**MCDONOUGH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, September 10th , 2025**

The McDonough County Board of Health meeting was held in the board office on Wednesday, September 10th, 2025. The meeting was called to order at 6:28 pm by Andrea Ratermann, President.

**Members Present:** Dr. Kelso, Andrea Ratermann, Holly Norton, Terra Litchfield, Dr. Segura

**Members Absent:** Becky Mahr and Dr. Doll, Dr. Minter and Roger Ward

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

**Visitors Present:**

**Public Comment:** No comment was made

**Approval of Minutes**:

A motion was made by Litchfield and seconded by Norton to approve August 13, 2025, minutes. Motion carried.

**Claims:**

Approval of August 1st -31st claims were made by Norton and second by Kelso, motion was carried out with 5 ayes, 0 nayes and 4 absent.

**Reports**:

BOH

No report.

County Board

No Report

Community Health - Jennifer Plate, CH Director

WIC has been busy. The July caseload is at 91%. We have hired a new nurse to work in WIC, the health check clinic, and likely oversee the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program. She has previous experience here and is familiar with these duties, so I expect the training period will be brief.

I completed some follow-up questions from the WIC oral health grant. The coordinator said the application was strong. The only thing I am concerned about is that we had to turn in the 2022 audit with the draft for 2023. Those selected will be notified next month.

We continue to provide fluoride varnish in WIC. Janene has been reaching out to schedule oral health education in the classrooms. A few schools we haven't visited before, such as Lincoln School and Wee Care, the preschool for all program, have shown interest. The Hancock County Health Department reached out to Chris to let him know they would accept new pediatric patients with Medicaid at their dental facility now. I also just completed the Delta Dental grant that we have received for the past 2 years. Again, the thing that might hold us back from obtaining that is the audit.

The BF support group is still strong. Niki went to the last meeting and spoke about emergency preparedness with the group. The group meets every Monday from 3-4 pm.

We currently have 3 McDonough County LTC facilities in a COVID-19 outbreak. Nicole has been in touch with each of them. We have purchased a small amount of private-pay COVID-19 vaccines to start the season and will replenish as we see uptake on those. There is no option to put the current year’s inventory into ICARE, so we are waiting on a reply about that before we can start to offer the vaccines.

For the last two months, from July 10 to September 10, we have administered 256 vaccines (mostly VFC).

The WIU and state employee flu clinic is scheduled for October 2 in the Heritage Room again this year. I reduced the number of flu vaccines we purchased by about 50 based on last year’s usage. However, I ordered the same amount of high-dose flu vaccines as I ordered last year. We also have the option to order more if needed. We will begin to offer the public flu vaccines in the clinic starting October 6th, due to our contract with the state having to be fulfilled first. Of course, we will try to get all employees vaccinated before the clinic date.

Schedules have been set for the tobacco and vape prevention program to start at Macomb Jr High. West Prairie has also expressed interest, and we are waiting for their response. Ashley has also developed a tobacco and vape toolkit for the schools and is working on information to send out to parents through digital backpacks.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Air Evac is going to hold an event here in Macomb at their base that we will be attending with information about IBCCP. I may also be a speaker; they just called today, and I told them I’d do whatever they would like, and they will get in touch soon with an update.

Environmental Health-Stefanie Johnson, EH Director

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| General EH | - Posted for open position of EH Sanitarian 8/12. 11 applicants, most not meeting minimum qualifications. 3 interviews set-up, 2 no-shows.- Chavez’s last day was yesterday.  |
| Food  | - Maxamillions slots had their opening inspection, walk-through for Day Drinks brick & mortar place in Colchester, no forward movement on any other pending food facilities.- Food Safety Education Month- Jonathan made a display-1 potential FBI cases since 8/14-new gluten add-on to allergen training-IDPH has a Tackle-it-Tuesday campaign for Food Safety Education Month for outreach |
| Water  | - NO2 & NO3 test strips ($0.50) Sensitivity consideration- if close, follow-up with lab test. Keeping track of how many are used and what percentage have follow-up lab samples taken to possibly use the funds for Water Week discounted water sample price.- instructed by IDPH to resample until satisfactory results are received for new wells as we want to ensure a safe water supply.-Other counties in our region have been told that “house accounts” are to be dissolved by PACE lab at the end of the year and prices will be increasing. I have not heard this directly from the lab, so we will continue as-is for now and address changes as they come. |
| Private Sewage Disposal  |  |
| Vector Control  | Backyard chicken meeting 9/2 4pm at City Hall- the proponents from the community were disappointed as they thought the meeting was to revise the draft ordinance for forward movement, but the city has halted discussion/movement until additional staff are available to respond to this extra workload (possibly in May at budget time). They were instructed to go to their Aldermen as the next step prior to any ordinance review.  |
| PHEP | - 9/23 National Preparedness month blood drive 11am-2pm. Contact Niki to reserve a spot! Her goal is 18 units. |
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| Lead  | -1 new, 9 other opens EH cases currently.-Lead Risk Assessor refresher training this fall (SJ) |
| Nuisance & Housing | -Bat bite/exposure calls continue. 2 exposure cases since 8/14, 1 additional call |
| Tobacco |  |
| Other | - Radon test kit costs increase to $8.05 per test. Raise price to $20 so we don’t lose money during specials, or offer a smaller discount at those times?- Kissing bug reported in resident’s home, they can transmit Chagas disease. Unusual in our area; directed them to U of I Extension for bug ID as they are similar looking to box elder bugs which are common in the area. |

Administration-Chris Adams

In accordance with the IDHS requirements, a conflict-of-interest document was handed out to the board members to be signed and kept in file for the year.

Holiday schedule was tabled for next meeting, motion was made by Litchfield and seconded by Dr. Kelso.

The medical assistance fund signature block was updated and McDonough County Treasure, Dana Moon was added to the account along with Becky Mahr as MCHD Treasure.

The budget was proposed and discussed by the board for FY26. Kelso made the motion to approve the budget for FY26 and seconded by Norton. Motion passed 5 ayes, and 4 absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:17PM. Motion made by Kelso and seconded by Litchfield.

Next meeting will be held on October 8, 2025, at the McDonough County Health Department at 6:30PM.