

## Board of Health Meeting Minutes December 2, 2021

The December 2<sup>nd</sup> special board of health meeting was held in person at Wood County Health Department.

Cathy Nelson, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

At the beginning of the meeting, Board President asked the Prosecutor, Paul Dobson, and Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Linda Holmes to review the actions taken at the special meeting of the Board of Health on November 22, 2021. They stated that the Board of Health, upon discovering there was no rule to provide public notice of meetings, took steps to comply the open meetings act by establishing a rule for how to give public notice of the Board's meetings. They stated that the rule did not have to be included in the bylaws; thus the resolution passed by the Board of Health on November 22<sup>nd</sup> met the requirements of the statute. The meeting on December 2, 2021 complied with that language and so, in their determination, the Board of Health could proceed with the special meeting.

**BOH Present:** Bob Midden, Tom Milbrodt, DJ Mears, Cathy Nelson, Dallas Ziegler, Richard Strow, Nilgun Sezginis.

**Staff Present:** Amy Jones, Corey Shepard, Lana Glore, Tina Cox, Diane Krill, Benjamin Robison

**Guests:** Jan McLaughlin and Michael K. – Independent News; Deb Rogers – Sentinel Tribune; Nick Jacob – WTOL News; Paul Dobson and Linda Holmes – WC Prosecutor office; Deb and Terry Testen, Isaac Bailey, Christine Haar, Brytanne Strayer, Frank McLaughlin, David and Emily Hayes, Tiffany, Brian Young – Public

### ***PERSONNEL – Dallas Ziegler, Chair***

**Resolution PER-01-11-2021**  
**the associated Exemptions Packet.**

**Resolution to adopt the CMS COVID-19 Precautions Policy with**

**Resolution PER-02-12-2021**  
**Health Department.**

**Resolution to adopt the Building Access Policy for Wood County**

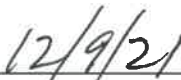

The board discussed all documents they received and reviewed relating to the resolutions presented regarding the CMS vaccine mandate. Cathy highlighted the injunction that was issued in the beginning of the week alleviated the need for a quick decision as it bought this process more time. The conclusion from the prosecutor's office was the CMS vaccine mandate included all health department employees not just those employees of the health center including providers whom are independent contractors. The board discussed the plans of dividing the health department into sectors which could require only staff with direct patient contact be vaccinated. Paul Dobson commented the mandate was to be as inclusive as it could be and that the health center was part of the department. While referencing the diagrams provided, the sector's and colors were discussed. Richard Strow pointed out that without building fire walls with separate HVAC units he didn't feel this would meet the necessary requirements in the amount

of time remaining to separate staff. A few board members voiced they would like to see the department all one color.

Tom Milbrodt suggested more staff work remotely and Ben added there are about 10 employees that could go remote right now with more being evaluated as being able to while other jobs require them to be on site while highlighting the goal of this is to be compliant to the ruling. Paul Dobson commented to the board that CMS will want to see policies and procedures. Bob Midden spoke on the importance of staff getting vaccinated and the mission of the board to prevent disease and promote health.

The Board discussed and inquired to Paul Dobson about looking at the options while the mandate is on hold. Paul Dobson commented the Board be prepared for the possibility of the injunction being lifted. Board members agreed to continue reviewing options and discuss this further at the normal board meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The motion was tabled for further discussion. The management staff were tasked with reviewing the draft policy and providing back to the Board the best draft policy for their consideration before the regular Board meeting.

Bob Midden made a motion to adjourn at 8:10pm. DJ Mears seconded the motion.

  
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Cathy Nelson, Board President  
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Date  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Benjamin Robison, Health Commissioner  
Secretary to the Board  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date