



Macon County  
Public Health

**MACON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES  
January 26, 2016**

**Members Present:** Frank Killian, MD – Chair, Chris Hanners, Dr. Nathan Brenner, Dr. Roy Lenzo, Emily Porter-Bowers, Molly Phillips, Carole Peterson, MD, Paula Ledford, Melissa Bell and Commissioner Paul Higdon

**Members Absent:** Teresa Murray – Vice-Chairman

**Staff Present:** Jim Bruckner, Tammy Keezer, Jimmy Villiard, Kyle Jennings, Dorota Anthony, Jennifer Garrett, Kathy McGaha, Lynnda Baker and Darice Davis.

**Guests:** Chester Jones

**Media:** Ryan Hanchett from The Franklin Press, Ms. Brittany Raby w/Macon County News & Ms. Kristen Karcher with WNCC Radio were all in attendance.

**Public Comment:** No Public Comment

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:16pm by Chairman Killian.

**Approve Agenda:** Dr. Killian recommended two changes to the agenda. The first change was for Faithful Families be removed from Section 1B as it was also on the agenda under New Business. The second change was to move the Closed Session immediately following Welcome/Intro/Departures/Recognition in respect of time. Chris Hanners made a motion to approve the amended agenda and Paul Higdon made the second. The motion passed unanimously.

**Welcome/Intro/Departures/Recognition:** Mr. Bruckner introduced and welcomed Chester Jones, County Attorney and new Board Member Melissa Bell, Pharmacist

**Closed Session:** Paul Higdon made a motion to go into closed session citing attorney client privilege and a personnel matter and include the County Attorney Mr. Chester Jones and Health Director Mr. Jim Bruckner in the closed session. Chris Hanners seconded the motion. The motion passed at 6:19 pm. Dr. Killian called the Open session back to order at 7:28 pm.

### **Presentations**

**Well application permitting process -** Abigail Friedling introduced herself by giving a brief history of her educational background and job experience.

Ms. Friedling then presented to the BOH a detailed report about the well grouts, permitting, and application processes (handout included). She talked about Abandoned Wells versus New Wells and Well Repairs and how the processes for each can vary greatly depending on many different factors.

Mr. Hanners asked how many man hours it takes from beginning to end for the well application permitting process.

Ms. Friedling said about one to two and a half hours. Kyle Jennings helped explain this in more detail. He said one and half to five hours can be spent to get a permit with an average of about three hours. It depends on the condition of the property, the driving time, where the system will be located, paperwork and so on. There are a lot of factors that affect the amount of time that is invested.

Mr. Hanners asked for clarification saying if there is an average of 3 hours and on permitting and 2 hours of grout inspection?

Mr. Jennings again explained in detail some different situations and said yes. Ms. Friedling said it takes her about two hours to create a permit. There is a lot of desk work involved.

Paul Higdon said that the well drillers are concerned about the length of time it takes to get a permit and the time it takes for the well grout. He asked if Environmental Health prioritizes the job requests.

Mr. Jennings responded yes. If an application is sitting there we will honor the scheduling commitment that has been made. Mr. Jennings noted that the turn-around times are much quicker than they previously have been.

Mr. Bruckner noted that we have eliminated three positions from Environmental Health since 2008. On site waste water has five inspectors. That includes the well inspectors as well.

Ms. Friedling noted that Environmental Health tries to do a “first come first serve” basis.

**Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Carole Peterson made a motion to approve minutes. Emily Porter-Bowers 2nd the motion. Motion was approved

## **Old Business**

**Update – WIC** The new WIC nutritionist began yesterday. We will not be extending the contract with Nutrition Plus now that we have the nutrition position filled. The contract will end 1.31.2016. We the recruitment process for the other Nutritionist (WIC Director) position.

**Environmental Health Well Grout** Kyle Jennings asked if there was anything anyone wanted to contribute to the conclusion of the last meetings discussion.

Mr. Hanners said we need to smooth out our differences with the well drillers. He then asked about schedule differences between Environmental Health and the Well Drillers. He asked if well drillers called in on the night before wanting a well grout done the next morning would Environmental Health be able to honor that request.

Mr. Jennings said we are not obligated to meet that request based on state law, but we will do our best.

Molly Phillips asked how they would determine who gets served first if there were several called in the night before.

Mr. Jennings said we try to handle everything on a first come first served basis. There might be certain circumstances where that would change, but it would be on a case by case bases.

Mr. Hanners asked if there is a policy requiring requests to be turned in by a certain time each day. Mr. Jennings said no there is nothing formal.

Mr. Bruckner said the time is based on the county business day. Mr. Hanners said it appears that Environmental Health has created a dependency from the well drillers.

Mr. Jennings said that there was a letter sent out asking well drillers to call in the day before. Most have been doing that.

## **New Business**

**Budget Process** Tammy Keezer gave an update on the budget process and a handout of the budget calendar from the County Manager was included.

Ms. Keezer noted that budget review and training will begin tomorrow. Section administrators will have a couple weeks to get budget information back to Ms. Anthony. The information will then be reviewed and finalized after working with the section managers. Programmatic goals, accomplishments and establish goals for next fiscal year will be reviewed. Generally in April we meet with the county manager and present budget to Board of Health for review then the public hearing is in June and final budget approval is in June.

Ms. Keezer asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Killian asked if we should have a Board of Health sub-committee to work on the budget.

Mr. Hanners feels that the budget is a major responsibility of the Board of Health and a sub-committee would be a good idea.

Mr. Hanners asked Mr. Bruckner what would need to be done to form such a sub-committee.

Mr. Bruckner said we meet with the department heads and work on 23 separate budgets. We don't just work on the county fiscal year; we also work on the Division of Public Health fiscal year and the federal fiscal year.

Mr. Bruckner invited anyone to come and join in on the process. Mr. Hanners said the committee could come back to the board with a recommendation. This might keep BOH from getting so tied down in a meeting about the budget.

Mr. Hanners asked if there was any other feedback.

Ms. Phillips thought a committee would be beneficial by giving the BOH a better understanding of the budget and how it all comes together.

Ms. Keezer said that the budget session calendar will be finalized and distributed tomorrow.

Mr. Bruckner said he was open to whatever the BOH would like to do.

Ms. Phillips asked if it would be beneficial for a small group to meet with Derek Roland, County Manager, during that budget session.

Mr. Bruckner said probably not because Mr. Roland has already reviewed the budget by that time and will only have a couple of questions.

The Board members will discuss this as individuals and let the Board know what their plan is. March 10 - 28

**Budget Report** Dorota Anthony gave a report on the budget. She also included a handout that was presented to the board beforehand for their review. Ms. Anthony reported that MCPH is on target for revenue and expenditures and they are only using 26% of county money.

Ms. Anthony asked if there were any questions about the budget.

Mr. Killian asked what the yellow color meant under the adult dental column of the spreadsheet

Ms. Anthony said dental had spent a little bit more money than the target.

Mr. Bruckner mentioned cost settlement. We are still working with the state on cost settlement. We are not playing catch up anymore because of what happened with cost settlement.

**Faithful Families** Lynn Baker gave a brief description of Faithful Families. There was a handout for review presented to the board beforehand for their review. Ms. Baker said the goal of Faithful Families is to make a significant adjustment to the way people look at their overall health. Not just their body, but their mind and health as well. This program has been very successful. 95% of participants have made positive changes in at least on nutrition practice and 85% of participants have made positive changes in at least one food resource management practice.

Macon County is one of five counties that received the CDC's Obesity, Diabetes, Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention (ODHDSP) grant. MountainWise wants to work with at least 10 faith communities in the region. MountainWise has paid for training and materials. Macon County is the model for this grant for the state. Holly Springs Baptist Church is the Case Study the state is modeling the program after. Our goal is to reach out to each faith based organization/community in the county if possible.

Mr. Hanners asked if MountainWise is a new program.

Ms. Baker said no, it is not new, but it has been revamped to model the way Holly Springs Baptist Church and MCPH ran their program.

Mr. Hanners asked if the state is adopting a program.

Ms. Baker said yes the state has adopted the program.

Mr. Hanners asked how is MountainWise funded?

Ms. Baker said through the county health education section along with the ODHDSP grant.

Mr. Hanners asked if they have the funds to go to other churches.

Ms. Baker said yes our goal is to offer the initial class and train the lay leaders of the faith community, who can in turn offer the information to more participants. At that point we would be there for support when needed, but not involved in the entire process.

Mr. Bruckner said we are there to help the faith communities assist to get their program going and then step back and let them take over.

Mr. Hanners asked why we are using county funds on churches.

Mr. Bruckner said because there is evidence that if you do a program through an already established group as opposed to having a meeting at the Health Department or somewhere else it helps participation levels.

Ms. Phillips asked if there is evidence that we are targeting the right people.

Ms. Baker said that because of the Faithful Families initiative we are finding out about other health programs and opportunities for partnership that we otherwise might never have known about, which is allowing us to help the community in a greater capacity.

Dr. Peterson noted that this is not the answer to solving the problem for everyone, but the beginning of the answer that will help get things moving forward.

**Board Training and Information:** None

**Announcements:** None

**Next Meeting Date:** February 23, 2016

**Adjourn:** Dr. Peterson made a motion to adjourn. Chris Hanners made a second. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:40

Respectfully submitted,

Darice Davis