



The McLean County Board of Health
 Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 5:30 p.m.
 200 West Front St, Bloomington, Illinois Room 324

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: 5:30 PM

2. Roll Call

Members Present: Carla Pohl, Cory Tello, Hannah Eisner, Judy Buchanan, Richard Ginnetti, Robert Kohlhase, Scott Hume, Sonja Reece, Susan Schafer

Staff Present: Jessica McKnight, Cathy Coverston Anderson, Kim Anderson, Tom Anderson, Amy Brooke, Tammy Brooks, Amy Hancock, Samantha Vasquez, Don Knapp

3. Public Participation: Comments read out loud are attached at the end of the document.

4. Approve Minutes: Regular Session June 10, 2020

Motion by Buchanan/Schafer to approve the minutes from June 10, 2020.
 Motion carried.

5. Consent Agenda

A. Bills to be Paid

		May 2020	April 2020
Dental Sealant	0102	\$14,079.32	\$7,388.46
WIC	0103	\$3,512.11	\$6,489.26
Preventive Health Program	0105	\$22.75	\$133.00
Family Case Management	0106	\$2,022.86	\$24,923.25
AIDS/COMM Disease Control	0107	\$2,206.01	\$16,265.05
Health Department	0112	\$182,827.27	\$122,632.29
Total		\$204,670.32	\$177,831.31

Motion by Tello/Kohlhase to approve the consent agenda.
 Motion carried.

6. Committee Reports

A. Behavioral Health Coordinating Council (BHCC)

Sonja Reece (SR) reported that the BHCC has not met since the last meeting.

B. Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB)

Cory Tello (CT) reported joint meetings between the MHAB and Behavioral Health Policy and Funding Committee (BHPFC) on June 4 and July 6. Potential funding possibilities were discussed. During the June 4, 2020 meeting, some members expressed a desire for solid information and content from every possible funding area.

Hannah Eisner (HE) shared the need for a clearing house of information that everyone can access. Having more information on the Health Department website was suggested. CT stated that the desire was to understand all that is going on and to have good numbers behind the information.

C. County Board

Susan Schafer (SS) shared the Health Committee's concerns about the turnaround time for test results at the Community Based Testing Site (CBTS). The turnaround time for test results is very inconsistent. They expressed a need for information regarding the CBTS and COVID-19 to be more easily accessible on the McLean County Health Department's (MCHD) website.

Richard Ginnetti (RG) asked what the turnaround time at CBTS was.

Jessica McKnight (JM) stated that those going to the site are told 4-7 days. The lab usually has the results in 2-3 days. However, the third party contracted by Reditus for making the phone calls is lagging.

SS recognized that if someone thinks they may be positive and are showing symptoms, they should be tested and quarantined while waiting for the results. Many people struggle with quarantining for 7-10 days while waiting for results.

SR asked how clients are being contacted.

RG stated that they attempt to contact clients three times by phone. After that, getting results is left up to the client. He went to the CBTS 3 weeks ago. Clients are told that they will receive a call from a certain number so that they know to answer it. Clients may also go to the website. Positives are the more critical results.

JM stated that MCHD is given all positive results. With contact tracing, the MCHD helps to connect the dots between people. In general, we have received good cooperation.

D. Behavioral Health Policy and Funding Committee

Report was combined with MHAB.

7. Health Department Administrator's Report

A. Behavioral Health Update

JM referred members to the Administrator's report in the packet. She invited members to ask questions of Amy Hancock (AH) regarding the mental health portion of the packet.

HE stated that she didn't see any numbers for Chestnut's Embedded School Project (ESP) for the first quarter.

AH explained that Chestnut did not provide any services for the ESP until April. The therapist wasn't hired until late March and then school shutdown due to COVID-19.

SS stated that this is the second time that this has happened.

Judy Buchanan (JB) asked if the application process states that the applicants have a therapist on board at the time of the application.

AH stated that she would make sure it is an expectation for 2021 applications. Services need to begin January 1. The therapist can be either a master or bachelor level clinician.

AH reported that quarterly site visits were held through Go-to-Meeting. School, agency, and Health Department staff were all represented. Most of their time was spent trouble shooting some of the difficulties that COVID-19 has wrought. One of the difficulties is getting the therapist a full load. The therapist is currently at 9 clients. The school sent out fliers in the mail via an app. The therapist did not have established relationship with teachers (as a referral source) or students prior to COVID-19.

AH said that two projects began January 1. The Center for Human Services ESP is doing extremely well. The therapist was already in those schools. They have a caseload of 40-45.

Center for Human Services has an ESP starting August 1, 2020 with Bloomington High School. The therapist already has a relationship with the school.

CT noted that three other ESP have between 40 and 55 each.

Robert Kohlhase (RK) asked, given the uncertainties the community faces, what kind of planning levels have occurred.

AH stated that she followed up with all the agencies in March and May. In terms of schools, the agencies and school staff are talking about what the referral process for the embedded therapist will look like. All the agencies and schools are concerned about the mental health of children because of the pandemic. Children who might not have normally been on the radar, may need services. There is also concern about the well-being of teachers and supporting them. The ESP gives a different level of services than what the school counselors can give. The next site visits are in August. Agencies have been very involved during the summer delivering meals.

CT explained that schools must have contingency plans for the opening of school. They are looking at remote instruction and remote therapy. The schools are working to make sure that there is technology in the homes to allow for learning if cases surge. Project OZ converted their

lessons to on-line to allow their work with students to continue.

B. General Report

JM noted that there are program statistics for May and June. She also referred to a memo from Cathy Coverston Anderson (CCA) regarding possible change of fees for vital records. This would be something that would need to go to the County Board.

HE asked if a study would need to be done prior to a change in fees. She asked that legal check on that. However, she agreed with the logic and reasoning.

Member discussed complaints related to COVID-19 that are coming into Environmental Health (EH). Tom Anderson (TA) stated that there have been 159 COVID-19 related complaints plus the normal complaints. EH is responding to the COVID-19 complaints as they come in. They do not have the statutory authority to resolve them, but EH attempts to obtain voluntary compliance.

HE asked if complaints were being forwarded to the Town or City for enforcement. They may have other mechanisms of obtaining compliance.

TA agreed that some complaints may be forwarded. However, he also shared that many complaints are about food establishments where masks are not being worn. Masks do not have to be worn if social distancing can be maintained. Many kitchens allow for social distancing and the temperature in a commercial kitchen doesn't make mask wearing feasible.

Board Members expressed a desire to see more leadership from the Health Department on the benefits of wearing masks. They suggested public service announcements, billboards, and signage.

JM shared that we will be doing advertising campaigns in the future. The difficulty is coming up with something clever that can clearly explain the new normal. She noted that the Health Department is working on recognizing businesses that are displaying best practices.

Members stressed the importance of making mask wearing/prevention a community wide issue. Suggestions included getting community elected officials to be role models, brainstorming with the Emergency Management Team, and a campaign similar to the one run by the Lieutenant Governor, "Mask me why".

TA reported that EH has resumed regular inspections for the last three weeks. They are trying to avoid busy hours; however, the new normal is that the lunch hour starts at 10:30 or 11:00.

JM reported that the contact tracing grant has not yet been awarded. Plans for the grant include expanding testing and contact tracing and partnering with Chestnut to use their mobile unit.

8. Informational Items

A. FY21 McLean County Health Department Budget

JM reported that they have been working on the FY'21 budget. There is an overview in the packet. With COVID-19, plans for FY'20 have been put on hold and it will be difficult to forecast off of FY'20. Forecasting for FY'21 will be from FY'19.

SS asked if the money received from COVID grants would be set up as a separate fund.

JM stated that she spoke with Ms. Cathy Dreyer, they decided to put it under fund 107. A line has been added under 107 for the COVID Response Act.

SS suggested that the budget include a microphone system for the room 324.

JM state that IT has provided quotes on some systems.

JB suggested that the Board of Health meetings be held in the County Board chambers.

SS cautioned that having meetings there might be difficult because of the number of committee meetings the County Board has.

HE asked if budget amendments had been necessary for the running of operations this year.

JM stated that no amendments had been made so far this year.

Members discussed having a special meeting for those members with questions about the budget items. This was done last year. Members who wanted to delve more into the budget found it helpful.

B. Community Health Needs Assessment Executive Report

Cathy Coverston Anderson (CCA) spoke to the members about the memo in the packet regarding the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The complete report was sent out a week ago. Following approval by all parties, the information will be placed on our website and a news release will be done. It was a work from a multitude of community partners.

CCA walked through the comparison summary. She noted that there was a decrease in alcohol use among 12th graders and increases in access to doctors and adult activity for adults. They were disappointed that the data showed that embarrassment still negatively impacted people receiving mental health care. That was unexpected. There has been work in stigma reduction, social media campaigns, etc. to address access to mental health services.

CCA noted that the at-risk adult population (reported income is less than \$20,000 per year) is still using the Emergency Department (ED) as their primary care. In 2015 10% of the at-risk population used the ED as primary care. It increased to 19% in 2018.

Judy Buchanan (JB) asked the types of conditions for which the at-risk populations were using the ED.

CCA stated that the adult survey doesn't break it down to the types of conditions being seen. She stated that from the hospital data, chronic conditions are frequently found in the ED. Appendix 9 of the CHNA shows the disparities in age, race, and ethnicity. The CHNA/CHIP are very focused on disparities.

CCA shared that the new CHNA came up with the following needs: mental health and substance abuse, access to care, and healthy eating active living (formerly obesity). Healthy housing is needed to maintain health. In response to this, the City of Bloomington (COB) applied for a National League of Cities technical assistance grant. Bloomington was one of six cities in the U.S. chosen to participate. The connection between the Health Department and COB planner and data helped in receiving the grant.

CCA stated that the Priority Action Teams (PAT) are open, and people are welcome to join as members. She will provide a list of meetings and times. Members discussed putting an invitation on the website and promoting the PAT meetings on social media.

C. Discussion of next steps to address health disparities and strategic plan

Members discussed seeing where our strategic plan addresses health disparities. This will help us identify the areas that we need to focus on. What are roles that are unique to the Health Department to concentrate upon without competing with other things going on in the community?

JM directed members to the base of the Strategic Plan which states "Culturally and linguistically appropriate services to reduce disparities." It is the base of the plan.

SS stated that she would like to see some of the details.

JM stated that we will go back to it and adjust as needed. Some things may have been completed and others may need to be added based on disparities in the community.

9. Action Items

A. [Approval of Agreement for COVID-19 Pandemic Laboratory Services-Reditus Laboratories](#)

Motion by Reece/Eisner to approve the agreement for COVID-19 Pandemic Laboratory Services-Reditus Laboratories.

Motion carried.

B. Approval of CY21 funding priorities for Behavioral Health

Motion by Reece/Buchanan to approve CY21 funding priorities for Behavioral Health.

Motion carried.

C. [Approval of DCFS HealthWorks of Illinois contract extension through end of CY20](#)

Motion by Tello/Buchanan to approve DCFS Health Works of Illinois contract extension through the end of CY20.
Motion carried.

D. [Approval of FY21 All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks contract](#)

Motion by Reece/Hume to approve FY21 All Our Kids Early Childhood Networks contract.
Motion carried

E. [Approval of FY21 Family Case Management contract](#)

Motion by Reece/Buchanan to approve FY21 Family Case Management contract.
Motion carried.

F. [Approval of FY21 WIC contract](#)

Motion by Reece/Buchanan to approve FY21 WIC contract.
Motion carried.

G. [Approval of FY21 WIC Farmer's Market contract](#)

Motion by Tello/Reece to approve FY21 WIC Farmer's Market contract.
Motion carried.

H. [Approval of FY21 WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor contract](#)

Motion by Schafer/Reece to approve FY21 WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counselor contract.
Motion carried.

I. [Approval of FY21 High Risk Infant Follow-Up contract](#)

Motion by Buchanan/Tello to approve FY21 High Risk Infant Follow-Up contract.
Motion carried.

J. [Approval of FY21 Better Birth Outcomes contract](#)

Motion Reece/Hume to approve FY21 Better Birth Outcomes contract.
Motion carried.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Buchanan/Reece to adjourn.
Motion carried.

Adjourned: 7:37 PM

Brooke, Amy

From: Connie Kelly <amamakelly@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 7:59 AM
To: Mclean County Health Department; Mclean County Administration
Subject: Public Comment on Dion McNeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I would like to be heard in support of Dion McNeal. That he was reprimanded for including in his Health Dept press release an acknowledgment of the public health crisis that is police violence is outrageous. We should not be silent on issues of public health for comfort when that comfort allows the issues to continue. Mr. McNeal should be reinstated and as should all those who support him. It's completely unacceptable that speaking truth results in disciplinary actions in our county.

Sincerely,
Connie Kelly
1709 Cook Dr
Normal, IL 61761

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:18 PM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: Public Comment - Board of Health Meeting-Dion McNeal Firing

From: Kate Butler <kconnb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:46 PM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyl.gov>
Subject: Re: Public Comment - Board of Health Meeting-Dion McNeal Firing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Thank you for contacting me. This was the email address I was given, but you are right in recognizing that I want it to go to the health board meeting. I appreciate your help.

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 7, 2020, at 3:12 PM, Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyl.gov> wrote:

Ms. Butler,
You have sent this request to the Administration Office so I wanted to confirm that you actually would like this read at the Mclean County Board of Health meeting and NOT at the Mclean County Board meeting (two different groups – Board of Health over the Health Department and County Board over other departments in the County).
If you could please let me know and I will get it forwarded to the Health Department if that is where you wanted this to go.
Thank you
Julie

From: Kate Butler <kconnb@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 12:54 PM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyl.gov>
Subject: Public Comment - Board of Health Meeting-Dion McNeal Firing

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Hello:

I have appreciated the communications the McLean County Board of Health has provided regarding coronavirus in our county, but I am shocked and saddened at the firing of Dion McNeal over his post about how to keep safe at and after participation in protests, rallies, or other mass gatherings. His post was formulated based upon an IDPH communication. It provided vital information for public health and safety.

So why would this valuable public service message lead to Mr. McNeal's firing? It is transparent that the McLean County Board of Health does want to endorse the statement that racism is a public health crisis. It also appears to me, and must appear to others, that the department is not interested in protecting the health of people protesting police brutality, a thought that chills me to the core. Your department should be on the front lines of dealing with this genuine health crisis, not punishing those who try to remedy it. And during this time of heightened civil tension, the department should, at the very least, be conscious of not fanning the flames by firing Mr. McNeal for helping protesters protect their health.

I do hope the Board will do the right thing and reinstate Mr. McNeal.

Kathleen Butler
2020 E. Jackson St.
Bloomington, IL 61701

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:19 PM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: Dion McNeal

From: Juliet Lynd <julietlynd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:57 PM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountytvl.gov>
Subject: Re: Dion McNeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Thank you for the quick reply. Please do forward to the Health Department and share it with anyone discussing Mr. McNeal and/or the issue of racism as a public health threat.
Thank you again,
Julie

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 7, 2020, at 3:14 PM, Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountytvl.gov> wrote:

Ms. Lynd,
I am writing to confirm that you were intending your email to be a public comment read at a meeting. Also, if that is the case, can you please let me know which meeting you are wanting it read at. If it is the Mclean County Board of Health meeting I will forward it to the Health Department as we only handle requests for the Mclean County Board.
Thank you.
Julie

From: Juliet Lynd <julietlynd@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 1:40 PM

To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountylil.gov>
Subject: Dion McNeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

Dion McNeal's firing is unacceptable. Indeed, his actions to promote public health ought to be commended.

Sincerely,
Juliet Lynd
Bloomington, IL

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:22 PM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: public comment for Board of Health Meeting

From: Meghan Reha <mereha@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov>
Subject: public comment for Board of Health Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

My name is Meghan Reha, I am a resident of Mclean County, who depends on the Mclean County Health Department to provide accurate information to myself and my neighbors. As a result of the public health statements issued by Communication Specialist Dion McNeal, I sought COVID-19 testing after participating in marches and other BLM protests.

At a time when known biases against the black community are being exposed and discussed openly, I saw the press release and comments as reflecting great sensitivity and engagement with vulnerable people in my community, who are at risk of devastating health impacts from both racism and COVID-19. The subsequent firing of Mr. McNeal, and disciplining of Kari Jones appears malicious, thoughtless, and motivated by a need for a white board to protect the ego of other white community members at the expense of black employees and the health of the black community.

Mr. McNeal needs to be reinstated immediately, and the MCHD should continue to treat racism as the public health crisis that it is.

Best regards,

Meghan Reha,
Bloomington

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:34 PM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: Board meeting public comment

I confirmed she wants this read at the Board of Health meeting.

Thank you
Julie

From: Sarah Fleming <pipedreamsalon@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11:12 AM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov>
Subject: Board meeting public comment

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To whom it may concern,
As a resident in Mclean County, I'm incredibly troubled by the events that have led to the firing of Dion McNeal, as well as Kari Jones being put on administrative leave for showing support for Mr. McNeal.

Racism is indeed a public health issue and one that exists and thrives even here in Mclean County, as it does all over the state and country.

I was both incredibly proud and supportive of the post that reminded folks to take caution while exercising their rights. It should be easy to say that racism is a problem. It's not a political statement, and certainly shouldn't be seen as controversial, because it's just morally true.

Progress doesn't happen by riding the fence or sweeping these issues aside to make racists more comfortable. To ignore these problems is to be a part of them and maybe even more dangerously, it affirms those with racist opinions as having an equally valid opinion that needs to be taken into account.

It is reprehensible to me that a black man was fired, for not only promoting good public health practices, but for making a statement against racism that even our state public health authority affirms. This is certainly not how I believe a public health authority should behave.

I implore you to reinstate both Mr. McNeal and Ms. Jones. We need their voices in our community now more than ever. Anything less is being complicit with racism and punishing courage. That is not the community that any of us should want. Those responsible for this mess need to be held to account on these decisions. This has damaged public trust at a time we need to be building trust.

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 6:48 AM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: firing of Dion McNeal

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike and Jackie Bauer <mj.bauer@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 6:19 PM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov>
Subject: Re: firing of Dion McNeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.
Yes, please enter as public comments and read them at both meetings.

On Jul 7, 2020, at 5:19 PM, Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov> wrote:

Ms. Bauer,
Please let me know if you are wanting these entered as public comments and if so are you wanting them read at the Board of Health (Over the Health Department) or the County Board (over other county departments).
Thank you
Julie

-----Original Message-----

From: Mike and Jackie Bauer <mj.bauer@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 3:55 PM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov>
Subject: firing of Dion McNeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

I was very upset to read The Pantagraph article about the firing of Dion McNeal. I hope that this is investigated and that the decision is reversed. Why someone would be fired for his press release is beyond me.

Jackie Bauer
1311 E. Washington St.
Bloomington, IL

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 6:48 AM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: Public Comment for the Board of Health Meeting

From: Brett Cottone <brett.cottone@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Mclean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov>
Subject: Public Comment for the Board of Health Meeting

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

To the Mclean County Board of Health,

You should be ashamed of yourselves for the firing of Dion McNeal.

You should also be ashamed of putting Kari Jones on administrative leave for showing support for Mr. McNeal.

Racism is a public health issue here in Mclean County.

I ask that you admit to your mistake and reinstate both Mr. McNeal and Ms. Jones. They have done nothing wrong and have simply presented important facts to the public. Please do the right thing and fix this injustice. Thanks.

Brett Cottone
Normal IL

Brooke, Amy

From: McLean County Administration
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 6:49 AM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: Dion McNeal

From: i\;Debbie Kerrigan <ddebkerr7@frontier.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 7, 2020 5:20 PM
To: McLean County Administration <admin@mcleancountyil.gov>
Subject: Dion McNeal

CAUTION: This email originated from outside your organization. Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking links, especially from unknown senders.

County officials,

I am writing to ask you to reinstate Dion McNeal to his position as McLean County Communication Specialist. As a citizen who attended a mass rally against racism I was pleased to read instructions from the McLean Co Health dept about how to protect ourselves against the corona virus and acknowledging racism as a public health issue. It reflected a statement from the Illinois Dept of Public Health. Systemic racism is clearly an issue in inequalities in health care.

Debbie Kerrigan
1911 Tracy Dr Apt 1D
Bloomington, IL 61704

Brooke, Amy

From: Mclean County Administration
Sent: Wednesday, July 8, 2020 6:49 AM
To: Brooke, Amy; McKnight, Jessica
Subject: FW: Public Comments

- > Dear Mclean County Public Health Department,
>
- > Your recent handling of communication specialist Dion McNeal has raised concerns across our county. Mr. McNeal was reprimanded for giving voice to countless marginalized folks in our county. When you reprimanded him, you reprimanded all of us. His words were professional and in the spirit of what you purport to care about. We all read them.
>
- > Our county is diverse and incorporates people with diverse backgrounds. Mr. McNeal's honest comments on the trauma our community has suffered at the hands of law enforcement is shared by voice after voice. His words resonated powerfully in our county. When you silenced him, you silenced an entire community. You chose a side. Silencing him not only fails to address the problem, but actually serves to perpetuate it. Our county public health department belongs to more than your narrow worldview supports.
>
- > We are living in days where people from all walks of life are engaging in issues our society has largely ignored. We are writing history across our nation. We are writing history here in Mclean County. We see what you did. We understand the clear message you were sending when you reprimanded and terminated Mr. McNeal. You not only silenced his voice. You silenced the voice of every Black member of our community that has lived his experiences. You chose the wrong side of history. He did nothing wrong, and you know it. Your actions are the embodiment of a racist system, but I believe you want to be better. I want to believe you want to represent all people of Mclean County. I want to believe your pride will not get in the way of racial reckoning that is centuries overdue. I want to believe you love and embrace our entire community. I am asking you to lead.
>
- > Our community will not forget what you did. You need to make this right. Please make it right by publicly apologizing to Mr. McNeal and offering a place of employment in our public health department for him.
>
- > Sincerely,
>
- > Dr. Seth McIntyre
> 205 Pheasant Lane
> Hudson, IL 61748
>