**BROOKS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

**MINUTES**

**AUGUST 23, 2022**

The Brooks County Board of Health met by conference call Tuesday August 23, 2022 at 12:00 P.M.

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| **Members Present** | **Members Absent** | **Others Present** |
| James Maxwell, Chairman | Toni Brinson | William R. Grow, MD, FACP |
| Dr. Rose Marie Horne, Vice-Chairman | Shelly Kirkendoll | Dwain Butler |
| Shelly Kirkendoll, Secretary |  | Patrina Bowles |
| June Furney |  | Teresa Giles |
|  |  | Amy Taylor |
|  |  | Anna Newsom |
|  |  | Shannon Walker |

**Call to Order**

* Mr. Maxwell called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and offered prayer.

**Public Comments**

* There were no public comments.

**Approval of June 22, 2022 Minutes (Attached)**

* Dr. Horne made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 22, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Reed. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**New Business:**

**Financial Information** – **Teresa Giles (Attached)**

* Ms. Giles presented the Brooks County Health Department’s Revenue and Expense Summary through July 31, 2022, noting two changes to the budget and resulting decrease of $18,151.
* A combination of factors contributed to changes in the budget, including an increase in prior year fees and Grant-in-Aid funding.
* Expenses were adjusted to reflect changes in salaries and fringe benefits.

**Public Health Updates – William R. Grow, MD, FACP**

* Dr. Grow began by informing the Board of the decline in COVID cases in the last two weeks as well as a decrease in hospitalizations across the state.
* The number of outbreak cases has increased, driven mainly because of the new school year. Cases are primarily seen in K-12 schools. Despite the increases, most of the serious illnesses are presenting in those who are unvaccinated or under-vaccinated.
* Brooks County has seen an increase of approximately 40 COVID cases with two reported deaths bringing the total number of deaths in Brooks County to 69.
* More are testing at home, which cannot be reflected in the total number of cases reported.
* A third booster dose will be available at the end of September for those who have received the primary series of vaccine.
* Brooks residents are at 49% fully vaccinated.
* Dr. Grow provided an update on Monkeypox cases and vaccination availability in the district. There has been a very low demand for testing and vaccinations. Monkeypox vaccine is available at the Lowndes County Health Department for those who meet the requirements. Two cases have been identified in the district.
* The Board was invited to attend the South Health District’s Legislative Breakfast. The date has been changed to 8:30 a.m. Friday, November 4, 2022 at the South Health District Office.

**Nurse Manager’s Report – Anna Newsom, RN (Nurse Supervisor) (Attached)**

* Ms. Newsom announced all services are available and provided by the Brooks County Health Department.
* COVID test kits are available at the health department at no charge.
* Brooks staff hope to be out soon providing school flu vaccinations.
* Ear, Eye, Dental and Nutrition screenings continue to be provided for head start physicals and back to school requirements.
* There are no known Monkeypox cases in Brooks County.
* The new registered nurse is currently taking classes in Macon to be checked off for women’s health and other protocols.

**Environmental Health Update - Shannon Walker (Attached)**

* Mr. Butler provided the Brooks County Environmental Health Update, outlining food service and inspection reports since the last update.

**Announcements**

* Mr. Maxwell reminded the Board of upcoming meeting dates.

**Adjournment**

* There being no further business, Dr. Reed made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Dr. Horne. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Shelly Kirkendoll, Board Secretary

Patrina Bowles, Typist