

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

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

**October 22, 2020                      5:30 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Debra Kraft, Chair  
Jim Gresham

**COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT**

Jennifer Gunter, P&Z  
Tracy Sumpter, Environmental Mgmt  
Greg Collins  
Jessie Smalley, HR  
Lt. Jeff Scheibly, Animal Control

**PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE**

Laura Zimmerman  
Kevin Greenfield

Brandi Binkley, Health Dept

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Matt Brown  
Linda Little  
Helena Buckner, Vice Chair

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

**MINUTES**

Mr. Gresham made a motion to approve the 9/24/2020 meeting minutes, seconded by Chairman Greenfield and roll call vote showed that the motion carried 4-0.

**CLAIMS**

Chairman Greenfield 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 4-0.

**ZONING –**

***Macon County Board Resolution Regarding Case S-02-10-20, A Petition Requesting a Special Use Permit Submitted by Oreana Solar, LLC C/O Geronimo Energy***

Ms. Gunter explained that this request is to allow the development and construction of a solar energy system on approximately 20 acres of an existing 80 tract of land. Within a 2 year period, they will obtain a building permit and begin to establish the use as A-1 Agricultural zoning. The property is located at 6816 N. Brush College Road in Whitmore Township.

On October 7, a Public Zoning Appeals Hearing was held and based on the finding of facts and staff recommended approval, the ZBA voted 5-0 for approval of the special use permit with stipulations that can be found in the resolution.

Chair Kraft explained that this was our original solar farm and is what we based our solar farm ordinance when the County Board established an ordinance. Ms. Gunter confirmed. Ms. Kraft commented that that is what this is and they are trying it again.

Chair Kraft made a motion to approve forwarding on to the Full Board with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Gresham. Chair Kraft stated that there is a representative present if anyone has questions. There were no questions. Roll call vote showed that the motion carried 4-0.

## **SUBDIVISIONS –**

### **REPORTS**

#### **Animal Control**

Lt. Scheibly distributed September monthly reports for 2020 & 2019 as a comparison and offered to answer any questions. He went on to explain that nothing much changes from year to year. Everything at the shelter is going well right now. It is kind of slow which is a good thing.

He explained that the current specials at the Shelter include Adoptions @ \$31 which runs through 10/31. Home for the Holidays starts near the end of November.

#### **Veteran's Assistance -**

Mr. Collins reported that he had gotten a call from the Salvation Army that they will not be doing the Veteran's Day Program this year because of the 50 people limitations. He said he would like to ask County Board members, elected officials and department heads to send him a 5 to 10 second video on behalf of the Macon County offices thanking veterans for all they do, he would edit and put out a Facebook video. He explained he would need them ASAP.

Chair Kraft commented that this is a wonderful idea.

#### **Planning & Zoning – No Report**

#### **Health Department –**

Ms. Binkley reported (via phone) that they are running pretty much all of their services as they were pre-COVID. Adjustments have been made, but pretty much everything is running except for the SDI Clinic simply because they do not have the staff to do that and thankfully, there are community partners that have been able to handle that need here in Macon County.

COVID-19 has, obviously, been keeping them very busy. The numbers are going, not in the direction we want them to, and things are getting worse very quickly. That is something that is happening statewide and not just in Macon County. It is hoped that our community can start to see the seriousness of that if they have not already and will take the precautions they should be taking. The messaging is not changing. A lot of information has been put out as quickly as possible, but it has not changed at all. It's just that the numbers are getting a lot more serious.

***Macon County Board Resolution Approving Master Services Agreement for Healthworks Medical Case Management with Meridian Health Plan of Illinois, Inc. d/b/a YouthCare***

Ms. Binkley reminded the members that last month they had brought a resolution forth that was for the Healthworks Lead Agency grant and explained that the State is switching to a managed care model through YouthCare, so the same services will still be provided, but through YouthCare and with potentially more funding. She said that they had now gotten the contract for the Case Management side of this which is another division of the Health Department, but the same process with YouthCare and the managed care model. Mr. Baggett has reviewed this contract. This will allow the continuation of Case Management for children who have been placed in foster care. Again, this is a program they would like to continue to provide, even with the change because there is no plan for these children if the Health Department does not continue in this capacity and there would have been gaps in service.

Chairman Greenfield made a motion to approve forwarding on to the Finance Committee with recommendation to approve, seconded by Mr. Gresham and roll call vote showed that the motion carried 4-0.

### **Environmental Management –**

Ms. Sumpter gave an update on electronic & paint collections.

September 28, paint collection with approximately 140 customers in attendance

October 17, electronics collection with approximately 137 customers & a total of 205 TVs & / or monitors with numerous mixed electronics.

October 23, this Friday, paper shredding event from 8 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. It is a first come / first served event.

October 31, paint collection.

The 10/31 paint collection will be the last of the season and they will start back up in April.

Ms. Sumpter went on to report that Chairman Greenfield, Ms. Gunter and Ms. Sumpter have met with the IEPA. The meeting went well and they will continue to pay as they have in the past. They will be training both Ms. Gunter & Ms. Sumpter for landfill and compost facility inspections in the near future. They are in favor of having more than one person certified in case one has to be out of the office for any extended period of time. Ms. Sumpter said she looks forward to this opportunity.

Dr. Zimmerman thanked Ms. Sumpter for taking this on. It is a lot of work. She asked the committee and Chairman Greenfield, since this committee does have oversight over Environmental Management, she thinks they deserve an explanation of what happened and said she feels the committee needs to be part of the discussion about what Environmental Management is going to look like long term. She said she was in hopes that that discussion could be had now so everyone could be on the same page.

Chair Kraft commented that Ms. Sumpter has stepped up, but she does was not sure . . . She asked Ms. Sumpter if she was interim. Ms. Sumpter said she believed she is Director.

Chairman Greenfield said he would be happy to sit down with t he committee and Dr. Zimmerman any time she'd like. He asked her to contact him anytime. Dr. Zimmerman agreed, saying that she appreciated it, but still felt that once they've had their conversation, she still feels that the committee should have a discussion as well.

**U of I Extension** -No report

**Regional Office of Education** - No report

**Mental Health** – No report

**Historical Museum** - No report

**CITIZEN'S REMARKS** – None via email or citizens present at the meeting

**OLD BUSINESS** - None

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**Closed Session** – None needed

**NEXT MEETING** Next regular meeting –11/19/2020

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Gresham, seconded and adjourned by Chair Kraft 5:45 p.m.

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