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BOARD OF HEALTH:	Bruce DeLong	George Bailey	Michael R. Beach
	Dwight Washington, Ph.D.	Chuck Murphy	Adam Petersen

APPROVED 3/24/21

Mid-Michigan District Health Department
 BOARD OF HEALTH
 REGULAR MEETING

February 24, 2021
 9:00 a.m.

Meeting held virtually through Zoom Video Communications, Inc. due to COVID-19.

MINUTES

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

Members Present: Bruce DeLong (Saint Johns, Michigan), Dwight Washington (Bath, Michigan), Chuck Murphy (Alma, Michigan), George Bailey (Englewood, Florida), Adam Petersen, Vice Chairperson (Greenville, Michigan), and Michael Beach (Carson City, Michigan)

Members Absent: None

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

Staff Absent: None

Guests: Elisabeth Waldon, News Editor, Daily News; Nicole Moline, PHN; Jean Martin; Craig Lyons; John Kroneck; Sarah Thelen

Bruce DeLong, Chairperson called the Regular Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, online through Zoom Video Communications, Inc. 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 A. Petersen.

B. DeLong asked C. Partlo, Board Secretary to call roll to determine a quorum:

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

D. Washington joined the meeting at 9:03 a.m.

A. AGENDA NOTES, REVIEW, AND REVISIONS:

B. DeLong requested to add Immunization Funding Letter to the Agenda as item B. 2. c. and a letter from PHAB regarding national accreditation as item G.1.d.

Motion made by C. Murphy and seconded by G. Bailey to approve the Agenda as amended.

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

Motion carried.

B. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) Board of Directors Meeting held January 11, 2021
- b. Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) Organizational Meeting held January 27, 2021

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by C. Murphy to accept the Meeting Minutes B. 1. a. and b. and place on file.

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

Motion carried.

2. Communications

- a. Email dated February 5, 2021 to Marcus Cheatham from Carissa Reece, Department Analyst, Michigan Department of Health & Human Services (MDHHS) regarding COVID immunization grant funds
- b. Email dated February 18, 2021 to Marcus Cheatham from Michigan Health Alert Network regarding vaccine shipment delays
- c. Letter dated February 22, 2021 to Marcus Cheatham from Bob Swanson, Director, Division of Immunizations, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services regarding COVID Michigan Immunizations Supplemental funding for FY 21.

M. Cheatham commented that the agency received a large sum of funding from the State – \$709,225, plus a smaller grant of \$137,050 targeting funds for COVID-19 vaccination activities. He mentioned that earlier in the month, the agency received the announcement that the funds were coming, and item c. is the formal confirmation letter.

Motion made by M. Beach and seconded by C. Murphy to accept Communications B. 2. a. through c. and place on file.

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

Motion carried.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: – None

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: Nicole Moline mentioned that she was a registered nurse that was hired in November to assist with COVID case investigation and COVID vaccination clinics. M. Cheatham stated that Nicole was attending as part of her new employee orientation and explained the roll of the Board of Health.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

- a. MMDHD’s Expenses for January 16 through February 12, 2021

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Beach to approve payment of the MMDHD’s Expenses for January 16 through February 12, 2021 in the amount of \$526,215.20.

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

Motion carried.

- b. MMDHD’s Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for January 2021

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Washington to approve and place the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for January 2021 on file.

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

Motion carried.

- c. MMDHD’s Financial Status Report (FSR), FY 19/20

M. Selby explained that the FSR was required by the State and part of MMDHD’s internal control process for all programs annually. She said that next year, she would provide a more in-depth overview of the report.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Washington to approve the FSR as presented.

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

Motion carried.

- d. Community Health Worker (CHW) Clinton County

G. Bailey mentioned that the Finance Committee took no action on the topic. M. Cheatham added that the position was in the agency’s Organizational Charts; however, management would like to transfer the 1.0 FTE position from Montcalm County to Clinton County.

2. Personnel Committee – Dwight Washington, Chairperson – No report; however, D. Washington indicated that the January Minutes should show Michael Beach as Chairperson of the Program Committee not him.
3. Program Committee – Michael Beach, Chairperson – No Report.
4. Mid-Central Coordinating Committee – Chuck Murphy – No Report.

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

1. MMDHD FY 19/20 annual Report of Communicable Diseases

Dr. Morse shared her report on Communicable Diseases in 2020 through her screen (as it was a handout). She reviewed the most common communicable diseases and said that a decline was evident in most of them from 2019 data. She reported that gonorrhea cases in our district have increased from 2019, as well as hepatitis cases. She reported that there were no cases of pertussis in 2020. Rabies and animal bites increased in Montcalm County, however, seemed variable in most counties. She mentioned that when the flu and influenza-like illnesses were removed from the data, she found that Clinton County saw a 73% reduction, Gratiot County saw an 85% reduction, and Montcalm County saw a 73% reduction in reported communicable diseases, other than COVID-19 and other than influenza-like illnesses. Statewide, she reported the reduction was about 37%.

Dr. Morse reported that the communicable diseases that increased in 2020 were: sexually transmitted diseases, vector-borne diseases, and viral hepatitis. She mentioned that reasons for this could be that many people did not get diagnosed for fear of getting COVID-19 or had virtual physician visits. For the increase in vector-borne diseases, a lot of us were outside more often in 2020, which could have contributed to the increase. She estimated that the increase in viral hepatitis could be due to increased testing.

Dr. Morse reported that she does not have a healthy living recommendation for March.

D. Washington mentioned that because COVID-19 is a respiratory disease spread through air, was it still necessary to use hand sanitizer and disinfectant. Dr. Morse replied that COVID-19 can be transferred by touching objects and then touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, but is the least likely method of transmission. She added that COVID-19 can be transmitted through your eyes, that’s why face shields are beneficial.

2. SARS-CoV-2 B.1.1.7. Variant Update

No report.

Motion made by D. Washington and seconded by G. Bailey to approve the Medical Director’s Report as presented.

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

Motion carried.

G. HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT:

1. COVID-19 Update

M. Cheatham provided an update regarding COVID-19 stating that our district has had a couple of deaths since he prepared the update. He emphasized the downward trend in cases and the importance of prevention to protect against the new variants. He reviewed vaccination efforts in the district stating that the numbers of doses received compared to the numbers of doses administered through February 15, 2021 was almost even. M. Cheatham reported that MMDHD gave 5,033 doses and have shared 4,400 doses: partnering with Meijer Pharmacy, Kroger Pharmacy, Spectrum Health and Sparrow Health Systems.

M. Cheatham mentioned that the State continues to expand the numbers of essential workers eligible to be vaccinated while the agency continues to administer vaccinations for Phase 1B individuals, making it very difficult for the agency to make progress with limited increases in vaccine.

a. Vaccine Supply

M. Cheatham provided an update on vaccine supplies indicating that one of three vaccine shipments for our agency was stuck in Memphis, Tennessee, last week due to the winter snowstorm. He mentioned that 2,500 doses were expected this week, plus additional doses from last week’s delayed shipment. He explained that the agency was going to change its strategy to avoid having to cancel clinics by holding back some doses of vaccine for a few days to assure that clinics could be held in the event of vaccine shipment delays. M. Cheatham mentioned that the agency has not yet had to cancel a clinic due to insufficient supplies of vaccine, although it has been close.

M. Cheatham reported that at the end of last week, 3,400 doses were given in Montcalm County, 3,000 in Gratiot County, and 3,000 in Clinton County; indicating that Sparrow Clinton has really picked up with providing vaccinations to the community. He mentioned that Montcalm County doses administered were not as high as they should be, stating that MMDHD has done what it can to boost vaccinations in Montcalm County; however, more partners need to step up in Montcalm County. He explained his theory for the lower vaccination numbers in Montcalm County.

D. Washington asked if staff were seeing shifting attitudes with people not wanting the vaccination. He asked if we knew the reasons why people were rejecting the vaccination. Dr. Morse replied that from her perspective, people adamantly wanted the vaccine. In the beginning,

she reported some were concerned with the side effects. S. Doak said that she experienced the same as Dr. Morse; people beating down the door to get the vaccine.

b. Vaccination Clinics

M. Cheatham mentioned that the additional COVID-19 funding the agency receives would be used to stand up mass vaccination clinics in March to be located at Smith Hall, Saint Johns fairgrounds in Clinton County, Gratiot-Isabella RESD in Gratiot County, and Montcalm Community College in Montcalm County. He stated that the MMDHD has received huge support from emergency operations centers and plans to look to the Michigan Volunteer Registry for assistance with volunteers. He said that clinics would begin with one day per week but could be expanded based on available doses.

c. Current Trace Force Data

M. Cheatham reviewed the current Trace Force Data stating that in February, improvement has been seen in how MMDHD has kept up with the State.

M. Cheatham explained that in the beginning of the pandemic, the agency was working with Patagonia to develop a mass vaccination application for us. In January 2021, the Patagonia mass vaccination application was not ready, so the agency used free ware called Sign-Up Genius and abandoned it as soon as possible due to problems. An unknown number of people created a user account in Sign-Up Genius, which was not required to schedule an appointment. He said that those that created an account thought that they had registered with MMDHD for a vaccination, although they had not and were not on our lists for vaccination. He said that he wanted commissioners to know about the issue in case they hear about it through constituents or the media.

H. OLD BUSINESS: – None

I. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) National Accreditation

M. Cheatham provided an overview of the agency's national accreditation journey, stating that in 2019, the fees to become nationally re-accredited doubled. The BOH sent a letter to PHAB protesting the increase in their fees and received a response back from them stating that they would review our concerns with their board. Since then, the agency has been in discussions with PHAB regarding the possibility of pausing our national accreditation status for one year while they work with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. They hoped that the Public Health Infrastructure Save Lives Act would provide funding to continue national accreditation, dropping the fees substantially. M. Cheatham said that the cost to pause our national accreditation status was \$850. He said his recommendation was to send PHAB the \$850 to pause MMDHD's status. In the end, he felt that the BOH's letter was effective and asked for support of his recommendation to send PHAB \$850 to pause MMDHD's national accreditation. G. Bailey, C. Murphy, M. Beach, and B. DeLong voiced their support for M. Cheatham's recommendation.

2. Substance Abuse Update, *John Kroneck, Health Prevention Supervisor and Sarah Thelen, Prevention Coordinator*

John Kroneck and Sarah Thelen provided an overview of their Substance Use Disorder Prevention Programs serving Montcalm and Clinton Counties. J. Kroneck explained that Gratiot County was covered by a separate agency; however, he and S. Thelen have worked together with that organization.

3. Emerging Issues – None

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: None

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Mid-Michigan District BOH Action Items, January 2021
2. MMDHD Staffing Report

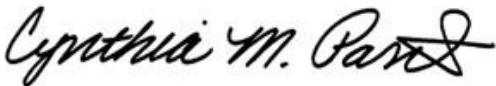
L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: – <https://www.mmdhd.org/2021-board-of-health/>

1. Health Department Waiting For More COVID-19 Vaccine, *Lakeview Area News*, January 21, 2021
2. COVID-19 Vaccine Process For Highest Priority Groups May Take Until April, *Daily News*, January 23, 2021
3. Vulnerable Population COVID-19 Vaccination Will Take Over Three Months to Complete, *Gratiot County Herald*, January 27, 2021
4. Local Health Department Struggles With State’s COVID-19 Vaccine Guidance, Or Lack Thereof, *Daily News*, January 28, 2021
5. Health Workers Are ‘Optimistic’, *Lansing State Journal*, January 29, 2021
6. Mid-Michigan District Health Department Public Notice of Board of Health Meetings for 2021, *Daily News*, January 30, 2021
7. Mid-Michigan District Health Department Public Notice of Board of Health Meetings for 2021, *Clinton County News*, January 31, 2021
8. Fifteen New Cases Reported In Region, *Morning Sun*, February 3, 2021
9. Central Montcalm Looking To Replace Drinking Water Well, *Daily News*, February 3, 2021
10. 100 Acts of Kindness, *Lakeview Area News*, February 4, 2021
11. Mid-Michigan District Health Department Public Notice of Board of Health Meetings for 2021, *Gratiot County Herald*, February 4, 2021
12. About 17K Estimated To Have Received COVID-19 Vaccine In MMDHD Area, *Daily News*, February 5, 2021
13. British Coronavirus Variant Confirmed In Eaton County, *Lansing State Journal*, February 9, 2021
14. One Death, Handful of COVID-19 Local Cases Reported, *Morning Sun*, February 12, 2021
15. COVID-19 Situation Worsens In Isabella, *Morning Sun*, February 16, 2021

M. AGENCY NEWSLETTERS: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cynthia M. Partlo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'C'.

Cynthia M. Partlo, Board Secretary
For Bruce DeLong, Chairperson
Mid-Michigan District Board of Health