

Macon County Board of Health Meeting

**Macon County Health Department
MCHD WIC Conference Room
1221 E Condit Street, Decatur IL 62521
November 16, 2021, at 5:30pm**

Mark Scranton, Board of Health Vice President, called the meeting to order at 5:35 pm.

Roll Call

Vivian Goodman, President – absent
Mark Scranton, Vice President – present
Jan Hack, Secretary – present
Sue Krows, Treasurer - absent
Candace Clevenger – absent
Jeff Entler - present
Debbie Hill – present
Dr. Bret Jerger - present
Dr. Venkat Minnaganti – absent
Cody Parks – absent
Dr. Janet Patterson - present

Health Department Staff in Attendance in Building

Brandi Binkley, MPA, SHRM-CP, CPHA, Public Health Administrator
Fred Book, Information Technology Support Specialist Assistant
LaKeeya Funches, Accountant
Evan Trimby, Information Technology Support Specialist
Nakeya Thompson, Administrative Assistant

Health Department Staff in Attendance on Call

Rachel Deerwester, Director of Clinical Nursing Services
Becky Edwards, Director of Starting Point
Marisa Hosier, Director of Health Promotion and Public Relations
Lindsey Munsterman, Assistant Director of WIC/FCM
Kim Sabin-Pritchett, Dental Clinic Office Manager
Karen Shiflett, RN, BSN, Director of WIC/FCM
Bethany Stapel, MPH, CPHA, Assistant Public Health Administrator
Sheree Zalanka, Chief Financial Officer

Public in Attendance

None

Approval of Agenda Topics

There were no changes to the agenda topics. Jeff Entler moved to accept the agenda, seconded by Dr. Bret Jerger. Roll call. Motion carried.

Public Comment

No public comments were received via email prior to the deadline and even prior to this meeting time.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Jeff Entler moved to accept the Minutes, seconded by Debbie Hill. Roll call. Motion carried.

Communications

Brandi Binkley reported that we did receive several envelopes from the Macon County Board of Review. They were all assessment appeals filed at the Macon County Board of Review requesting a change in assessed value of \$100,000 or more. We will keep all of those on file, but Brandi Binkley just wanted to keep everyone aware. Brandi Binkley asked if there were any additional questions, or any additional information wanted with that. There were no additional questions.

COVID-19 Update

Brandi Binkley explained that there were not a lot of major changes since last month. The numbers for contact tracing are going up. It is being seen across the state and throughout our region. They are watching to see if it is another surge or not. Currently, Macon County is at 216 per 100,000 cases. The target is 50, and we are significantly over that. The State of Illinois is in high transmission, and most of the country is, as well. Mass vaccination clinics – we are doing it all now. We started pediatric vaccinations today, ages 5-11, and that was an exciting moment to have those children here. Since things went smoothly, there will be more appointments added to the already filled Thursday appointment slots. There will be other opportunities for children to come in. Brandi Binkley stated she would provide more of an update regarding those grants later in the meeting. Brandi Binkley asked if there were any questions. There were no additional questions.

Presentation and Acceptance of Financial Report

As of October 31st, 92% of the year has passed. The Ending Fund Balance is \$5,657,560.82. Total revenue is currently at \$7,472,170.51 which is 76.7% into budget revenue. Total expenditures are \$7,040,380.96 which is 72.8% of budgeted expenditures. Sheree Zalanka asked if there were any questions, as did Mark Scranton. There were not at that time.

Dr. Bret Jerger moved to accept the Financial Report, seconded by Dr. Janet Patterson. Roll call. Motion carried.

Review of Department Expenditures

Mark Scranton asked Brandi Binkley if there was anything in here to go over. Brandi Binkley said just if there were any questions. Brandi also reminded the Board that Sheree, Chief Financial Officer had given an update to the Board a few months ago about changes made to improve these reports with additional detail about what each expense is. Brandi stated that if Board Members have a specific question about what a specific expense was, they are available to answer those.

Jeff Entler moved to pay the bills, seconded by Jan Hack. Roll call. Motion carried.

Grant Applications and Review

Brandi Binkley reported that we do not have any this month. Brandi Binkley said I will tell you, especially for the new Board Members, just so you know, that was added onto our board agendas several years ago. I can't remember exactly how many years ago. The purpose of that step was if there were new grants added in or new opportunities, that we answered a questionnaire and submitted it to the board so that you could review it, make sure there weren't duplication of efforts

with another organization, make sure it was something the Board felt met the mission of the health department, make sure it was something our staff could handle workload wise, so we don't put everything through that process. It's just anything that would be new or different from the norm. We do have grants going through every year, but the ones that we do for review are just the newer ones.

Department and Division Reports

Mark Scranton questioned if the health department isn't planning on starting STI clinics back up until the middle of next year. He asked if that is correct. Brandi Binkley said we are not, not – that is our goal deadline. As a reminder, we do have to have a provider for most STI services. Brandi Binkley said we are doing STI services; any reported communicable disease including STIs, we do a follow-up on no matter where they are tested and diagnosed, treated, etc. We are always working on STI cases all the time, which has not stopped because of COVID. Brandi explained what went on pause because of staffing at our agency and partner agencies was having a provider in here to do actual exams and tests in the building. We have been looking at something called the Brown Bag Project which is basically people could come in and do a urine test. That's something that we could potentially do without a provider but anything else that we would do that has to have a provider external from the organization. We have been reaching out to our partner that we have been partnering with before COVID asking if they'd be willing or interested to come back and we still haven't gotten a response from that but it's sort of in some ways out of our hands. Our goal deadline is to have that implemented by July of 2022. Brandi Binkley said we also have partnered with another agency to come in and provide services and consulting and counseling in the building.

Brandi Binkley explained we have STI services to give more clarification, but we just aren't doing those actual exams in the building that we were doing before COVID, and we partnered with Crossing. They had a provider that came over here to offer that here in the building. Jeff Entler asked what type of things do you do when someone has an STI? Brandi Binkley said there's a follow-up, notification, getting ahold of them if there's some type of treatment or medication that they would need, all those steps. We then follow, track, report, all of that on those too, to the State. Brandi Binkley explained we also, as of right now, have an HIV Provide grant. We received it from the Illinois Association of Public Health Administrators, and we have continued that through COVID, as well. Mark Scranton questioned what would it take to get clinics back open again? Brandi Binkley responded the top thing is having a provider and having staff for that. Brandi explained a provider is something that would have to come from somewhere else, we don't have a provider in-house. Mark Scranton asked so who was doing it before COVID. Brandi Binkley replied Crossing. Mark Scranton said, so we need to facilitate getting that done with them, and then what's staff doing that was handling STIs, that aren't doing it now, what are they doing? Brandi Binkley said Crossing we've already reached out to. We've already had a meeting and some follow-up and communication about not only bringing back STI services but also making them more comprehensive.

We've pitched some ideas to the State as far as what we could do but the State has turned down that which would make it better for the public. We have already started that communication process about getting them back. Then, as far as the staff that was doing that before, we've lost some staff through COVID that were doing that before so now the nurses we have in the building, they are doing all the other immunizations, they do TB tests, they do foreign travel consultation, they do that STI and communicable disease follow-up. They do anything in the lab that we are required to do. They are helping with COVID vaccinations as needed, and flu vaccinations as needed. They are running the rest of the operation. When we did have an STI Clinic before, it ran for about two and a half hours for two days of the week. The people that were working on this, that was like about 5 hours a week thing. Mark Scranton said, well, my concern is, I brought this up two or three months ago about getting these clinics back up and

going again, and now we are sitting here today, and the problem still hasn't been resolved and now you're talking about another 8 months down the road is the goal to try to have this back running again. Mark Scranton said I don't think that is acceptable. One of the responsibilities of the health department is to promote the well-being of the health of the public at large and when you look at the statistics you guys have had, STIs haven't stopped because of COVID. Mark Scranton said he is concerned we are clogging up our emergency rooms, and doctor's offices and express care and other places for things that the health department should be taking care of. Mark Scranton said he is really kind of frustrated to see we are not getting this going again, and now we are talking about the middle of next year before we get this going again and Mark said, I don't know how the rest of the board feels but I got a problem with this because people are here doing this before all this happened and it seems like they were focusing so much of our energy on COVID-related issues that the rest of these illnesses, infections are just kind of being tossed aside like they don't even exist anymore but yet the numbers reflect that we have a lot of cases within Macon County and this is going on every single month. Mark Scranton said, and I don't feel like we are doing our due diligence to try to resolve this problem and get back on track with having a clinic open to the public because there's a lot of people that don't have other means to do it. Mark Scranton said he's got an issue that we're having people in these types of situations that are being pushed off to try to get into Crossing which then it's adding, adding more burden to their schedule of staffing and personnel trying to deal with other cases for other things that they have coming in.

Mark Scranton also elaborated that then these people are potentially doing to the ER or whatever else might be going to try to get treatment or they're not doing anything at all, which is a larger problem because you're just spreading these things around. Mark Scranton challenged the staff to get a lot more aggressive on trying to get something worked out with the provider and get staff back on board, but he doesn't have any desire to see this dragging out until the middle of next year. Mark Scranton said that's not acceptable to him. Brandi Binkley responded, well, I agree with you and I will say that at the health department we have not had the luxury of getting to ignore other things. We certainly have had to maintain and continue our focus on everything else that we've done and add COVID on top of it which is why we have had some turnover and why we have had staff that has worked, you know, an extraordinary number of hours to get everything done. Brandi Binkley said I've reached out to two agencies that could send a provider. Brandi Binkley said I don't have anyone that is agreeable to do that. Brandi Binkley said I've reached out more than once, so if you could help move that in some way, then I would, you know, be grateful for that. Brandi Binkley said, but I can say my staff is trying and I'm trying so we continue to do that, but we can't force someone. Mark Scranton asked what's the objection to being back involved again. He said, I mean they were done before and what's the reason for not wanting to do it now. Brandi Binkley responded that I can't necessarily say there's been an objection, I just haven't even gotten a lot of feedback. Brandi Binkley said we've met with Crossing and me and the nursing team because we were going to try to partner in a way that we get certain medications as the health department to treat some STIs. Brandi Binkley said we don't have a provider, they (Crossing) have a provider, but they don't have access to the medication that we have access to.

Brandi Binkley explained, what we tried to do, and this was months and months and months ago is discussed with them and they were very agreeable to it. Brandi Binkley said I think could have been a great partnership where their provider would see people in their building. We would give our medication and we would all be serving the same population. One of the positives to that is that people, while they are first diagnosed if you can treat them for at least some of the STIs if they have more than once, or you know if they an STI, you can immediately medicate for then that is ideal but if they leave, then you call them to get their medication or you have to send them somewhere else. Brandi Binkley continued to explain that then they may never come back, or you may never be able to reach them via phone so it would have been a great partnership. However, the state did not allow for us to do that because they would not allow our medication

to be used in any other building or taken somewhere, and it has to be used here. I think that would have been an ideal way to move forward. Brandi Binkley said, so after that, I did follow up with Crossing to ask you know, would you be interested in bringing a provider again? Brandi Binkley said we want to get this going again and then I also had reached out to SIU. Before COVID, we had a lot of conversations with SIU about partnering with our Dental Clinic expansion and then also in our Nursing Division for more clinical services and also the possibility of bringing someone over here for behavioral health a couple of days a week or so. Brandi Binkley explained so we were looking at partnering with them in a lot of different ways. They've had some leadership changes. They have a lot going on too, so if Crossing isn't agreeable to doing it, they may be an option, but Brandi Binkley said that she cannot force them. Debbie Hill asked, so if they walk in then without an appointment, right, they walk in, you can see them. Brandi Binkley asked here, and responded, well right now we don't have a provider so we're not performing. Jeff Entler asked, would a provider be a doctor? Brandi Binkley, said, yes, a provider that's qualified. Dr. Janet Patterson asked if it is SIU Family Medicine that you've talked to and that she could maybe help facilitate that but who/which department we are talking to? Brandi Binkley responded, we've been talking with Iris, and then of course working with Annette and Brandi knows she's retired since. Very involved with talking with Iris and some of their other leadership staff but Brandi couldn't recall the names off the top of her head, but we would love to be able to offer that, but unfortunately some of it is out of our hands, so we're trying. Jeff Entler asked, so do they donate their time, or do you pay them as a provider? Brandi Binkley responded that this is a provider so the way that it worked with Crossing without looking at the contract was that they would bill for their services. While they were here, they were essentially using our space to see the patients. Brandi Binkley explained we had some staff that was working so some you know; reception or nursing staff and they (Crossing) had some staff that they would bring with them. Brandi Binkley explained they would bill so we wouldn't get anything for it, but we were able to provide this service in our house basically, but they would get everything that they've billed. Jeff Entler asked so they would bill you. Brandi Binkley responded no, they would bill insurance, Medicaid like whoever was the payee for that patient. Brandi Binkley explained so we didn't bill anyone for anything. They were completely billing. They were their patients in that setup. Mark Scranton asked, so we can't contract this through another medical provider other than Crossing? Brandi responded, I mean, there's a possibility that we could if we're contracting with a service, that's going to look different, and obviously. Mark Scranton interjected and said, if we don't have the staff here to do it, we got to pay somebody, I would suggest we find a way to get it done because I mean, you're talking 1,400 cases over the year. That's over 100 cases a month and we're not taking care of these people and this is been going on for a year and a half now, and you're talking about another eight months down the road. Mark Scranton continued, I just got a serious problem with this because this is one of the things that I think people rely on coming to the health department for and I my, again, my fear is people are either not getting treated or they are going to the ER for something in the scheme of things is a pretty novel disease to get treated . Mark Scranton said the ER is facing their challenges, he's been there three times in the last month and he's seen firsthand that they're struggling with staffing issues and everything else themselves. Mark Scranton said that I don't think we should be plugging up the system by sending people there for this type of situation, so I'm going to ask that you guys come back next month with something to show where you guys are going with this because I don't, I don't think this it's been getting enough attention, I brought it up 2-3 months ago, and Mark Scranton said he can't believe it that we can't find somebody to come in here even, I mean, you're talking five hours a week. There's got to be somebody that can come and do this even on a part-time basis I would think. Mark Scranton said we've got enough medical people in Macon County; I can't believe somebody can't come in here a nurse practitioner, you know, working some side job outside their normal job or whatever, but he would like to see something. Jeff Entler asked if it was a funding issue, it sounds like the situation before was unfunded if they were coming here and then billing for their services. Jeff Entler asked you didn't have to pay anything, right? Brandi responded we did have some staff

time that was committed that to support what was going on down there. Jeff Entler said, though, if we do what Mark says, if we hire someone to come and do that then we are probably not funded. Brandi Binkley responded, no, no, that's not in the budget right now but that's certainly something that if the Board wanted to dedicate health fund dollars to that, we could go through the resolution process of doing that, and getting a contract approved, all of that, we can certainly go down that route if that's something the board wishes.

Brandi Binkley elaborated that we have not ignored these people, we have provided the services and support, and we have implemented other services and partnerships during this time. Brandi Binkley agrees that STIs are something we as the health department have done forever so it's certainly not something that we are ignoring by any means, but we can bring something back next month- maybe a really detailed report of everything the team has been doing and then I can look into seeing if there's a way to contract with a provider that would come in here. Mark Scranton said I just think we need to have some movement on it, I don't think we can wait eight months to fix this is something we want to do, I don't think it's, we aren't doing right by the public. Brandi Binkley said, again, we are not waiting until July to work on that, we are already working on that. Brandi Binkley said again we are not waiting until July to work on that, we are already working on that. Brandi stated that her goal no matter what is to have something implemented, started, whether it's a contract that we need, resolution, a budget, funding, getting a different partner from somewhere else, and that that's all started, and those services are occurring by July 1; not waiting until July 1 to work on it.

Mark Scranton asked if anyone had any questions about the reports. No questions were presented by other Board Members.

Mark asked if they were going to review the food truck thing under the other category or go over it. Brandi Binkley responded that no, it is in old business. Mark Scranton said, okay, and there was no other discussion.

Employee Recognition

Mark Scranton confirmed the date on Anniversaries. It should state November, not October, per LaKeeya Funches. Mark Scranton acknowledged all employees on the monthly certificate and thanked them for their years of service.

Old Business

Email Addresses

Brandi Binkley did send an email out about this, just a reminder if your email is not set up please get that done because we are really trying to get everything transitioned to using those. Brandi told the Board that if you need help, she sent it and she can give you it again, the IT email and phone number to help you get set up. Mark Scranton asked what's the phone number for that? Brandi Binkley replied 423-6988 extension 1139. Mark Scranton said he still can't get his to work right, and he did not get the Board agenda for this month until he got your (Brandi) email the other day. Brandi Binkley explained that the packet was sent to his Board email that's why. Mark Scranton said, yeah, that's kind of what I assumed was happening. Mark Scranton asked if there were any questions about that. There was no further discussion.

COVID-19 Contact Tracing and Mass Vaccination Grants Updates

Brandi Binkley stated this is just a fairly brief update, as we noted last month, we did get an increase and amendment to the Mass Vaccination Grant. Our increase was of \$296,800 for a grand total with what we already had of \$611,800. The Contact Tracing Grant - they did notify us Monday on our IDPH call that the funds will not be extended or called a Contact Tracing Grant

after that December 31st end date. What they are going to do is give us funds called something else that have less restrictions on them and they are supposed to get us out more information soon. That is all that I have. They also did not share what the contact tracing expectations will be. They did say and made it sound like they would be the same but all health departments are in the same boat as us right now with trying to plan without really having all that information. The feedback that health departments gave the State was that they wish the funding we had gotten would be less restrictive so we could actually use it for more public health infrastructure, and so I believe that is the intention with this change, the way the funding is going to work after 12/31, so I will update you as soon as I know more but that's what I know right now.

That again presents the situation with staffing. We have continued to be very transparent with them. We have had you know more people that have left that we knew were probably going to leave that had other opportunities that were basically going to be waiting or they finished school, and you know, were moving basically into their full time job. So as of right now, that is the update that I'm going to give them on Thursday during their call, but our intention, if that funding continues and the expectation continues is that we would put in the budget to continue the positions that we need.

Mark Scranton asked, now funding runs out this month or next month? Brandi Binkley replied next month, 12/31. Mark Scranton said, so we are going to have to wait til we come to December's meeting to find out that these people are going to have a job in two weeks. Brandi Binkley responded, well, I think, and tell me if I'm wrong. My understanding was from the Board that if we aren't going to have funding that there was a desire to possibly use health funds to cover those positions if the contact tracing expectations continued, is that correct?

Mark Scranton replied, no, I don't believe so. I think we discussed about the fact that we do not want to take money out of the health fund to pay for contact tracing, that the money was going to be additional money will be made available. That was my (Mark Scranton) recollection of that conversation because we didn't want to take money out of the health fund budget. Mark Scranton said, we can go back and check the records, but I'm pretty sure that's what we discussed because we're talking about not taking money out of that fund to pay for contact tracing.

Brandi Binkley said, well, it's going to ultimately be up to the board, not to me. Brandi Binkley said my understanding is that you wanted these people if they were going to have a job you wanted for them to know that after the first of the year their position would be funded whether it was IDPH grants or not. So, if I'm incorrect, obviously that you know is understandable, but I do know, you know, we will have more information from the State, and as you know they do sometimes do give it to us late in the game. Brandi said I can do whatever the pleasure of the board is at this point, but all these staff have been told since they were interviewed that their positions are temporary and they are grant funded and they could end, you know, very quickly sometimes. They were all told the State usually gives notice very close to when a deadline is so they may not know until close to that point. So, they have been told in a very honest way from the very beginning that this could end and end abruptly. Brandi stated she would do what the Board wants to do.

Brandi Binkley continued by stating that generally, if funding ends, usually we just don't have those positions anymore. But with this being a core essential service, if at the health department if our responsibility is to contact trace, and during COVID and pre-COVID, we do have to contact trace communicable diseases no matter what they are. So if there's a TB case for example, then we must contact trace that so that's something the board would have to decide. If we're going to go against the rules of what we're supposed to do as a local health department, that could be problematic. Jeff Entler spoke up to ask how many contact tracers are being employed right now. Brandi Binkley responded that right now there are 33 employees that are trained. There are also employees who are also trained as contact tracers throughout the building who can assist if there is some type of surge. All of this was done back before we were able to hire people, so we have a

lot of people in the building trained whose jobs have nothing to do with contact tracing. Jeff Entler asked if the 33 people are the ones that are specifically. Brandi Binkley responded that they are contact tracing and mass vaccination. Those are the people that are working partly contact tracing and partly working on vaccination clinics for COVID. Those are people whose positions are funded or primarily funded with that grant funding.

Mark Scranton asked if they were going to wait till next month to find out and these people will be looking at Christmas, holidays and everything else. They're not going to know if they will have a job until our next board meeting. Brandi Binkley responded "right." Jeff Entler asked Brandi Binkley if her confidence level was high that there will be some type of funding that will come down the pipe because it sounds like it. Brandi Binkley stated yes, she was confident and that she will not guarantee the state does something because the state does not promise a lot. Sometimes they are wanting something from the Governor Budget Office, but then they don't get it meaning IDPH. Brandi stated IDPH has been assuring us that there is going to be money. Brandi Binkley explained that the news on Monday was a shock to everyone on the call that it wasn't going to be call contact tracing after December 31st, that money is going to end. They did say there would be more money which they have been saying they were going to try to get additional funds to be put through Public Health because Public Health budget has been cut or just underfunded for decades.

Brandi Binkley stated that she does feels confident that they will get the funding, but she will not guarantee on behalf of IDPH because sometimes she doesn't know what they are doing until they do it. Brandi Binkley explains that these things do tend to happen at the last minute and they find out about these funding at the last minute. Brandi explained that sometimes we find out we are getting money past the start date of the actual grant. The turnaround for submission is usually short. This is why Brandi stated she has told the staff in the interviews that this could happen.

Mark Scranton stated it's a grant so then we have the board approved that then, right? Brandi Binkley responded that if it's a new grant, then yes, we could bring it to you. Mark Scranton explains that why they should have it by next Board Meeting. Mark Scranton goes on to states that this shines a light and goes to show how discombobulated this whole process is. There are places out there that have a ton of COVID money, and they are unsure on what to do with it. Mark Scranton stated that the college is giving away money for people getting vaccinated. He stated that we are talking about needing money and others have money they can't figure out how to spend due to restrictions. He stated when you are dealing with state and federal government, you don't have a lot of control over what they decide to do. Mark Scranton stated that he knows these people knew it was a temporary job, but it's around the holidays and he hates people being put out of a job no matter what it is. He feels we owe it to them to give them some type of notice or something if their employment will not continue.

Brandi Binkley stated that right now the expectation for IDPH to remains the same. She hopes they will have a job and they will then have a job in 2022. Brandi Binkley stated that she understands and feels their pain because she knows these people and cares about them. She stated she would have to be the one to let them go if it came to that, so she agrees with this concern and wants to keep them on. She also knows her core staff cannot everything this staff is doing and if we lose our contact tracing staff, we are in trouble. Brandi Binkley stated that we would be back where we were last Spring and Summer and that is not good.

Brandi Binkley stated that the county has \$20 million dollars too and there has been a request put in to get some funding support from them and that is a direction we could go, as well. Mark Scranton questioned what was the \$20 million dollars for. Brandi Binkley stated ARPA funds; The American Rescue Plan Acts funds that they had discussed. Mark Scranton asked what that money was allocated to, he thought it was supposed to be use for COVID. Brandi Binkley stated that it supposed to be used for the Public Health infrastructure and for other ways to support the health and well being of the community. Brandi Binkley stated she didn't have the wording memorized.

Mark Scranton said maybe we should have them give us money for a provider for our clinics. Brandi Binkley stated maybe he could help convince them of that because that would be fantastic. Mark Scranton questioned if anybody else on the board had any other thoughts on the issue.

Helmer Contract Update

Brandi Binkley informed the BOH Members that the Helmer Contract passed all the way through the County Board.

FY2022 Budget Update

Brandi Binkley informed the BOH members that the FY2022 Budget Update has passed.

Whit's End Update

Brandi Binkley explained the BOH members that Kathy Wade got out the letters per BOH direction with the stipulations. Per the direction of the BOH, Kathy Wade did work with Whit's End and as of yesterday they were inspected. The Whit's End passed all their city inspections, they were all taken care of. Brandi Binkley said it's been ongoing and some things were not in their original plan that had to be requested from them and their legal, but they are not all taken care of.

Brandi Binkley stated that our staff got out to do the opening inspection in time so that Whit's End was able to beat their liquor license deadline. Brandi Binkley said she was grateful to the team for that.

Mark Scranton expressed that he has visited the Whit's End since the update. He stated he has personally been out there and he encourages everyone to give them a visit because he was really shocked by all the work they put into improving the Whit's End. Mark Scranton stated he was shocked and they even had the parking lot resealed. Debbie Hill stated it is so clean. Conversation ensued about the updates made at the Whit's End. Mark Scranton stated that he thinks with the right leadership in place now it will move forward.

Mobile Food Truck Ordinance Update

Brandi Binkley informed the BOH that after the last meeting when the Mobile Food Truck Ordinance was approved that it did get sent over for Macon County Board to go through the process. Clarification was received from Mike Baggett from the States Attorney Office if it needs to go through EHW or just the SRO Committee. Brandi Binkley explains that they were able to get that on the agenda for SRO and that meeting was held on November 2nd. It was approved at that meeting. It was then sent to the County Board Secretary that night just to make sure they could get on the November meeting. The goal is to move it through for business owners with the goal of the January 1 date.

Brandi Binkley and Kathy Wade were in attendance at that meeting in case there were questions. The meeting was November 10th, and when they got to that item on the agenda, they announced that they were tabling it until next month. Brandi Binkley stated that she didn't get any other information at that time and hadn't heard anything before that. Brandi Binkley stated that because of that, she emailed a couple of people just to ask for any follow up with or what the next steps are or if they had any questions or concerns.

Brandi Binkley stated that she did get a response from Kevin Greenfield, the Chairman of County Board. Kevin Greenfield explained that some Board Members had not had a chance to read it, so they are just wanting more time. He also stated that in the future MCHD should get things there as soon as possible. Brandi Binkley clarified with the BOH that everything was sent over immediately, and she has no idea when it was sent to the County Board. However, we sent it over immediately in every spot. Brandi Binkley stated it was sent to Mike Baggett, State's

Attorney's Office, back in July and Kathy Wade has been updating the BOH in her Division Reports. Brandi Binkley stated that their team had prepared this information way ahead of schedule.

Mark Scranton responded that he wouldn't say it was done ahead of time because they just received the information at the last meeting and had to review and decide on it. Mark Scranton stated that he hasn't reached out to Kathy Wade on this yet, but there were some things discussed at the last meeting and he never saw a copy of what was done. He stated he thinks the BOH should have had more time; there is no reflection of the staff. He stated that trying to cram it in before January he doesn't really care about.

Mark Scranton explained how he started to interact with people that weren't even aware that the Mobile Food Truck Ordinance was happening until they saw stories about it in the media. Mark stated that the members of the public didn't really have the opportunity to comment on this or ask questions about it. The things he heard from people were about making sure that businesses are only going to be in place for one week at a time. He and Debbie Hill have talked and couldn't agree on whether it was one week all the time or if it was one week just on the non-seasonal stuff. Mark Scranton mentioned the discussing about the 200-foot issue and wasn't aware where they finally landed on that. He thought Kathy Wade was going to provide some clarity of how that was worded in the ordinance and he hasn't seen an updated copy, so doesn't know what was presented to the County Board and what any of those changes were. He said he has seen half a dozen different places that probably won't meet this new criteria. He stated he doesn't think it's fair to restaurant owners who have buildings or food trucks because they are going to think it's business as usual. Mark Scranton gave an example of a location on Pershing Road that has a permanent building and food truck that are not going to be 200 feet apart. He stated he wants to make sure we have made modifications. If we are sending this through County Board and we go back and see something we don't like an wants to make sure it can be changed down the road if needed. He stated he does not know what was changed from last time because he hasn't seen a copy of anything updated.

Debbie Hill questioned if there was going to be a cap on the food trucks because there are not enough inspectors to inspect restaurants, let alone going to all these food trucks which are high risk as well as her place. She stated she doesn't understand how we can have that many.

Brandi Binkley explained that there isn't a cap on the number. She stated that she thinks that would be like telling businesses they are unable to open, which in return is the opposite of what Public Health place is and what we need as a community....what our economy needs. Brandi Binkley stated that at this time they expect that her staff will be able to handle the inspections, unless there is some type of explosion of restaurants, which in that case another staff person could be hired. Brandi Binkley stated that at this time, we expect our staff will be able to handle it. It is not seen as an issue, but sometimes you have to see how things pan out and address as needed. If another staff person would be needed, the budget would have to be reviewed to determine if it could handle that. Brandi Binkley stated that there have also been two new Environmental Health Specialists hired. One is trained on her own and another is close to be on his own if he is not yet, so that is more people to share the load. There was a smaller group of people doing the work before and putting in more hours. Brandi Binkley stated it is very difficult to get Environmental Health staff at any health department, let alone Macon County. She stated she is grateful we have a great team and is not currently worried about their workloads if we can maintain the staff we currently have.

Brandi Binkley explained to Mark Scranton the board agenda was ready to send out all of the BOH members to be approved and ready to email when we received the email from Michael Baggett, State Attorneys Office. Mike Baggett had the information since July and Kathy had followed up with numerous times to ask him for it because the goal was have it started by

January of 2022. Because it was received by the time the agenda came out, those edits were made and sent out to all of BOH. Brandi Binkley stated that if the BOH every doesn't feel comfortable to vote on something, they should state that as BOH Members.

Brandi Binkley stated that they were not trying to cram anything, it was just them trying to get something done and two – support businesses that were trying to do this. Kathy Wade was trying to make it so that it was fair to the brick and mortar and mobile food trucks. Brandi Binkley stated that they were not trying to cram anything and she understands that BOH Members may have only had from Friday to Tuesday to review it, but we cannot control legal. We have tried to get them to respond more quickly. Brandi Binkley stated that Mike Baggett has even confirmed with her that he understands he was a bottleneck in this process. She is not trying to throw anyone under the bus, but stated they could only get things to the BOH members when they receive it from legal. Brandi Binkley stated we are trying to do things right by putting them through legal before pushing through the process.

Mark Scranton asked to clarify if Brandi Binkley was stating that Michael Baggett had the Mobile Food Truck Ordinance since July and they are just now receiving it in October. Brandi Binkley responded “correct.” Mark Scranton stated that it took six months to get an opinion on something that they were expected to review and decide at one meeting. Brandi Binkley said yes or the BOH could have decided to wait until the next meeting.

Mark Scranton expressed that he thought the conversation they had was that they were okay with the Ordinance that they had overall. He thought it was a good idea to get it done, but they had some questions on either clarifying the things he's bringing up tonight or modifications being made. Mark Scranton questioned if any of those changes get made, and if so did they have a copy of what was sent to County Board. That is what he is asking for some guidance on because he didn't know what the final resolution looked like. He said those changes didn't get made.

Brandi Binkley stated that she did have what they voted on and went back and watched the meeting more than once to be clear on what occurred. Brandi Binkley explained to the BOH Members that during the conversation in the previous meeting, Kathy Wade did offer to add clarity or add changes. If the board directed her to do that, but the board did not direct her to do that. When the 200-foot discussion ended, it was discussed in a way as in “lets see how things goes.” Brandi Binkley recapped that it was discussed that BOH Members would see how the public responded to it and how it panned out, if edits needed to be added later, it can be. The questions were asked at that meeting if changes could be made any time of year or only at certain times of the year and if changes are made during the year, could that be pushed on people holding a license or did it have to wait. It was recapped that the changes could be pushed on to those holding a license, there are notifications, they have 30 day notice, all of that. The way the discussion ended and the ordinance approved was that the original ordinance presented in that meeting was approved. It was sent directly to SRO, it was approved there, and then sent to the County Board. There was discussion and an offer of clarity added if needed, but after all of the discussion, what was ended up with was seeing how it goes with it saying 200 feet and we will edit if we have to.

Mark Scranton asked again about the 200 foot part. He explained how he thought Kathy Wade was going to go back and look at it and maybe change the wording to define it better. Mark Scranton asked if it was 200 feet from the actual building or property because the way it reads right now, it just says “brick and mortar.” He is just asking because somebody else will ask the exact same thing. He said people will bring this up and he guarantees it will be questioned. Brandi Binkley said all of this was already discussed and that if the Board wants Kathy Wade to add something then she will. That is not a problem. Things will just have to reversed and edits can be made. It would then be sent back to legal to review and then bring it back to the BOH.

Mark Scranton expressed that he was fine with whatever the Board decides to do, but his memory of the conversation was that the Board was okay with the overall ordinance. There were just a couple of things he thought the Board wanted to have tweaked a little bit before the final presentation to the County Board. He stated that if the Board goes the way it is now, it is fine. It may need to be changed down the road, but he stated he just wants to make sure that everyone is on the same page from the get-go instead of going back two months down the road and saying it wasn't really the intention and now action would have to be made to amend something. Brandi Binkley stated that was up to the board. It has already been voted on, so she is not sure how they want to proceed. Brandi Binkley stated it would be up to all of the Board to decide and direct her. Mark Scranton asked again if the resolution that was given to the County Board had any changes. Brandi Binkley stated that there were no changes. What was voted on was what they were given and what was presented as is. Brandi Binkley asked the Board to let her know and stated that is what she will do. Mark Scranton asked if anybody else has anything.

Debbie Hill questioned if the food trucks were moving or are, they supposed to be moving. Brandi Binkley explained that if they are wanting to stay somewhere longer that is where they could apply for a variance for the situation. Brandi Binkley said maybe that is where their confusion came from. There is a possibility to apply for a variance if the situation would qualify for that. Mark Scranton questioned if that was up to staff discretion or is there a certain criterion that needs to be met. Brandi Binkley explained how she personally didn't have the criteria memorized, but generally they would have to meet a certain criteria, but it would be to staff discretion. Mark Scranton asked if there was anything in writing on what that may or may not be. He stated that he is still questioning some of this stuff himself as it is confusing. He said he was told it had to be a self-propelled vehicle, but then there is a food vendor that has a non-operational vehicle, so they can't hardly move. He is wondering how much staff are going to enforce what is in the ordinance. He wonders how stringent staff will be with the wording in the document.

Debbie Hill also questioned if the County Board could put stipulation on the mobile food truck or is that over with. Jeff Entler explained that he thinks that starts out here in the ordinance. Brandi Binkley stated the variance sections states that, "the health authority may grant a variance by modifying or waiving the requirements of this chapter. If in the opinion of the Health Authority, a public health hazard or nuisance will not result in the issuance of the variance. If the variance is granted, the health authority shall retain all pertinent information in the food establishment file. The variance is nontransferable between owners. Variances can be applied for by following the steps listed in section 91.52 of the Macon County Food Sanitation Ordinance." Brandi Binkley explained that it doesn't list out criteria, but that a variance can be granted if it is not going to cause a nuisance or health hazard. Debbie Hill questioned if they will be category 1, 2 and 3 just like her food establishment is. Brandi Binkley responded that yes they will be. Debbie asked what category is a food truck. Brandi Binkley explained that it depends on what they are trying to sell and gave an example of a concession stand and that different stands offer different types of foods and are categorized based on what they are selling.

Mark Scranton questioned if for the one week guideline does that mean you can only be at a one spot for one week. Mark Scranton said that does not make a difference because they can just apply for a variance. He stated it does not have any teeth in it in that regard. Mark Scranton stated that it needs to be one way or another. If it is going to be a mobile food truck, you need to be mobile and one week is one week. He does not think accommodations should be made for certain people to be able to set up at a permanent location. If that's what they are doing, they need to open a brick and mortar and invest the money and cost of overhead and everything else. Mark Scranton stated that some of these food trucks are almost permanent structures and that is not what the ordinance is geared after. Mark Scranton stated that he has looked at a lot of other cities and other cities don't let them stay in one spot. They move around every day and use social media to promote their business. He stated he heard of a place on 48 and he's never been there

because it's on the wrong side of town. If they showed up on his doorstep, he'd maybe let them do that and attract new customers. From a business standpoint, they would get more business from being at more locations. They are supposed to be mobile, so they should be able to pack up and go. He stated you are either mobile or you are not. He said too many businesses are being allowed to be on edge of fence and not commit to being brick and mortar. He thinks that is unfair to our restaurants. He said staff need to make sure they are staying on top of this and MCHD does not have a lot of resources. Mark Scranton asked if we are going to have staff go out and check to see if they are at one spot longer than allowed. He said he questions what is going to happen when these people are told to move somewhere else. He said these people better know this when they get this permit. He said he thinks we need to fix this. He has nothing against people trying to make money, but MCHD is making accommodations that cater to food trucks that normal restaurants aren't allowed to do. He said the taking food back and forth heating and reheating is a safety issue. Mark Scranton said he is not even sure many people will participate in going to a food truck in 20 degree weather. He does not know how much demand we will get and is curious to see how this goes. Mark Scranton stated that if staff put this in the ordinance, they better be prepared to enforce it.

Debbie Hill asked how the MCHD staff know where to go for food trucks. Brandi Binkley said she is unsure for the unannounced inspections, but opening inspections would be set up with them. Brandi Binkley stated she can check on this with Kathy Wade and get back to the BOH. Debbie Hill said that would be good to know. Brandi Binkley said she is sure there is a way since it is being done now, but she is not sure what that is. Debbie Hill said they surprise brick and mortar.

Dr. Bret Jerger asked how they get electrical. Mark Scranton stated they run power, etc. Dr. Jerger questioned how they can afford to do that for weeks at a time. Mark Scranton said they work with property owner on that. Mark Scranton again said other cities don't let them stay. Mark Scranton said he does not want to add extra stuff to the staff to do, but if we are putting this ordinance out here and saying these are the rules, staff better be prepared to enforce them.

Mark Scranton asked if there was anything else. Brandi Binkley stated that she needed direction on how to proceed with that from the Board. She stated that as of right now, it is supposed to go on the agenda for the December County Board Meeting. Mark Scranton stated that since we discussed it as a Board and voted on it as a Board to let it just pass. They will circle back with Kathy Wade down the road as things start to materialize with applications. If she feels like there are issues that need to be discussed, then by all means she can bring back to their attention. He said if this thing is being put in place, staff better be prepared to stand behind it.

Brandi Binkley said that we (the team) do just as they do with everything else Mark Scranton said it is making more work for the staff and that is what he is trying to avoid doing. He stated that staff have already had to work on this in the off season and it's more for them to deal with and it might only be three people applying for it. Brandi Binkley said she is hoping that it won't be an extreme addition to the workload because some that would historically pull temporaries in the off months, will possibly apply for this. In the past, they would have had to be inspected for temporary events. Mark Scranton said he pulls temporaries because he does not have a food truck. He said he will pull temporary permits for temporary event. He thinks this creates some confusion for people who do not understand that.

Brandi Binkley asked for additional clarification on if things were going to proceed as they originally were. Mark Scranton said unless somebody has an opinion to do differently, he thinks we just proceed and make modifications if they need to be done. Mark Scranton said his concern was if the document was changed since the last meeting and before it went to County Board.

Appointments to Committees

Mark Scranton explained that there is an opening on the Nominating Committee. There are two openings on the By-laws Committee. There are only two volunteers for one of the committees, which mean there are still three slots to fill. The Nominating Committee is primarily made up to review board members for their activities and make recommendations for replacement for vacancies. The By-laws Committee reviews by-laws and makes recommendations to bring to the Board. Those are three open spots Mark Scranton stated that he would like to get filled. Jeff Entler asked about the two blank spots on the Personnel Committee and if that was him and Mark Scranton. He stated he wasn't sure since they weren't on there. Mark Scranton confirmed that was the two of them. Brandi Binkley stated she did not add their names yet because the Board had not yet voted on those appointments.

Jeff Entler then stated that he would volunteer for another committee but didn't want to take away from somebody else that would like to volunteer. Dr. Bret Jerger volunteered to nominate himself for the By-laws slot. Mark Scranton stated one more was needed for Nominating Committee and one more for By-Laws. Mark Scranton mentioned that they could put Cody Parks on a committee since he wasn't in attendance to oppose it. The BOH members agreed to put Cody Parks' name down. Mark Scranton stated that they would put Cody Parks' name down for Nominating Committee and he can reject it, but Mark Scranton does not think he will. Mark Scranton stated that one person was still needed for by-laws. Brandi Binkley did clarify that legal also reviews the by-laws. Dr. Janet Patterson asked for clarification about meeting times for this group, as she cannot meet during the day. Brandi Binkley said there are not regular meetings; it would just be if there was proposed changes to by-laws on behalf of the BOH. There may be conversation, but generally the by-laws are reviewed by legal and they direct any changes that are then presented to our Board of Health. There is not much that the By-laws Committee does. BOH Members stated that the meetings can be scheduled around the availability of the members of that committee. She would be with two other physicians who also cannot easily meet during the workday. Dr. Janet Patterson volunteered to nominated for the By-laws spot if meetings are not during the day or can be done online.

Brandi Binkley asked if the Board wanted to vote this month since the nominations were in place or if they still wanted to wait until December when they are usually done. There was Board discussion and it was decided to vote and also seek confirmation of if Cody would accept the nomination.

Jeff Entler moved to vote on the appointment to committees with slate as presented, seconded by Dr. Bret Jerger. Roll call. Motion carried.

New Business

Approval of Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY21 and FY22 Health Fund Budget for Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation

Sheree Zalanka explained that this is a grant that was applied for with the Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation. The grant was received for FY21 and FY22. For FY21 the funds are being used to support the salary of the Dental Director, so we are only adding revenue to the budget because the expense was already in place in the approved FY21 budget. For FY22 the funds are being used to supplement current salaries and fringes, increase current staffing levels, as well as the cost of a cloud based dental software. Sheree Zalanka explained that most of that expense was already in the budget as well, so they are adding the revenue of \$133,000. The only increase in expenses for the FY22 would be the cost of additional staff to help support the clinic and that the salary and fringe total is \$33,000. The rest of the expense was already included in the FY22 budget.

Brandi Binkley asked if there are any questions about this. Brandi Binkley stated this is the grant that has been discussed in previous meetings/discussions.

Dr. Bret Jerger made a motion to vote on the approval of Macon County Board Resolution Approving Increase in Appropriations in the FY21 and FY22 Health Fund Budget for Delta Dental of Illinois Foundation, seconded by Jeff Entler. Roll call. Motion carried.

Approval of Dental Software Agreement – Fuse

Michael Baggett with the State’s Attorney’s Office did review the agreement. Brandi Binkley explained as a reminder, not every contract has to go through Mike Baggett, the Board and through the County Board process. There’s criteria that would make some eligible to go through the process and some not to go through the process. This is a new company to work with. Brandi Binkley stated that there were small edits made to the contract in your packet. The updated contract was provided, and Brandi noted the changes that were in front of the Board Members from what was in the packet which are fairly straightforward. Mike Baggett did ask the company to change wherever there was a reference to the state of Minnesota. If there were some kind of litigation or anything, they had state of Minnesota. It was asked to be changed to Macon County for basically the law of Illinois. In the old and new document that language is on page 4, section 9. In the old copy it just says, is governed by the clause of the State of Minnesota, and then on page 9, section 8.2 it also references Minnesota. Mike got back to me quickly, and I also asked the company if they could quickly just change it and be agreeable to that and they were. So they changed it on the new copy, page 4, #9 miscellaneous, they did change to agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Illinois and it will be in Macon County. Brandi reviewed additional differences and explained that you will see our new copy is slightly more than the old, very, very slightly. We got more discounts on the new copy, on the new proposal basically that they updated to have both of those dentists in there, but it is a little bit more just because of that increase in the number of dentists we have. So those are changes but they are very minimal so with the amendments Brandi Binkley explained we hoped to vote it through to get it through to the County Board process for the dental software through. If the Board doesn’t feel comfortable, please say that and if the Board chooses not to vote then we would follow that. The company made the changes that legal suggested, they made those changes, and legal did not suggest any other changes. In that grant we got, we had put up to \$10,000 in cloud-based software. Brandi explained you’ll see the initial payment that would be due would be \$2,868, and then there is a monthly cost of \$270. So that still puts MCHD well under the \$10,000 in grant funding that the MCHD was able to secure to cover the cost of this. Mark Scranton asked if Dr. Bret Jerger was familiar with this type of software and is this something we definitely need to have and does this look like a good program. Bret Jerger responded, yeah, it is. Mark Scranton replied that was good enough for me. Mark Scranton asked if there was any further discussion.

Dr. Bret Jerger moved to vote on the approval of Approval of Dental Software Agreement – Fuse, seconded by Jeff Entler. Roll call. Motion carried.

Closed Session/Approval of Closed Meeting Minutes

At 6:48, Brandi Binkley mentioned that she had printed out the previous closed session minutes from October 2021 for Board Review. They can review them and if they feel comfortable approving, that can be done without going into closed. However, if the Board sees any edits that need to be made, they can go into Closed Session to do that. If the Board is agreeable to that, it can be done that way. The BOH members were given the previous closed session minutes to read and look over. The BOH Members took time to review these minutes during open session. Mark Scranton asked the BOH members if there was a need to go into Closed Session.

Dr. Bret Jerger moved to approve closed meeting minutes, seconded by Jeff Entler. Roll call. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Debbie Hill moved to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Bret Jerger. Roll call. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nakeya Thompson, Administrative Assistant

President: _____

Secretary: _____

Date: _____