

**MACON COUNTY BOARD  
ENVIRONMENTAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Macon County Office Building  
141 S. Main Street, County Board Room #514  
Decatur, IL 62523**

**September 23, 2021                      5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Linda Little, Chair  
Helena Buckner @ 5:31 p.m.  
Kristen Larner  
Jim Gresham  
Jeff Entler

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Brandi Binkley, Health Department  
Tracy Sumpter, Env Mgmt  
Jennifer Gunter, P&Z  
  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Kevin Greenfield  
Jason Comer

The meeting was called to order by Chair Little at the Macon County Office Building.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes from the prior meeting, 8/26/2021 made by Mr. Gresham seconded by Mr. Entler and the motion carried 4-0.

**APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS**

Motion to approve the claims report was made by Mr. Entler, seconded by Mr. Gresham, and the motion carried 4-0.

**ZONING –**

***Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-01-09-21, A Petition Requesting a Special Use Permit Submitted by Dennis & Tonya Brooks***

Ms. Gunter explained that this is a request for the renewal of a special use permit for the operation of a sharpening business in R-1, Single Family Residential zoning. The property is located at 2914 S. Danny Drive in South Wheatland Township.

On September 1, the Public Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing was held and based on the finding of facts and staff recommending approval, the ZBA voted 5-0 for the approval of the special use permit with stipulations that are in the resolution.

Ms. Little asked if this is a renewal. Ms. Gunter said it is new to these owners, but the business has been there. It was previously run by one of their parents and the kids have taken it over. Ms. Little asked if the previous owners had a Special Use Permit. Ms. Gunter said yes, for years.

Mr. Entler asked if the reason for this process was because it exchanged hands. Ms. Gunter said yes. Mr. Entler asked if the Special Use Permit does not expire once it has been granted. Ms. Gunter said 10 years.

Chair Little asked if there were any objectors. Ms. Gunter said no.

Mr. Entler made a motion to approve forwarding on to the full board with recommendation for approval, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 5-0.

**SUBDIVISIONS** – None

## **REPORTS**

### **Animal Control**

Lt. Scheibly was unable to attend the meeting.

Statistical reports for August for this current year and last year for comparison purposes were distributed.

**Veteran's Assistance** – No report

**Planning & Zoning** – Ms. Gunter had no report

### **Health Department** –

Ms. Binkley updated the committee on ongoing projects.

The Clinical Nursing Services Division has been working on getting the electronic medical records going. The plan is to have those all the way taken care of and implemented by the end of December.

Flu vaccinations have started and will be done in conjunction with all the other vaccinations.

The Dental Clinic has a new Dental Clinic Director that has started. It was someone that was with the Department on a contractual basis for a while. So, it has been a nice smooth transition. They are also working on getting some new dental software for digital there.

The Environmental Health Digital System process is also being worked on. That was talked about last year, and now that there is a little more time, the hope is to get that implemented in the next few months as well.

The COVID positivity rate has gone down a little bit, so hopefully that continues. The hospitals were still concerned with numbers. They said they could not necessarily say they were going down, but hopefully they will move in that direction.

Mr. Gresham commented that he very much appreciated Ms. Binkley coming to all of their meetings and keeping them informed about what is going on and he apologized, only on his own behalf, for the way she had been treated when she presented her budget.

Ms. Binkley thanked him and said they will always be there to report unless there are some sort of extenuating circumstance. She said it is important for them to communicate with all of the board and of course, if they are not there or if there are questions in between meetings, they are always welcome to reach out to her anytime.

Ms. Larner said there have been lots of questions about COVID days with the State still requiring a lot of different quarantines and things and if there was talk of the State giving those days back. Ms. Binkley said she had not heard anything, but so far, she knows that FFCRA has been extended through September 30<sup>th</sup> for eligible employers. She said she has not heard anything but would not be surprised if it didn't get extended just because we are obviously still in a very serious situation with a lot of people still being quarantined, a lot of contacts, a lot of people that are positive. The last time it was extended it was done after the fact and made retroactive.

Ms. Little said people are getting tested for the antibody and once they hit 2500, they stop counting. What does that mean and how high is high enough to matter. Ms. Binkley said that the antibody tests are not an area of specialty for her or public health. They do not use that for anything. If someone has an antibody test and they can show that they have antibodies, it is not something that is used right now as a criteria to get them out of quarantine. She said she did not want to answer to it because she did not feel that she knows enough about it. She said it can be used in very extreme situations, but very rarely because there is risk associated with that.

#### **Environmental Management -**

#### ***Macon County Board Resolution Approving the Macon County Environmental Management Department Vehicle Purchase from Host Fee Account***

Mr. Gresham made a motion to approve forwarding on to the finance committee with recommendation for approval, seconded by Ms. Larner and the motion carried 5-0.

Ms. Sumpter went on to report that the electronics & paint collections are being wrapped up for this season. The last electronics collection is scheduled for this Saturday. They will start back up in the spring. There has been a really good turnout for the collections. Every one of the electronics collections have been full to the max. Paint collections have started to dwindle a little bit, but there is still quite a bit collected. Final numbers on amounts collected will be supplied in the next couple of months.

Ms. Sumpter reported that she had attended a meeting of the Macon County Environmental Council yesterday with Ms. Rood. It was very informational and she said she looks forward to attending more of those meetings in the future. While at the meeting, some of the members had questions in regard to the education in the schools and public outreach for recycling. She said she is sure that they can work on resolving some of these issues, but she has not yet had a chance to sit down with the Chairman and go over it yet.

Chair Little asked how to get rid of a window air conditioning unit. Ms. Sumpter explained that she would have to get the Freon removed from it first. Ms. Little said she knew she could pay TICA \$25 and they would take it. Ms. Sumpter said that is probably the best way because she

would have to pay to get the Freon removed anyway, so it would probably be best and easiest to just let them take it.

**Regional Office of Education – No report**

**Mental Health – No Report**

**Historical Museum – No Report**

**U of I Extension – No Report**

**CITIZEN’S REMARKS – None**

**NEW BUSINESS – None**

**OFFICEHOLDER’S REMARKS** - None

**Closed Session** – None needed

**NEXT MEETING** Next regular meeting – 10/28/2021

**ADJOURNMENT** The meeting was adjourned by Chair Little at 5:40 p.m.

*Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Executive Secretary, Macon County Board Office*