



Macon County
Public Health

MACON COUNTY BOARD OF

HEALTH

MINUTES

11/17/2020

Members: Melissa Bell, Pharmacist and Chair, Nathan Brenner, Dentist and Vice-Chair; Teresa Murray, General Public; Jeff Todd, Veterinarian; Paul Higdon, County Commissioner; Mitchell Bishop, Engineer; Gosia Tiger, General Public; Vacant, Physician, Ellen Shope; Nurse Representative; Vacant, General Public; and Ross Dodge, General Public

Members Absent: Melissa Bell, Gosia Tiger

Staff Present: Kathy McGaha, Melissa Setzer, Jennifer Garrett, Carrie Pazcoguin, Jimmy Villard, Sean Sullivan, Tim Vliet, Kristina Loughborough and Vanessa Kehoe

Guests: None

Media: None

Public Comment: None

Call to Order: Nathan Brenner called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm.

Welcome/Intro: Jimmy Villard introduced Sean Sullivan, Animal Control Officer, Tim Vliet, Animal Control Officer, and Carrie Pazcoguin introduced Vanessa Kehoe, Finance Assistant.

Agenda Approval: Ross Dodge made a motion to approve the agenda. Teresa Murray seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Presentations: None

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Ross Dodge made a motion to accept the minutes. Teresa Murray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business:

COVID-19 Update Jennifer Garrett stated that Macon County Public Health will be COVID-19 testing this Wednesday and Friday, but will not be testing the week of Thanksgiving. As of 4:00 p.m. this afternoon there had been 10,288 tested in the county, the Macon County Public Health has tested 6,821, there are 129 test pending results, 866 total cases, 59 positive cases, 799 recovered and 8 deaths. The call center numbers has increased due to contact tracing from the spike. Testing has also increased; we were seeing approximately 40 patients now they are seeing 70-80 each day of testing. Mrs. Garrett stated that they would probably see numbers rise because as it gets colder people will start moving indoors and with the holidays coming up people will start to have more gatherings and this will lead to the spread. Mrs. Garrett also stated that they are starting to receive information regarding the

vaccine for COVID-19. They are receiving information on two different vaccines; one is from Pfizer and one from Moderna. At this time, we are unsure which vaccine the Macon County Public Health will be receiving. Neither vaccine is FDA approved at this time. The first round of COVID-19 vaccine are due to go to the Nursing Homes and to health care workers. Once we start receiving the vaccine, distribution will probably be through the drive through clinic the same way that the flu shots clinic.

Flu Shot Update Jennifer Garrett stated that they are still giving out flu shots through the drive through. From 8/1/2020 – 11/17/2020 the Macon County Public Health has given out 1,303 flu shots. There is a chance that the flu vaccine will be depleted at tomorrow's scheduled clinic.

Nomination for Chair and Vice-Chair Kathy McGaha announced that it is time to nominate the Chair and Vice Chair for next year's Board of Health. Nathan Brenner (Vice Chair) stated that he had spoken with Melissa Bell (Chair) and they both are ready for someone else to step up. They have been Chair and Vice Chair for some time for others to move into those places. The deadline for nominations is the next board meeting.

New Business:

Overtime Hours Kathy McGaha stated that at the end of the last meeting several board members discussed the overtime hours that many employees has been incurring. Board of Health members, Mitchell Bishop and Ross Dodge went before the Board of County Commissioners at the last Commissioners meeting and asked for some kind of compensation for salary employees. The employees at the Macon County Public Health have been working very long hours like many others and since they are salary, they get no reimbursement for overtime hours. Derek Roland the county manager also spoke on behalf of the county employees and presented an option that would pay the employees hazard pay. This would be a onetime payment. The commissioners voted and the proposal was passed 4 – 1. This onetime payment will be \$750 for eligible full time and \$150 for eligible part time. Mrs. McGaha stated that she thinks there is a possibility that exempt employees may get their overtime hours back in comp time. Ross Dodge stated that he “Thanks” the County Commissioners for the \$750 per employee, but he feels like the exempt employees may feel like their overtime is not appreciated. Mitchell Bishop stated that he is optimistic that this will be an ongoing discussion. Paul Higdon stated that there were many departments asking for reimbursement for overtime. He opposed this proposal to pay the employees hazard pay. Mr. Higdon stated that Macon County was able to maintain and not lay any staff off during this difficult time. Mrs. McGaha stated that she would continue to tract the overtime hours

Discussion: Ms. McGaha stated that they are still looking for two people to fill positions on the Board of Health. One is for a “Physician” and the other is “a Member at Large” (General Public). If anyone knows of someone who would be interested to please let her know.

Closed Session: None

Announcements: None

Next Meeting Date: 12/15/2020

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Ross Dodge. Dr. Jeff Todd seconded that motion. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously at 6:41 pm.

Minutes Recorded by: Melissa Setzer, MCPH Administration Assistant