

**ENVIRONMENTAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE
COMMITTEE MEETING**

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

June 25, 2020 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Debra Kraft, Chair
Kevin Greenfield
Linda Little
Jim Gresham

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Greg Collins, Veterans
Jennifer Gunter, P&Z
Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

Matt Brown
Helena Buckner, Vice Chair
Laura Zimmerman

MEMBERS ABSENT

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

MINUTES

Ms. Little made a motion to approve the 2/27/2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Gresham and roll call vote showed that the motion carried 7-0.

CLAIMS

Ms. Little made a motion to approve the report of the claims as presented, seconded by Mr. Gresham and roll call vote showed that the motion carried 7-0.

ZONING –

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case R-01-06-20, A Petition for Rezoning Submitted by Nutrien AG Solutions

Ms. Gunter explained that Kevin Foreman is requesting to rezone approximately 11.91 acres from (A-1) Agricultural Zoning to (M-1) Light Industrial Zoning.

The property is commonly known as: 9650 Heman Road, in Illini Township.

On June 3, 2020, A public Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing was held and based on the finding of facts and staff recommendation for approval the Zoning Board of Appeals voted 5-0 for approval of the rezoning.

Mr. Gresham made a motion to approve forwarding on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Greenfield. Ms. Little asked if there were any objectors. Ms. Gunter said no. Roll call vote showed that the motion carried 7-0.

Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-02-04-20, A Petition Requesting a Special Use Permit Submitted by Village of Forsyth

Ms. Gunter explained that they are requesting the special use permit for a municipal well and associated apparatus in A-1 Agricultural Zoning.

The property is commonly located a half mile north of the intersection of North Brush College and East School Road in Maroa Township.

On June 3rd, a Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing was held and based on the finding of facts and staff recommended approval, the Zoning Board of Appeals voted 5-0 for approval of the special use permit with the stipulations that are in the resolution.

Chair Kraft announced that Matt from Chastain's is present at the meeting if anyone has questions for him.

Mr. Gresham made a motion to approve forwarding on to the full board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Ms. Little.

Mr. Gresham asked what the issues are. Chair Kraft said there are several but, the landowners, #1, are concerned. There are two concerns. Well, they have several concerns, but they are concerned about their property wells going dry and then on the north side of where they want it, some of those are concerned about the water overflow onto their property.

Mr. Greenfield asked how many gallons of water the wells would pump. It's just one well, correct? Ms. Gunter said correct. Mr. Greenfield asked what the gallons pumped per minute.

Mr. Matt Foster, Chastain & Associates, Village Engineer for the Village of Forsyth spoke. The intent is to get a 1,000 gpm well out of this site which is basically the same size as well #6 which is the ½ mile south.

He asked to add one thing. The property owners of the actual property being purchased do not have any problems. It is some of the adjoining property owners that have questions and issues. That is who is being addressed. But the actual property owners of the field are all on board with this work.

Ms. Little asked, in the event that the fears of the neighbors come true and their wells are negatively impacted, are they just SOL? Mr. Foster said the nearest wells to this new site is the Village of Forsyth's well which is ½ mile south and the property owner's well for the site that they bought it from, who happens to be a Village employee's. The first wells that would be impacted by this both have direct connections to the Village of Forsyth. So everybody else's well is well over a mile away.

Mr. Greenfield asked if they would be abandoning the one well. Mr. Foster said, no, well #6 will remain in production.

Dr. Zimmerman commented that in the minutes from the Zoning Board Hearing, there were a lot of technical questions that kind of related to how much water it could draw and those concerns about flooding and stuff. It indicated that those questions would be resolved in different phases. So, the question is, doesn't this committee just focus on the use of the land in terms of zoning, but are there others where there is public input on like once they find out that information? Are there other steps that have to be checked? Is it a done deal if this committee approves this or are there other steps that have to occur where the public can give their input as well?

Mr. Foster said he is not sure as far as public input, what all the other steps are, but was sure that there are ways that people can work with the state water surveyor or USGS. Whoever "we" are when this well goes into production, we have to get it into the state's system as far as they have to log that the well is there, how much it produces, what it is drawing, etc. who owns it and all that stuff. So, there are other governmental agencies that will be involved during the design process in order for us to proceed and obtain a well at this location that is approved for use.

Mr. Greenfield asked what the reason for drilling the new well was; expansion or selling water? Do you currently service Oreana? Mr. Foster said yes, the Village services Oreana as well as their 3,500 or so residents. The well is intended to primarily be, at this point in time, a backup of the existing well #6 that was put in about 20 years ago. It still has quite a long life, but the Village's backup wells at this point in time cannot equal the production of well #6 even if they are turned on. They have 3 other wells left. One of them is in town. It is one of the smallest original wells. It would be good in a pinch, but it does not produce anywhere near enough water to service the Village's system and Oreana's system. They have two other wells that are going up north of the old RR right of way. Those can only be run one at a time. So, if you take the peak production of that one well there, turn on the other well, it is still a couple hundred gallons per minute short of well #6. So, the intent, right now, is for well #7 to be a backup of well #6, but as demand grows and increases in the area, eventually, they could be run at the same time.

Mr. Greenfield asked how deep the wells are. Mr. Foster said about 270 feet deep and they are in the Mahomet Aquifer. One of the benefits of well #7, why we wanted to go north some is that that gets further into the Mahomet Aquifer giving a better water source or area to draw from. Mr. Greenfield said that in Long Creek, you try to have so much water above the well to make sure you're drawing down instead of up. Mr. Foster agreed. Mr. Greenfield asked how much water is perceived to be above the wellhead. Mr. Foster said they have not gotten into that. Mr. Greenfield asked about the other one. Mr. Foster did not have exact numbers on the other one, but there is a substantial amount of water that is built up on top of those.

Mr. Greenfield said that his only concern is that if a neighbor's well does go dry, which is a possibility, that Forsyth would drill a new well. He said he thought that would be only fair. Mr. Foster said that gets into the legality issues and the first wells that are going to be impacted by

this new well are theirs. Since they put in well #6 right adjacent to another property owner, the Village employee's property, they did drill him a new well to get down to that excess depth. The nearest wells that Mr. Foster said he saw on the state's GIS website were miles away. We don't even anticipate this new well even impacting the existing Village well ½ mile away. So, if they start running a well dry, the first one they will run into is the Village's. That process is monitored during the design process and the actual testing of the well to determine the capacity of it.

Mr. Greenfield asked if there had been any discussion in ZBA about that possibility? Were there any suggestions? Ms. Gunter said the ZBA had not suggested anything. Mr. Greenfield said he would set a timeframe because he knows that if he lived out there, he wouldn't care if he was a couple of miles away, if his well went dry as soon as they drilled a new well, he would be very upset. There should be a timeframe of maybe a year or so. He commented that Forsyth can't be on the hook for everybody's well out there, but for a limited amount of time, if it went dry, he'd sure think that could have been the cause of it. Some of the other towns do the same thing. If they drill a new well and it affects a neighbor, they stand behind it.

Chair Kraft said she has correspondence that she needs to read. First is a letter from Mr. Roy Groves who owns property on the northwest corner. This was received via email.

My name is Roy Groves and I own the property in Section 18, North east 160 acres, across the road from this proposed well site.

I am against the Proposed Forsyth Municipal Well Permit due to:

NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE SIZE AND WATER QUANTITY TO BE SUPPLIED BY THIS PROPOSED WELL. The Village of Forsyth refused at the June 3, 2020 Zoning Board Meeting, to give any details about what they planned to construct regarding well size and capacity.

Forsyth said "the well is not designed yet so we have no size numbers yet."

I asked if the zoning board minutes would be forwarded to the EEHW Committee, along with all correspondence the board received prior to the June 3rd meeting and I could not get an answer about all the correspondence so I am sending the papers and pictures about the proposed well site, that I sent to the Zoning Board. It has been acknowledged that my registered mail envelope was received on 6-22-20 which contained pictures and documents regarding this proposed well site that were submitted to the ZBA MEETING ON 6-3-20.

These are some of my concerns.

- 1- Three minutes to speak is not enough time to comment on the issues surrounding the Forsyth Municipal Well Permit. I have been told that no new issues can be brought up.
- 2- I spoke at the June 3, 2020 Zoning Meeting and brought up to Mr. Foster (The Forsyth representative) about the Decatur Well Field in Dewitt County. He said he has not studied the well field data. This well field that pumps water from the same Mahomet Aquifer that this new well will draw from, is well documented as to having caused pump failures and well failures in the past, because of water level draw down in the various area wells.
- 3- One of the Zoning Board members brought up the possibility of negative effects on the surrounding wells and Mr. Foster's reply was " they have not designed the well yet."
- 4- I have been involved with the Decatur Well Field since it has been completed and put into operation on several occasions. I am enclosing some facts about the Decatur Well Field, since Mr. Foster has not "studied the well field."
- 5- Over the years since the Decatur Well Field in Dewitt County has been used to supply water to Lake Decatur, Several wells have run dry or have been destroyed because of the heavy draw down on the water level in the Mahomet Aquifer that Forsyth wants to drill into on Section 17.
- 6- One specific well that was destroyed and had to be replaced is located about 1 ½ miles West of this proposed well location on section 17. I am enclosing a copy of the Herald and Review newspaper article dated Oct. 14, 2012, written by Allison Petty, Staff Writer. In this article it states that the Richard Thomas, well went dry and burned up the pump and casing because of the draw down in the aquifer water level at the Decatur Well Field in DeWitt County, section 36, 1 mile north of the DeWitt / Macon County line, north of Argenta. The Thomas Well is about 8 ½ Miles South West of the Decatur Well Field and about 1 ½ miles west of the Proposed Forsyth Well, that the Village of Forsyth does not have any plans or ideas on what size of well they plan to construct on Section 17. This information is being supplied because of Forsyth's "UNKOWN WELL PLANS AS STATED AT THE JUNE 3, 2020 Zoning Meeting". This is a direct reply to the Zoning Board Member who asked, at the June 3, 2020 meeting, "Will there be any interference with the neighboring water wells around the proposed section 17 Forsyth well site.
- 7- Yes, there was more water being pumped per day than the one proposed Section 17 Well may supply but the draw down of the water level from 8 ½ miles away, in the same aquifer the Forsyth well will be pumping from, with an "UNKNOWN WELL SIZE" leaves open the probability of surrounding wells next to the Forsyth Well, possibility having water draw down issues and possibly running out of water. The Forsyth Well Size needs to be taken into consideration before a Permit is issued, so there is not a repeat of the water level draw down as demonstrated can happen, in October, 2012 at the Thomas property, 1 ½ miles west of this proposed well.
- 8- A lot of the surrounding wells are probably shallow wells, Larry Groves brought up this issue for his well, located 2 ½ miles west, at a well depth of about 70 feet, at the June 3, 2020 Zoning Meeting. This well size issue is critical information that needs to be stated before the Zoning Permit is issued so the surrounding neighbors can be aware of the possible negative effects (RUNNING OUT OF WATER) can have on each of their wells, if Forsyth is given a permit to drill an unknown diameter size well, with an unknown size capacity water output. This size and capacity information goes directly to the purpose of this – { ENVIRONMENTAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH AND WELFARE }, meeting of the surrounding neighbors, near the location of this proposed well. Forsyth representative, Mr. Foster stated at the June 3, 2020 meeting that there would be a possibility that Forsyth would shut down 2 older wells and rely more on this new well and the 16 inch well located ½

mile south of the proposed site. It could be logically assumed that with the shut down of 2 older wells, that this new well probably would be a larger size and capacity to provide adequate replacement and to add capacity to the Forsyth Water Treatment needs in the future.

9- One of the Decatur Well Field, wells, located in section 36, DeWitt County, is 20 inches in diameter, just 4 inches larger casing, than the existing well, ½ mile south of the proposed well. This 20 inch well was test pumped, per well data, on May 8, 1991, at the rate of 3000 gallons per minute for 3 hours, with a water level draw down from 87 foot to 109 foot water level after 3 hours pumping test. Would a new well this size cause interference with the neighboring wells? **That is what Forsyth has to determine.**

10- It is my opinion that Forsyth should provide a general estimate of the well size they are proposing, when applying for this Zoning Permit and not wait until after the permit is issued, to state the well size and the probable effects caused to the neighboring wells.

11- It is also my opinion that Forsyth needs to set up a well problem resolution, similar to the Decatur Well Field, stating that any interference caused by this new well, to neighboring wells, will be fixed by lowering the pump in existing wells or drilling a new well, at Forsyth's expense, for any known or future water problems that are caused by the water draw down from this new well.

Thank you.

Roy Groves

Chair Kraft read a second letter received via email from Evenly Fishel, 170 Jack Lane, Forsyth, IL 62535

June 10, 2020

Jennifer Gunter, Director
Macon County Planning & Zoning Department
141 South Main Street Suite 501
Decatur, IL 62523

Environmental, Education, Health & Welfare Committee
Macon County Building
141 South Main Street
Decatur, IL 62523

Dear Ms. Gunter & EEHW Committee Members,

This letter is in regard to the Village of Forsyth wanting to install a municipal well and associated apparatus at the property located ½ Mile North of the the Intersection of North Brush College at E School Road, Maroa Township PIN: 10-03-17-300-003.

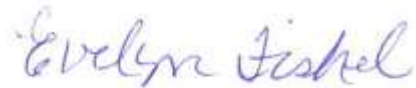
As owner of the adjacent land to the North, I have two major concerns. First and foremost, with a million or more gallons of water being pumped for a 24 hour period as a testing procedure, my biggest concern would be soil erosion and water running onto my field. The ditches would not be able to keep up with the flow of water and would almost undoubtedly backup onto my field. If the field has already been planted, there would be an issue of the crop being flooded out. Will there be an agreement with the Village of Forsyth that I would be compensated for that damage? The engineer for Chastain, who was present at the zoning board meeting of June 3, 2020, stated that perhaps grass could be planted to help with soil erosion issues. Grass cannot be planted on my farm as an erosion solution.

Also, the surrounding area water wells may be affected by lowering the water table as a result of adding an additional pumping station in the same area. This could put someone out of water much quicker (especially in a drought situation) as some wells are already shallow.

Because of the above stated concerns, I am opposed to this project in its current location. I would like to request a written response addressing these issues.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Evelyn Fishel
170 Jack Lane
Forsyth, IL 62535

Ms. Little asked if there is a reason why Forsyth does not have more information prior to applying for this. Chair Kraft did not know the answer.

Mr. Foster said that, at this point, they have been directed that once they got the decent water sample from this location to proceed with the subdivision and move on to the well construction phase in order to try to save some money and combine the work. Typically, one of the ways of doing it is to, when building a well, is to drill the test hole which you pull a sample out of to see what the water quality is at that location. Then, you would move into a test well phase in order to determine how much you can pump at that location. But, if you have a lot of flexibility in what is acceptable in terms of the well capacity, you can combine those two steps in order to make it a more efficient construction project. You drill the actual well and then do a test pump on that to determine the capacity and then you basically get what you get. The goal is 1,000 gpm which was stated at the meeting. That is the capacity we are hoping for. A 600 gpm well that can operate basically without impacting other wells namely, the Village's primary well, then that is actually still a benefit to the Village. It is not what we are hoping for, but it is an acceptable addition. So, the decision was made to combine those two steps into one to streamline the process.

Mr. Greenfield asked about when they talk about the water running across the field, that is really only a one time deal when you test the well right? Mr. Foster confirmed, saying it is a one time test. It is about an 18 hour test and it is run at a higher rate than what you are hoping

for. So, it's run at a rate higher than you're hoping for for 18 hours and you monitor the water level as it goes up and down in that time period to make sure that you are not negatively impacting the water level of the aquifer or at least that you've got a record of what you're impacting. The issue that Mr. Groves is having is going back to the original well #6 which is ½ mile south and when that test pump was done, it was pumped out into a roadside ditch that apparently did not drain very well. In this case, there is a ditch that appears to drain better, but it is on his property.

Mr. Foster asked if he would be allowed to address one of the other issues they had brought up. He was given permission. Mr. Foster continued, saying that when they had mentioned planting grass as erosion control on the farm field, that was out of context. That comment was specifically relating to after the site is developed, we will be placing grass on the Village's site to control runoff. That was not intended to be some kind of a fix sometime during this temporary pumping process. Chair Kraft said that was how she had understood it as well. Mr. Foster said they have discussed internally multiple options for trying to address any negative impacts such as erosions or erosion situations during the test pump if that causes problems; trying to do something in advance.

Mr. Greenfield asked if there were houses within a mile or 2 miles (as the crow flies) of where the well is to be drilled. Mr. Foster explained that the closest house is Linn Summers who lives ½ miles away at the corner of Brush College and School Road. The next closest house (he pointed it out on the map) is 2/3 mile west of Linn's house which makes him well over ½ mile away. He continued to point out the next closest couple of houses on the map. Mr. Greenfield asked how many houses he was talking about within a half or one mile radius. Mr. Foster said he wasn't sure within a mile, but in ½ mile there is only one house.

Mr. Greenfield said he couldn't remember when the City of Decatur drilled their well in DeWitt County, but he knew they had an agreement that if some of the wells went dry, they would stand behind it. But, they were drilling well fields. Mr. Foster said they had briefly reviewed the capacity of those wells. They've got 10 times the capacity of what is being planned here. The one well that he mentioned has a 3,000 gpm rate and there are 6 or 7 wells, at least, out there he thought, but did not have the exact numbers. Mr. Greenfield said they were running the river down the waterway. But, you're tied into the aquifer. If you're not worried about it, then why worry about giving these people a guarantee that you're going to guarantee their well for 2 years or whatever. You shouldn't have anything to lose. Mr. Foster said he could not make any guarantees personally, and they have not been directed to move on to that step. We are at a point where our direction has been to obtain the property with the intent to do the test well and the production well on this site. That process would occur during that step. Mr. Greenfield asked if it is something that EEHW could put in their stipulations. Chair Kraft said yes and referred the Administrative Code she had emailed out to members previously. The zoning approved with the stipulation that they abide by these steps. Ms. Gunter confirmed saying they have to abide by the state and federal regulations. Ms. Kraft said that if we want more stipulations, we could add them at this time. Ms. Gunter said the State Water Survey has to approve the permit for this well and there are other government agencies that have to approve it. All we're looking at is the use of the land. Chair Kraft said she had spoken to several people and knew that several committee members have spoken with Mr. Roy Groves. The group of

landowners have a meeting planned and will have a list of issues that they're going to address with their road commissioner and the Village of Forsyth. That is what they should do probably. She said she had encouraged them to do that. They all have legitimate concerns.

Mr. Greenfield asked if this would be going to the full board. Chair Kraft confirmed that it would.

Roll call vote showed that the motion carried 7-0.

SUBDIVISIONS –

1 Lot Minor W&S Farms Subdivision

Ms. Gunter explained that this is located in Maroa Township and the owners are Ken Stemler and Patricia Wetzel. This property is farm ground located ½ mile north of the intersection of North Brush College Road and East School Road in Maroa Township. The property is in A-1 Agricultural zoning. The lot size is one acre. Staff has reviewed all the documents and recommends approval.

Ms. Little made a motion to approve, seconded by Mr. Greenfield and roll call vote showed that the motion carried 7-0.

REPORTS

Planning & Zoning – No report

Animal Control

Lt. Scheibly was unable to attend the meeting. The following information and statistical reports were distributed to members.

It's almost that time! The shelter has been slowly resuming to normal operations. Here is an update of what we expect next. Starting Tuesday, July 7th, our lobby doors will be open during our normal operating hours (12-5 M-F and 12-4 on Saturdays). However, please note that there are some changes to our normal operating procedures:

Masks:

1. Masks will be required in the building when social distancing is not possible.

Field Services:

1. Field services have resumed normal operations.

For Adopters:

1. Potential adopters are still encouraged to visit our affiliated websites (petharbor.com is the most accurate) to view adoptable pets and fill out an adoption application at dmcasf.org if interested in adopting a pet.
2. To visit with an adoptable animal, an approved application must be on file. It is best to fill out an application prior to visiting the shelter as they can take a few days to be reviewed.
3. Due to their busy nature, adoptions on Fridays and Saturdays will continue by appointment only. This helps us to be more efficient and ensure that we can adhere to the social distancing guidelines.
4. Masks will be required when social distancing is not possible.

For Volunteers:

1. Fridays and Saturdays, volunteer hours will need to be scheduled. This is to ensure that we can adhere to social distancing guidelines. Please call the shelter on or after Monday to schedule hours for that Friday and/or Saturday. Currently, we intend to maintain 'open door' volunteer hours Monday-Thursday but this is subject to change.

For Families Missing a pet:

1. Call MCAC and report the missing pet's information (last known location, color, sex, name, etc.) and check www.petharbor.com for photos of stray animals that have been impounded.
2. Come by during our normal operating hours to view the stray animals and/or reclaim your pet.

For Anyone Who Finds a Stray Pet:

1. It is best practice to call MCAC to report the found pet and to schedule a time to bring the pet in if the owners can't be tracked down as this helps us prepare space/medications/etc. You may also come during our normal operating hours.

For Anyone Who Needs to Surrender their Pet:

1. Call MCAC to schedule an appointment.

MCAC contact information:

1. Day Time (8AM to 5PM) Phone Number: (217) 425-4508
2. After Hours (10PM to 8AM & Holidays) Phone Number: (217) 424-1311

Veteran's Assistance -

Mr. Collins said he had been listening to the meetings online, but hadn't had a chance to update lately, so he reported:

**MACON COUNTY BOARD-VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION
VAC SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT 25JUN2020
ENVIRONMENTAL, EDUCATION, HEALTH & WELFARE COMMITTEE**

NEW STAFF

NEAL COBREN – NEAL IS MY NEW ASSISTANT. HE IS A %100 SERVICE-CONNECTED NAVY VETERAN WITH A BACHELORS OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP FROM MILLIKEN UNIVERSITY. HE IS LEARNING FAST AND HAS BEEN VERY RELIABLE AND EXCITED TO MAKE AN IMPACT. OUR OFFICE IS VERY FORTUNATE TO HAVE HIM. I HAVE SIGNED HIM UP FOR CLASSES IN SEPTEMBER TO BECOME AN ACCREDITED VETERAN SERVICE OFFICER WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

ANTHONY TAYLOR – OUR HELP 4 HEROES VOLUNTEER HAS RETURNED AS WELL. THE OFFICE HAS BEEN RUNNING VERY SMOOTH. I COULD NOT BE HAPPIER WITH MY OFFICE.

VETPRO SOFTWARE UPGRADE –

IN MARCH VETPRO REACHED OUT TO US OFFERING THIER SOFTWARE FOR A TRIAL WITH FREE SETUP THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY 12-15K. WE HAVE SWITCHED OVER AND WILL BE STAYING WITH IT. IT WILL COST US SLIGHTLY MORE THIS YEAR DUE TO THE OLD SOFTWARE CONTRACT. HOWEVER, IN YEARS TO COME WITH MAILING EXPENSE ALONE, IT WILL PAY FOR ITSELF. NOT TO MENTION, THE FUNCTIONALITY OF SUBMITTING DIGITS TO DIGITS CODE FOR THE DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND FULL ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE CAPABILITY. ITS LIGHT YEARS AHEAD OF OUR OLD SOFTWARE.

WE ARE DISCONTINUING OUR DROPBOX BUSINESS CONTRACT NEXT YEAR BECAUSE OF THE VETPRO UPRGRADE. THIS ALONE WILL SAVE US \$700 PER YEAR.

OFFICE PRINTER - OUT OF CONTRACT –WE CAN ORDER CHEAP REFILLS AND CONTINUE TO USE UNTIL ITS NOT FUNCTIONAL.WE INTEND TO USE IT.

HELP 4 HEROES (VETERANS ASSISTANCE COMMISSION DONATION FUND)

WE HAVE GIVEN OUT \$5700 WITH HELP 4 HEROES (HOPE RESTORED PROGRAM). ANY VETERAN WHO LOST EMPLOYMENT DO TO COVID19 HAS RECEIVED A \$100 GIFT CARD TO WALMART AND \$25 PER DEPENDENT. THE COMMISSION WANTED TO EXTEND THAT PROGRAM UNTIL THE END OF JULY 2020 WITH A MAXIMUM OF \$10,000. IF YOU KNOW OF A VETERAN WHO HAS LOST EMPLOYMENT OR IS LOSING EMPLOYMENT DUE TO COVID19. PLEASE HAVE THEM CONTACT THE OFFICE AND WE WILL GET THEM SOME HELP AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

WE HAVE PURCHASED 20 FANS FOR THE SUMMER ON THE HELP 4 HEROES FUND AND WILL BE DISTRIBUTING THEM THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER TO VETERANS IN NEED.

ANYONE WHO MAKES A DONATION TO OUR HELP 4 HEROES FUND AND BRINGS IN A TATTERED FLAG THROUGH THE END OF JULY WILL RECEIVE A 3X5 US MADE VALLEY FORGE FLAG. WE ARE ENCOURAGING PEOPLE WITH TORN FLAGS TO BRING THOSE IN. (WE HAVE A TATTERED FLAG BOX IN THE OFFICE DONATED BY CHAIRMEN GREENFIELD.) MAKE A DONATION TO HELP OUR LOCAL HEROES AND SHOW YOUR PATRIOTISM. I DO HAVE A FEW 4X6 FLAGS, AS WELL, IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF A SLIGHTLY LARGER ONE.

EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE – HAS GIVEN OUT \$7,278.42 IN EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE SO FAR THIS YEAR. HOWEVER, I EXPECT THIS NUMBER TO SKYROCKET ONCE AMEREN AND RENT FINALLY START COLLECTING PAYMENTS.

MACON COUNTY HONOR GUARD IS BACK TO OPERATIONAL. THEY HAVE PERFORMED LAST RIGHTS TO 3 OF OUR VETERANS THIS WEEK. THEY ARE PRACTICING SOCIAL DISTANCING. WE HAD A WIDOW THAT LOST HER HUSBAND BECAUSE OF A SERVICE-CONNECTED CONDITION 6 WEEKS AGO. ALL THE VETERAN WANTED WAS HIS 21 GUN SALUTE(VOLLEY) AND BECAUSE OF COVID WE WERE UNABLE TO ASSIST. “ITS HEART BREAKING” WHEN YOU CANNOT PROVIDE THAT HONOR TO THE FAMILY. MAKE SURE IN THE FUTURE WHEN YOU SEE OUR HONOR GUARD MEMBERS. THANK THEM FOR THE SACRIFICES THEY MAKE. THEY ARE ALL VOLUNTEERS.

DAV TRASPORTATION NETWORK FOR DECATUR IS UP AND RUNNING AGAIN

WE HAVE MADE 9 TRIPS. WE ARE ONLY ABLE TO TRANSPORT 3 PASSENGERS AT A TIME. ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS WERE GIVIN THE OPTION TO SIT OUT AND NOT DRIVE. NONE OF THEM TURNED ME DOWN WHEN I ASKED THEM IF THEY WOULD BE AVAILABLE. THEY TOO ARE FOLLOWING STRICT CLEANING PRACTICES AND FOLLOWING VA’S GUIDELINES ON COVID19

THANK YOU

I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY A BRIEF PAT ON THE BACK TO ALL OF THE COUNTY BOARD MEMBERS & JEANNIE. I HAVE LISTENED TO ALL OF YOUR MEETINGS ONLINE AND I UNDERSTAND THE EXTRA PRESSURE. THANK YOU FOR YOUR LEADERSHIP.

TO ALL THE OFFICE HOLDERS AND THEIR STAFF. YOU ALL HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN MAKING SURE NONE OF THE SERVICES PROVIDED TO OUR VETERANS HAVE SLOWED OR TAKEN A BACK SEAT. TRULY “THANK

YOU” TO THOSE WHO HAVE REACHED OUT OR GAVE ME GUIDANCE OR A SIMPLE WORD OF ENCOURAGEMENT. IT HAS BEEN A HUMBLING AND MAKES ME PROUD TO BE HERE.

Health Department –

Ms. Binkley was unable to attend the meeting, but sent this report via email:

Macon County Health Department Report – EEHW June 2020

- We are proud to say we have continued to provide services to our community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We have made adjustments to our services to provide essential services at the height of the shelter in place order. We have slowly transitioned services back in at a greater level throughout these last few months. We have made adjustments to programs to limit visitors and therefore risk to our staff and clients. We now offer some services virtually, some curbside, and some continue to be completed in person. Because of progressive changes we made prior to the pandemic with the implementation of Microsoft 365 and during the pandemic, we had many staff that could work remotely (per IDPH and CDC recommendations) to provide complete services to their clients, patients, and community partners. We are grateful for our flexible, quickly adaptable, effective Leadership Team and entire team for their ability to quickly and frequently pivot to provide services as safely as possible to all staff and clients.
 - We continue to work in response to COVID-19. We have a strong system in place to address nursing, environmental health, emergency preparedness, communications, and other needs presented by the pandemic. This pandemic and the increased workload has significantly affected our team’s schedules and duties. Many have worked countless hours to complete the duties necessary to prevent spread of illness. We are incredibly grateful for our team’s commitment to public health and serving their community every day and especially during this very difficult time.
 - We have received notification from IDPH that we will be receiving a grant for contact tracing. We submitted an application for this funding, but are waiting to hear back regarding what will be approved and for how much. We will keep EEHW posted when we hear more.
 - In addition to the COVID-19 pandemic, our staff throughout the building have continued to be busy, providing service to the community. These staff were providing services even during the peak of the pandemic, proving their commitment to their clients; passion for public health; bravery in spite of the unknown; and true dedication to prevention.
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- The implementation of WIC EBT has been completed in Macon County. This change is a statewide initiative and will provide improved efficiency and services for parents receiving WIC services. Staff attended training virtually and are in the process of full transition/implementation now.
 - We are continuing our work on the IPLAN due in 2021. We are working with many area partners, including both hospitals and both local FQHCs. We will finalize our document and plan and public by July 2021.

Environmental Management – No report

U of I Extension -No report

Regional Office of Education – No report

Mental Health – No report

Historical Museum - No report

CITIZEN’S REMARKS – None

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – None

Closed Session – None needed

NEXT MEETING Next regular meeting –7/23/2020

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Little, seconded by Mr. Gresham and Chair Kraft adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office