

**EEHW COMMITTEE MEETING**

**May 23, 2019 5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Kraft, Vice Chair  
Matt Brown  
Laura Zimmerman  
Jim Gresham

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Kathie Powless, Veterans Assistance  
Kris Horton, Animal Control  
Brandi Binkley, Health Dept  
Matt Snyder, ROE  
Nick Burge, Env Mgmt  
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Tim Dudley, Chair  
Linda Little  
Helena Buckner

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

**MINUTES**

Mr. Gresham made a motion to approve the 4/25/19 meeting minutes, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and the motion carried 4-0.

**CLAIMS**

Ms. Zimmerman made a motion to approve the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Gresham and the motion carried 4-0

**ZONING** – None

**SUBDIVISIONS** – None

**REPORTS**

**Animal Control**

Ms. Horton distributed monthly statistic reports and announced that they are having a cat special right now where all adults are \$40. There will probably be a special next month, but there are no specifics yet.

**Veteran's Assistance** -

Ms. Powless invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day festivities at 10 a.m. at the large pavilion in Fairview Park. The guest speaker will be one of the van drivers, James Collier.

Both Ms. Powless and Mr. Collins will be at Randall Residence talking to people about veterans on Friday, 5/24.

**Planning & Zoning** – No Report

## **Health Department –**

### ***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations for Vehicle Purchases in FY19 Budget***

Ms. Binkley explained that this is to purchase two compact cars for the Environmental Health Division. Two like cars were purchased last year with the plan in mind to purchase two more to replace two with a lot of maintenance issues, some very serious. One of these two cannot be used presently. Maintenance & repairs will cost more than the cars are worth. The bidding process was used and Jackson Ford was best. Vice Chair Kraft asked what they would be doing with the two old vehicles. Ms. Binkley said they'd be taken to auction, the same as they did last year.

Mr. Brown made a motion to forward the resolution on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Zimmerman and the motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Gresham asked if they'd been hoping to make it through this FY and it just didn't work. Ms. Binkley said they were planning to replace them this year. Mr. Gresham asked why they had not been included in the budget. Ms. Binkley said she thought maybe they didn't know exactly when in the year they planned to purchase. She explained that she had not been a part of that process, so wasn't certain, but the plan was always to get two last year and then two more this year. Last year's were purchased in September, so maybe they thought they could do it in the next fiscal year, but the condition of the vehicles would not allow for waiting.

## **Environmental Management**

Mr. Burge reported on the following:

Feasibility Study - After the last Board meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> and the email from Howard Buffet to Chairman Greenfield on May 10<sup>th</sup>, the Chairman has directed me to cease searching for benefactors to fund the feasibility study, discontinue searching for consulting companies to conduct the feasibility study, and halt any other work related to the feasibility study except to provide any information relevant to the consultant company (chosen by the Buffet Foundation) for research purposes for the overall completion of the feasibility study. He said he wanted it to be on record that that is the direction he has been given and then move forward from there. Ms. Kraft asked if Ms. Rasmus had left all of that information. Mr. Burge confirmed saying there is plenty of information in her files. He said the Chairman had quite a bit of information already, but if there would be anything else they would need, Mr. Burge said he would be more than happy to try and look through Ms. Rasmus' files.

Electronics Collection – Tuesday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - Cancelled that morning due to multiple weather reports forecasting severe thunderstorms during the entire duration of the event. These are outdoor events held at a metal warehouse, so it is really not a safe environment for a collection. It is unfortunate that there were about 108 people signed up so between 100 to 110 phone calls and emails made that day to get the word out about the cancellation. Despite best efforts, there were still people that showed up. Mr. Burge said he had received some phone calls on that. Most people were understanding of the fact that since they are outdoor events, safety is an issue. All registrants that had pre-paid for the event were either rescheduled or refunded.

Shred Event – Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - 172 attendees during this event which is up from 96 attendees during last year's event on Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Mr. Burge said he wasn't sure why the change, but he had sent out a press release the week before and it seems to have made a difference.

Electronics Collection – Saturday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - 134 attendees, 207 TVs collected. That is up from 100 attendees & 160 TVs collected on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> 2019 electronics collection

Paint Collection – Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - 79 attendees during this event which was down from 106 attendees on Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 paint collection

Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 paint collection was advertised on the radio (not solicited by the Department) and is most likely reason for higher attendance

Remaining Spring Collection Events - Tuesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 electronics collection

cancelled due to low numbers – not cost-effective to hold event with low registration numbers – most appointments were rescheduled for Saturday, electronics collection

Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – next electronics collection

Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 – next paint collection

Tuesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 – originally scheduled as a second electronics collection in June – cancelled – only holding one electronics collection per month to see if registration numbers increase before potentially moving back to holding two events a month – must be cost-effective to hold multiple events per month

Next EEHW – June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - I will not be in attendance at the next EEHW meeting on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2019. I will be in California to be a groomsman in a friend's wedding.

### **Regional Office of Education -**

Mr. Snyder reported that everything is going well. They are continuing the licensing process for the teachers. The end of the fiscal year is June 30<sup>th</sup> and there will be a large number that have to renew.

The department is working with legislators on funding for schools, teacher shortage, substitute shortage, alternative ways to get people qualified to be public school teachers, etc. He said anyone with a bachelor's degree that wants to teach should go see him. 60 hours of college credit allows a person to be considered for substituting teaching. There is a huge shortage everywhere.

The final graduation from Futures was held last week. Futures is the alternative school. Milligan is the safe school for students who are suspended or expelled. The Foundations program is for teens who are pregnant. 97 students were graduated through the programs. Kids are graduated each quarter. About 260 students were served and most of them will be returning and continuing in the program until their graduation. He said there has been an impact there and they continue to work with truancy and those issues. The major thing this spring is that they are working with the local districts and sheriff's offices in both Macon and Piatt Counties. A team has been put together that will be available in case of school emergencies. It is not counseling, it is more of a reunification team. If something were to happen at any school district in Macon or Piatt Counties, these people are trained to go to the site and work to reunify students with their parents. Getting kids back to their parents and making sure it is done orderly is a huge issue.

There are a couple of retirements coming up. One lady that kept the books for 23 years is retiring next week. A young man to take that position has been hired, trained & is doing well. Another lady who has been with the office for 34 years is retiring at the end of June. Last year, a 40 year employee retired and was replaced. There has been a turnover, but when people get to the regional office, they stay. It's a great place to work.

**Mental Health** – no report

**Historical Museum** - No report

**U of I Extension** No report

**CITIZEN'S REMARKS** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** - none

**NEW BUSINESS** – none

**Closed Session** – None needed

**NEXT MEETING** Next regular meeting –6/27/19

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Zimmerman, seconded by Mr. Gresham, the motion carried 4-0 and Chair Dudley adjourned the meeting at 5:43 p.m.

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