1% with 9% ICU beds available. McDonough is at 15.1% with 45.6% vaccination rate. At the end of December, we had given 1062 doses. We did 337 Binax rapid tests in December. We have done 234 so far in January. We have had to purchase rapid tests as the state doesn't have enough to send us any. The Surge Center at state is set to start on January 13th. The health department will be responsible for persons 65 and older and congregate settings. The Surge Center is responsible for everything else. We are sharing data twice a week and we are getting our information from IDPH and making our own graphics. We are doing vaccination clinics on Thursdays from 9-4 in the old Farm King building and Sandburg Lounge at WIU. We will also be holding pediatric clinics and the state will help with those. We are working with the hospital on a courier service. The state will only allow 50 tests a day now and the rest will have to go to a private lab. We will start back up with Binax testing next week.

MULTI-PURPOSE ROOM EXPANSION REMODEL

Kerri said Doug Benton and Associates initially planned to get the bathrooms ADA compliant and make a multipurpose room. He estimated that the remodel would cost from \$20,000 to \$30,000. The bathrooms must be done since they aren't handicap accessible. Kerri will send out the bids once she receives them. She would like to close the building since the public won't have use of the restrooms. After some discussion on the matter, the board decided that the building will remain open during the remodel.

DR. RICHARD MINTER MADE A MOTION; SECONDED BY DR. AMY WASCHULL TO APPROVE A BID UP TO \$30,000 AND HAVE KERRI SEND THE BOARD MEMBERS AN EMAIL OF THE BIDS. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: BLAKELEY-YES. DOLL-YES, LITCHFIELD-YES, MAHR-ABSTAIN, MINTER-YES, RATERMANN-YES, WARD-YES, WASCHULL-YES, WORTHINGTON-YES. MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS

IPLAN & STRATEGIC PLAN

Kerri gave the Board of Health members a copy of our IPLAN and our Strategic Plan. Miriam did our Strategic plan while she was interviewing about areas of improvement for our health department. Kerri explained what IPLAN is and why we need it. The last one that was done ended in 2020. The areas that were considered high priority for our county were selected by committee members and surveys done by members of the community. The state is currently reviewing our IPLAN.

DR. AMY WASCHULL MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE IPLAN AND WAS SECONDED BY TERRA LITCHFIELD. ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: BLAKELEY-YES. DOLL-YES, LITCHFIELD-YES, MAHR-YES, MINTER-YES, RATERMANN-YES, WARD-YES, WASCHULL-YES, WORTHINGTON-YES. MOTION CARRIED.

DR. RICHARD MINTER MADE A MOTION TO APPROVE OUR STRATEGIC PLAN AND WAS SECONDED BY DR. NICK DOLL. A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN: BLAKELEY-YES. DOLL-YES, LITCHFIELD-YES, MAHR-ABSTAIN, MINTER-YES, RATERMANN-YES, WARD-YES, WASCHULL-YES, WORTHINGTON-YES. MOTION CARRIED.

BOARD COMMENTS

Dr. Amy Waschull would like the 5 things on IPLAN put out to the public so they can give feedback.

Adjourn:

TERRA LITCHFIELD MADE A MOTION AT TO ADJOURN AND WAS SECONDED BY DR. NICK DOLL AT 8:26 P.M. MOTION CARRIED.

Kathy Cleer
Business Office Manager/CFO

NOTE: The next BOH meeting will be Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 7 pm.