

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

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

June 23, 2022 5:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kevin Greenfield, Vice Chair
Jason Comer
Jeff Entler
Jim Gresham

COUNTY PERSONNEL PRESENT

Lt. Scheibly, Animal Control
Jessie Smalley, HR
Brandi Binkley, Health Dept
Tracy Sumpter, P&Z and Env Mgmt

MEMBERS ABSENT

Helena Buckner
Linda Little, Chair
Kristen Larner

Doug Harlan, Extension

Jeannie Durham, County Board Office

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Greenfield @ the Macon County Office Bldg.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from the prior meeting, 3/24/2022 made by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Mr. Entler and the motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF THE CLAIMS

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

ZONING –None

SUBDIVISIONS – None

REPORTS

Animal Control

Lt. Scheibly distributed monthly statistical reports for May, 2022 & 2021 for comparison and explained that there is not a lot of difference between those. He offered to answer questions. There were no questions.

Chairman Greenfield asked what had happened to all the wildlife. Lt. Scheibly explained that if wildlife comes in on a DNR, Department of Natural Resources Permit, they must be euthanized per State Statute. In order for someone to bring an animal in for the shelter to take them, they must have a permit issued by the DNR. If they do not have that, then they cannot be accepted for them and they have to go release it where they trapped it. Chairman Greenfield said he assumes the 24 were euthanized. Lt. Scheibly confirmed. Mr. Greenfield commented on what

a shame that is. Lt. Scheibly explained that he just enforces according to the law whether he agrees or disagrees; he just does what the State says he must.

Lt. Sheibly went on to report that an open house will be held this Saturday at the Shelter to celebrate the 16th anniversary of the new facility. WAND TV did a story interviewing Shirley Stanley where they showed some pictures of the old shelter compared to the new one. It is hard to imagine that it has been 16 years. There will be \$16 adoptions during the Open House day. There are plenty of cats and dogs available for adoption.

Veteran's Assistance – No report

Planning & Zoning – No Report

Health Department –

Ms. Binkley reported that the STI clinic is fully up and running again with a provider in the building. The STI services have been provided throughout the pandemic, but now there is actually a provider back in the building so they can get everything taken care of while there.

Back to school initiatives are being worked on to ensure that children are getting their vaccines and physicals before school starts and especially before the October 15 cut off date. That is when they would be put out of school if they do not have that stuff done. The Health Department is partnering with a lot of other agencies in the community and school districts to offer additional clinics and accessibility for the children in our community.

The dental clinic has recently been able to expand the number of patients seen per week. So, more people are coming in. They are seeing primarily children and some adults. The new digital software has been fully implemented and it is going well. Mr. Gresham asked if people are coming in for check ups or just for problems. Ms. Binkley said some of both. They like to be able to get anybody, but children especially established with the dental clinic so they have somewhere to go regularly for their preventative cleaning, but also, if they have problems with pain, they can be gotten in more quickly to try to prevent that ongoing pain, difficulty in eating, other health problems that could occur from oral health problems.

Environmental Health summers are always pretty busy with seasonal and temporary events. They are getting all of those taken care of. The State's Attorney's office has gotten back with the Health Department about the contract for digital environmental health which has been talked about in the past. The hope is to get that to the Board of Health by next week so they can review and possibly approve by next month. It would then come to this committee for approval.

FY21 wrap up for the State is underway. That ends June 30. The County budget will then be prepared for presentation to the County Board budgetary process next month.

An ARPA funds wish list was presented to the Finance Committee last month with several different items on it. Some of the top ideas that would benefit, not just the Health Department, but the community and some other county employees, would be:

- funding for paid paternal leave for County employees.
- Diversity training which had been requested for County employees and Board members and appointees. The Health Department had been asked about helping with that. The Health Department is willing to help with that. They do have someone that is looking at training options that might be able to provide to the health department staff and they would be happy to help with that. Ms. Binkley explained that they had also put in the wish list, the possibility of the County using some of those ARPA funds, not necessarily for the Health Department, but to maybe get some higher level or more comprehensive training
- Additional funding for EAP services for all County employees to possibly increase from 6 sessions total. Everyone has been through a lot in life in general, but especially in the last few years.

A Couple of new Board of Health members were welcomed on this month and they are excited about getting them going. There is still one outstanding spot to be filled.

COVID numbers have been showing an uptick for several months. The County is in medium community level and in high community transmission level which is a level that is used for health care facilities to define what they have to do inside their buildings. The current case rate per 100,000 is 312.47. Last month it was 192.29. Home tests are not counted in that so there are more. Hospitalizations have had a 40% increase in the 7 days prior to June 15th. There were changes with the Surge Center that were implemented. Communication was put out about that, but for the most part, contact tracing like you've seen it for 2 years is not being done exactly the same way from the State nor from the Health Department. The Health Department is still monitoring and assisting the community with any outbreaks or clusters, but not every single person is getting a phone call. There is staff still available to answer questions if people need help.

Mr. Gresham said he wanted to make a statement but did not even want Ms. Binkley to respond to it. He said he was a little bit disturbed by an article in the local paper about maybe some of the board members not taking the uptick in the COVID seriously. He said he found that to be very disturbing.

Starting Point, which is what the resolution is for, have all of their regular services going on plus they've been able to offer some of their classes again this summer for caregiver support and diabetes self-management.

Macon County Board Resolution Approving Subcontractor Agreement for Coordinated Care Alliance Homemeds Program

Ms. Binkley explained that they have not had this contract before. Mr. Baggett with the State's Attorney's office has thoroughly reviewed it. He did have some edits that he requested from the contractor. All of those have been updated. They were all accepted by the contractor. Ms. Binkley explained this program saying that the Starting Point Division which is the Aging and Disability Resource Center, do home visits, caregiver, diabetes self-management, set people up with services in their homes. This would be for seniors or people with disabilities. They are all

the time setting people up with services and making referrals to different community programs. This particular program, Homemed, is a program where they would refer someone to Homemed and put all of their medications into a program which is then reviewed by a pharmacist to determine and insure that there are no contra-indications of the medications that they are taking, that there is no additional fall risk, no additional hospital admission risk and to keep people as safe as possible and to have another set of eyes on that. These referrals would be made anyway, but because of this particular contract, funding can be received back for making those referrals. Basically, it is getting additional funds in for something the staff would be doing anyway. It is also an additional service for the clients in the community.

Motion to approve forwarding the resolution on to the Finance Committee for consideration with recommendation to approve was made by Mr. Gresham and seconded by Mr. Entler. Chairman Greenfield asked where the money received goes if they are already doing this service. Ms. Binkley explained that the reason they did not increase the budget for this or that there are not dollars tied to the resolution is that they are not quite sure yet how many will be done. They are not required to do a set minimum. Staff time will be a part of what is already budgeted, so the expenses will not increase. That is the budget in the Community Care program through Starting Point. Revenue would increase. It would be \$55 for each assessment plus the Illinois Department on Aging can be billed \$190.82 for each referral and assessment done. This work is already done and what is not covered by funds from the Illinois Department on Aging has been covered by tax dollars the Health Department received. This would just help cover some of that. Mr. Greenfield asked if it goes to a general fund or where. Ms. Binkley said it goes directly toward the staffing in that CCP and the Starting Point Program. The motion carried 4-0.

Environmental Management -

Ms. Sumpter reported that for June, something new had been tried. The Center was opened on Tuesday mornings from 8 a.m. to noon and on Thursday afternoons from noon to 4 p.m. There has been really good turnout and response. There are no less than 30 or 35 people taking advantage of this service during each day's 4 hour period of time. Today, there were closer to 60. It is being well received by the public. It may be that they try to continue the service. Because of the mid week availability, the Saturday events have been cut to 2 hours from 4 hours. She said they wanted to try it because they know that not everybody wants to spend their Saturday morning bringing in TVs. It has been very well received and they are looking into continuing it into the summer.

Regional Office of Education – No report

Mental Health – No report

Historical Museum – No Report

U of I Extension –

Mr. Harlan distributed flyers and explained that they have lots going on. The 4-H fair is July 9 & 10 in Clinton. There are a lot of kids preparing for that. The State Fair is not too far after that in August. The only thing different about the fairs this year is that,

because of the Avian Bird Flu, there will not be a poultry show. The kids with poultry projects will do a ZOOM virtual project or a poster project. The State made that decision last week.

A Macon County Youth Development Educator was hired. He started the first Monday in June. His name is Ben Steele. He is a former Decatur School Teacher for middle school aged children. He has already started hitting the ground running. He has a lot of connections with District 61 and they are looking forward to getting some of the in school programming that had been put aside due to COVID started again. Mr. Entler asked if that was a vacant position. Mr. Harlan said it was vacant and had been for about 18 months. There were 2 failed searches. Some of the qualifications are a little tough because it requires a Masters Degree and a certain amount of experience. Some of the applicants were not qualified the first two times it was advertised. This last time, there were some good applicants.

The State is completely caught up and paid in full on FY22. The first payment for FY23 is expected at any time.

CITIZEN'S REMARKS – None

OLD BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS – None

OFFICEHOLDER'S REMARKS - None

Closed Session – None needed

NEXT MEETING Next regular meeting – 7/28/2022

ADJOURNMENT Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Entler, seconded by Mr. Gresham, the motion carried 4-0 and the meeting was adjourned by Vice Chair Greenfield at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Jeannie Durham, Macon County Board Office