



**CLINTON OFFICE**  
 1307 E. Townsend Rd.  
 Saint Johns, MI 48879-9036  
 (989) 224-2195

**GRATIOT OFFICE**  
 151 Commerce Dr.  
 Ithaca, MI 48847-1627  
 (989) 875-3681

**MONTCALM OFFICE**  
 615 N. State St.  
 Stanton, MI 48888-9702  
 (989) 831-5237

<b>BOARD OF HEALTH:</b>	Bruce DeLong Dwight Washington, Ph.D.	George Bailey Chuck Murphy	Betty Kellenberger Adam Petersen
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**APPROVED 12/16/20**

BOARD OF HEALTH  
 REGULAR MEETING  
 At  
 Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD)  
 Saint Johns, Michigan

*Meeting held remotely through Zoom at  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666735394?pwd=TXpMSGErRnk1dncyb2hHeFBFditTQT09> due to COVID-19.*

Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 9 a.m.

**MINUTES**

*We take action to protect, maintain, and improve the health of our community.*

Members Present: George Bailey, Chairperson (Englewood, Florida); Bruce DeLong (Saint Johns, Michigan); Adam Petersen (Greenville, Michigan); Chuck Murphy (remote); Dwight Washington; (by phone); and Betty Kellenberger, Vice Chairperson (Carson City, Michigan)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Mark W. (Marcus) Cheatham, Ph.D., Health Officer (Stanton, Michigan); Melissa Selby, Director of Administrative Services (Portland, Michigan); Cynthia M. Partlo, Board Secretary (Lansing, Michigan); Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP, Medical Director (Clare, Michigan); Sarah Doak, Director of Community Health and Education Division (CHED) (Saint Johns, Michigan); Liz Braddock, Director of Environmental Health (EH) (Bath, Michigan)

Staff Absent: None

Guests: Elisabeth Waldon, Reporter (remote), Daily News; Jodie Faber, Health Educator I; Jean Martin; Kara Trimbach, Health Educator I (DeWitt, Michigan)

George Bailey, Chairperson called the Regular Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 25, 2020, through Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666735394?pwd=TXpMSGErRnk1dncyb2hHeFBFditTQT09> due to the highly-contagious COVID-19 and to assure compliance with federal, state, and local health guidance and requirements.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by G. Bailey.

A. AGENDA NOTES, REVIEW, AND REVISIONS:

G. Bailey requested that all votes be taken by roll call.

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by B. Kellenberger to approve the Agenda as presented. C. Partlo called the roll:**

Board Member	Yes	No
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

B. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) Draft Board of Directors Meeting held October 12, 2020
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Regular Meeting held October 28, 2020

2. Communications

- a. Letter dated November 12, 2020 to Marcus Cheatham, PhD, MA from Laura de la Rangelje, Director, Public Health Administration, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) regarding Local Community Stabilization Authority funding in the amount of \$190,167 for reimbursement of reasonable costs

**Motion made by B. Kellenberger and seconded by B. DeLong to accept and place Meeting Minutes B. 1. a. through d. as well as Communications B. 2. a. on file. C. Partlo called the roll:**

Board Member	Yes	No
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: None.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – Bruce DeLong, Chairperson

a. MMDHD’s Expenses for October 24 through November 20, 2020

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by B. Kellenberger to approve payment of the MMDHD’s expenses for October 24 through November 20, 2020 in the amount of \$535,325.89.**

**C. Partlo called the roll:**

Board Member	Yes	No
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

b. MMDHD’s Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for September 2020

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by B. Kellenberger to approve and place the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for September 2020 on file. C. Partlo called the roll:**

Board Member	Yes	No
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

c. MMDHD’s Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for October 2020

B. DeLong reported that the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for October 2020 was delayed due to year-end closing.

d. Michigan Employees Retirement System (MERS) Addendum

M. Cheatham explained that the MERS Addendums were a handout; however, the documents have been placed on the website. He said that the Addendums outline our process for the Defined Benefit Plan.

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by B. Kellenberger to authorize Chairperson G. Bailey to sign the MERS Addendums. C. Partlo called the roll:**

Board Member	Yes	No
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

2. Personnel Committee – Betty Kellenberger, Chairperson – No Report.
3. Program Committee – Dwight Washington, Chairperson – No Report.
4. Mid-Central Coordinating Committee – Dwight Washington, Chairperson – No Report.

**F. MEDICAL DIRECTOR’S REPORT: Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP**

**1. COVID-19 Update**

Dr. Morse mentioned that she did not get a formal report prepared for this month; however, she has information regarding the three promising vaccines and a new treatment for COVID-19. Two of the vaccines, Pfizer and Moderna are both mRNA vaccines. She explained how the mRNA vaccines work, stating that it was a new way to vaccinate people that was very effective. She indicated that the Pfizer vaccine had a 95% efficacy rate and was tested in 43,000 people noting that 170 got COVID-19, 162 of those had received the placebo and 8 received the vaccine. Dr. Morse reported that almost one half of the people were over 56 years old and about one-third were minorities. Two doses would be needed of the Pfizer vaccine at least 21 days apart. She indicated that the Moderna vaccine was found to have 94.5% efficacy noting that 30,000 people were studied with 95 people getting COVID-19, 90 of those had received the placebo and 5 received the vaccine. Two doses of the Moderna vaccine would be needed 28 days apart. She said that the third vaccine from AstraZeneca was a different type of vaccine called an adenovirus vector vaccine. She explained how the vaccine works. She reported that this vaccine was given to 23,000 people noting that 131 got COVID-19, 2,700 people got a half dose followed by a whole dose which was 90% effective; 8,900 got 2 full doses one month apart which was only 62% effective. She reviewed the side effects of the vaccines noting that they were like the Shingrix vaccine.

Dr. Morse reported on treatment options for COVID-19 stating that antibody bamlanivimab has received emergency use authorization. She reported that the study was done on 465 people with mild or moderate COVID-19; not needing to go the ER. The goal of the treatment was to help people recover at home. Only 3% of those that got the drug had to go to the hospital. Dr. Morse said that the drug has been given to hospitals for use stating that had to be administered at a hospital or clinic through a one-hour intravenous infusion.

She said that the vaccines look to be arriving around early to mid-December. First to be vaccinated would be frontline healthcare workers caring for COVID-19 patients and long-term care facility patients and workers. Following that would be individuals with high-risk factors and those over 65 years of age.

D. Washington asked if those that have been vaccinated would be safe or would they be possible transmitters of COVID-19. Dr. Morse replied that data would continue to be studied to determine if that would be true, but currently it was not known. D. Washington asked whether the MiCOVID App was a technology to be used to help in contact tracing and reduce the spread of COVID-19. Dr. Morse replied that it does have the potential to help if lots of people are signed up to use it; however, positive individuals registered on the app needed to call their local health department to obtain a number. She said that local public health does not have the staffing to call each positive individual with a number because of the amount of positive cases coming into the health department.

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by B. Kellenberger to approve the Medical Director’s Report as presented and place it on file. C. Partlo called the roll:**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**G. HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT:**

**1. Agreements Signed, October 19 through November 20, 2020**

M. Cheatham briefly reviewed the agreements signed, noting the topic was for information only.

**2. COVID-19 Update**

M. Cheatham reviewed the agency’s challenges with COVID-19 response, namely, case investigation and contact tracing. He stated that the Michigan Disease Surveillance System (MDSS), the system that the health department uses in contact tracing, was overwhelmed and affecting the health department’s work. M. Cheatham reviewed the notice from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) outlining the steps being taken to improve the MDSS. He noted that because of the backlogged system, the health department has had to prioritize case investigation focusing on outbreaks and high-risk individuals. Additionally, he said that the data reporting was not accurate due to the backlog of cases; therefore, the health department could not provide the public with accurate reporting.

M. Cheatham also reviewed data from Trace Force showing that health department and State performance have dropped to near zero for contact tracing.

**a. Recent Emergency Orders**

M. Cheatham said that our Environmental Health (EH) team has been very supportive and flexible transitioning to working with COVID-19. He said that the buildings would not be open through the holidays; however, staff would be rotated and available to the public during times of holiday closure.

M. Cheatham provided an overview of the steps the agency has taken to communicate with the public, indicating that staff were so busy that it was taking too long to provide advice to businesses and schools. He said that in the past, the agency has not typically worked directly with Adult Foster Care (AFC) homes; however, now needed to assist them with outbreaks and figure out their licensing requirements, etc. In summary, he said that the health department has created new partnerships with groups not typically worked with in the past.

M. Cheatham said that a press release was held to update the public about the challenges that the health department was faced with and to educate and improve communication with the public.

M. Cheatham said that the health department could receive COVID-19 vaccines as early as the middle of December. He indicated that the Pfizer vaccine would most likely go to hospitals to be administered to nurses with direct patient contact. None will be going to the health department at that time; however, the Moderna vaccine would most likely be the vaccine that MMDHD would be receiving possibly as early as late December. M. Cheatham reported that Hailey Brewer, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator has reached out to all three health systems regarding the vaccines and Sparrow Carson was making plans to partner with us to vaccinate our staff and store vaccine for us when we begin conducting community clinics. However, M. Cheatham believed that the agency would not have any problems with accessing vaccine. He outlined the following game plan regarding vaccines:

- Few hospital or health department nurses would give vaccine.
- Most people would receive the vaccine through their primary care provider. As the region lead for the Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR), MMDHD has existing relationships with health care providers. All providers would need to register and receive training to administer the COVID-19 vaccine.
- The procedure would be that the vaccine would go to hospitals, then drive-thru vaccination sites would be established, where the vaccine would be administered to those without primary care providers, such as Road Commission facilities (eight potential sites have already been identified); and then vaccinators would be needed. Currently, health department staff were reaching out to community mental health, long-term care facilities, emergency management, ambulance services, school nurses, and nursing schools to utilize trainees to staff these sites.
- Reaching out to the Amish community.

D. Washington asked what the goal saturation rate was for the COVID-19 vaccination. Dr. Morse said that over 70% immunity would be the goal to make an impact on COVID-19. She said one of the biggest hurdles would be convincing the public to get vaccinated because the vaccines were experimental; surveys indicated that only about 58% of the population would be willing to be vaccinated. Dr. Morse indicated that if only one half of the people would agree to be vaccinated, it would mirror the influenza vaccine. D. Washington asked if the vaccines were for infants through adults. Dr. Morse replied that currently one of the vaccines was approved for ages 12 and up and the other for 18 and up. Currently, there were no recommendations for children younger than 12 to receive vaccine.

b. Health Department Powers

M. Cheatham explained the summary guidance of the November 18, 2020 emergency directive from Cohl, Stoker & Toskey.

M. Cheatham said that the MDHHS has appointed local public health with the responsibility of enforcement of the epidemic order. Local data showed a huge number of outbreaks in businesses and restaurants. He discussed the lengthy, difficult process of enforcement for violations of the epidemic order. The health department knows of several businesses that were defying the order. He said that the health department's objective was to work with local law enforcement and others in the community to resolve situations for the good of everyone. If needed, M. Cheatham said that he would proceed forward with enforcement actions. A. Petersen asked what the process was for enforcement. M. Cheatham replied that the process was based on the Public Health Code:

- Request order from Judge,
- Business/individual has right for due process,
- Judge decides whether to defer to police for enforcement action, or
- Schedule a court case, if needed.

A. Petersen commented that it sounded like enforcement would be a drawn-out process that in a month and a half any cases would be going to trial, and the epidemic order would be over.

L. Braddock added that warning letters were issued to two businesses within the district for remaining open stating that it would be a misdemeanor if those businesses remained open. She said that guidance was received stating that those businesses should not be allowed to continue to operate and could be fined. Furthermore, if local law enforcement proceeds with the fines, but the local prosecuting attorney does not bring charges; then the health department could seek assistance from the Michigan State Police, then if the businesses continue to operate, the health department could contact the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) which holds the license for dining rooms, Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration (MIOSHA), Michigan Liquor Control Commission, and the Attorney General's office. L. Braddock summarized that the idea was that enforcement would be consistent throughout the state.

3. Schedule January Organizational Meeting

M. Cheatham said that the December meeting was moved up to December 16<sup>th</sup> with no holiday luncheon. He said that the makeup of new county Boards of Commissioners in 2021 would not be known until sometime in January. He requested that Commissioners let him know as soon as possible who the appointed Board of Health members would be so that a proper orientation could be conducted. He mentioned that the January BOH meeting should be scheduled at the convenience of the new BOH members.

**Motion B. DeLong and seconded by D. Washington to accept the Health Officer's Report and place it on file. C. Partlo called the roll:**

Board Member	Yes	No
B. DeLong	✓	
B. Kellenberger	✓	
C. Murphy	✓	
A. Petersen	✓	
D. Washington	✓	
G. Bailey	✓	

**Motion carried 6-0.**

H. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Riverdale Update

L. Braddock provided an update regarding the Riverdale septic system issue with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) stating that the agency received a letter indicating that EGLE was satisfied with the work that had been done regarding failed septic systems or homeowners with no record of septic systems. She indicated that the health department would continue to monitor the septic issue in Riverdale. G. Bailey asked if the agency was able to issue permits due to COVID-19. L. Braddock replied that the MMDHD had been able to approve permits routinely and quickly. She indicated that MMDHD intended to do water sampling in 2021, if possible.

I. NEW BUSINESS: None.

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: None.

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Mid-Michigan District BOH Action Items, October 2020
2. MMDHD Staffing and Longevity Report

L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: – <https://www.mmdhd.org/2020-board-of-health/>

1. Medication Drop-Off Day, *Lakeview Area News*, October 22, 2020
2. Seasonal Homeless Shelter Prepares To Open Amid Pandemic, *Gratiot County Herald*, October 22, 2020
3. This Year It's More Important Than Ever To Get Your Flu Shot, *Gratiot County Herald*, October 22, 2020
4. Velsicol Slurry Wall Found Leaking – Again, *Morning Sun*, October 25, 2020
5. Why It Still Matters Whether Michigan K-12 Students Contract COVID, *Daily News*, October 26, 2020
6. MAISD Special Ed Parapro Dies From COVID, *Daily News*, October 28, 2020
7. 'Maybe We Won't Be Able To Make A Difference' Local Health Official Disturbed By Rural COVID-19 Surge, *Gratiot County Herald*, October 28, 2020
8. Health Department Employees Get Bonuses For Pandemic Work, *Daily News*, October 29, 2020
9. Montcalm County Board Names Building After Former Longtime Commissioners, *Daily News*, October 29, 2020
10. Vestaburg Schools Return To Distance Learning Due To COVID, *Daily News*, October 30, 2020
11. Clinton Co. Police Agency Inactive, *Lansing State Journal*, October 31, 2020
12. Health Officer: Clinton Co. Virus Numbers Alarming, *Lansing State Journal*, October 31, 2020
13. Face Mask Friction, *Daily News*, November 3, 2020

14. Lakeview Students Move To Remote Learning, *Daily News*, November 5, 2020
15. Greenville Students Move To Virtual Learning, *Daily News*, November 7, 2020
16. Region Continues Struggle With COVID-19, *Morning Sun*, November 10, 2020
17. Very, Very Relieved, *Morning Sun*, November 11, 2020
18. Outbreak Infects 131 Prison Inmates, *Morning Sun*, November 12, 2020
19. COVID-19 Increase Has Officials Shifting Contact Tracing Strategy, *Lansing State Journal*, November 13, 2020
20. Gratiot Virus Death One Of Region's 17 In The Last Seven Days, *Morning Sun*, November 14, 2020
21. Many Local School Districts Move Entirely To Distance Learning, *Daily News*, November 17, 2020
22. Officials: Lockdown Wouldn't Stop Surge, *Lansing State Journal*, November 18, 2020

M. AGENCY NEWSLETTERS: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cynthia M. Partlo, Board Secretary  
For George Bailey, Chairperson  
Mid-Michigan District Board of Health