

**MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, JULY 9th, 2025**

The McDonough County Board of Health meeting was held in the board office on Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Andrea Ratermann, President.

**Members Present:** Dr. Kelso, Becky Mahr, Andrea Ratermann, , Dr. Minter, Roger Ward, Dr. Segura, Holly Norton

**Members Absent:** Terra Litchfield, Dr. Doll

**Staff Present:** Jennifer Plate, Stefanie Johnson and Christopher Adams

**Visitors Present:** Nicole Driver (staff)

**Public Comment:** No comment was made

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made by Ward and seconded by Mahr to approve June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, minutes. Motion carried.

**Claims:**

Approval of June 1<sup>st</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> claims were made by Dr. Minter and second by Norton, motion was carried out with 7 ayes, 0 nays and 2 absent.

**Reports:**

BOH

No report.

County Board

No report.

Community Health - Jennifer Plate, CH Director

Janene attended the Juneteenth celebration. She said that many people were there to enjoy the day. She discussed many of our programs with participants and handed out nearly 40 dental kits. The lactation station was set up in Chandler Park during Heritage Days. We had our fan taken the first night. So, after that, Katarina put everything under the table and lowered the tent and had no more issues. We continue to work with Coffective on the breastfeeding promotion funds. They should have the bus ad finished by July 15. Today, they sent an Amazon gift card, and we bought some items for the infant feeding disaster kits, along with BF support group supplies such as a kids table and chairs, waterproof boppy covers, promotional items and more. All items must be purchased before August 1<sup>st</sup>. The WIC participation percentage dropped to 87.7% in May. Alicia plans to conduct a kids' WIC activity from 8AM to 12PM for outreach at the farmers market on Saturday. We received our farmers market booklets, which contain 140 booklets. Each with six coupons worth a total of \$30. We received a message from them that due to an internal systems error in getting the available funds transferred to our banking partners, we are asking that you do not distribute the WIC FMNP coupon booklets to any program participants until we have confirmation that the funds are in our accounts. We will wait until we get the okay to distribute them. Nicole and the team have completed the IPLAN and will submit it next week, allowing time for any necessary corrections. We completed the Enhancing Pathways to Oral Health for

Women, Infants and Children grant proposal last week, which was offered through the Illinois Children's Healthcare Foundation. This is the one I mentioned last month that awards only two per region, for up to 14 grants in the state. The grant award is \$40,000 over a two-year period. The goal is to promote oral health prevention integrated within the WIC program. It was the most challenging grant I have ever written, primarily due to the need for extensive data and research, as well as the tight deadline. Chris has been working to gain access to IMPACT, our portal for Medicaid certification. I have an account, but I think I need to be approved for access to join the organization. We thought we had completed this when Robin was here, but they want one more piece of information changed. Four of us are attending the half day vaccine summit tomorrow in Springfield. In CD Jeanne and Nicole both took their IDSS training to move other diseases over to that system. We also have a move-it system for HIV files that will allow for better security. We have widely advertised our back-to-school vaccine clinic for July 16<sup>th</sup> from 10AM-6PM but as of today, we have no one scheduled. We will continue to promote it until the day of the event. We are still planning to attend the August 5<sup>th</sup> back-to-school fair to offer immunizations. However, the equipment that was required and backordered, which was said to be delivered by the end of July, has now been rescheduled for delivery July 11<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. We called again today, and the salesperson said it is still on schedule to ship then. After we receive it, we still need to upload the certificates and obtain official approval from the state. You saw that there were some IBCCP bills in claims. We are also starting FY26 with two new symptomatic patients who qualify under the high-deductible provision. If cuts are implemented with Medicaid, I think we will also see an uptick in participation as a result. The breastfeeding support group will be relaunched on August 11<sup>th</sup>. Those in attendance will have the opportunity to receive a \$25 gift card.

#### Environmental Health-Stefanie Johnson, EH Director

No new or newly pending facilities. We did have one facility that did not renew as a satellite that used to go to farmers markets. Temporary events, Heritage Days went well; one vendor had some power issues, but this vendor has had issues in the past. They do not have a generator for the power they need but got that corrected. The FDA Retail Food Program grant application opens October 1-November 20. I have experience with this grant in my previous county. I talked a little last month about how the lab is no longer allowing us to send in water samples except for new wells. Up until May we were sending water samples into IDPH lab and would cost us around \$13.80, and we would charge \$20 to cover employee time. June and onwards cost \$62.20 to \$88.56 for bacteria, \$131.36-\$157.72 for nitrates. Net gain/loss of \$6.20 to .20 per test bacteria through May, minus \$42.20 to minus \$68.56 June onwards, minus \$71.36 to minus \$97.72 nitrate. Discussion was made about offering discounts for possible water testing given the recent increase with the use of the private lab. After further board discussion, it was recommended that all new fees start September 1 with the cost of \$140 to see what happens and then we can work case by case with residents. Sewage program, nothing new. Vector control; we had three batches from Bushnell that tested positive, we've had two in Good Hope and one in Macomb. After three positives we relocated the trap. Four bats submitted for rabies testing in June. One was desiccated and untestable where it was found in a room with kids and worked with the family to get the children vaccinated. Had Niki repost about bats and rabies risk, and what bats can be accepted for testing. I completed the Illinois Department of Ag training and exam for general standards and mosquitoes and plan to offer larvicide training and distribution to locals. A formerly registered tattoo artist has resurfaced advertising services with no certificate of registration. Letter was sent on June 26 via email, as we have not been able to locate the address in the county yet. We had a power outage on the 5<sup>th</sup> which was overloaded which was a five-hour duration. We have had a couple of complaints regarding digging trenches and dumping solid waste, possibly from a construction business that has been investigated. Property owners FOIA the complaint & claim harassment by a neighbor. Received FOIA from H.E. Erickson (Hickory Grove cat hoarding). Several Jackson Disposal/LRS customers complaining about skipped/delayed pick ups in Macomb, Colchester and Bushnell. One complaint

regarding vaping in a licensed establishment and one complaint at a fire station about vaping and lack of signage. INEDSS cases have had six Lyme disease cases in the last five weeks. One Ehrlichiosis case and a Histoplasmosis and a couple of foodborne disease cases.

Administration-Chris Adams

I want to thank all the staff that participated in the Heritage Day parade and for Terra for driving her truck. It was a hot day, but fun was had by all. Working with the HEZ grant we are getting closer to a mobile dental clinic and looking at getting that here every month. Mental health awareness bus ad is being covered by the HEZ grant. We are on a "Stop Pay," which was what happened last year and I'm not sure if this is a constant thing but still working with the county clerk and the auditors to get this resolved. I am currently working on the FAR audit for IDHS. Next month we will have the FY 2026 holidays for approval along with appointment of officers.

Motion made by Minter and seconded by Ward to approve for Treasure Mahr to make the appropriate decision regarding the best interest rate on the CD that will mature on July 15<sup>th</sup>, motion was carried out with 7 ayes, 0 nays and 2 absent.

Motion made by Ward and second by Kelso to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18PM.

Next meeting will be held on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025, at the McDonough County Health Department at 6:30PM.