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<b>BOARD OF HEALTH:</b>	Bruce DeLong Dwight Washington, Ph.D.	George Bailey Chuck Murphy	Michael R. Beach Adam Petersen
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**APPROVED 6/23/2021**

Mid-Michigan District Health Department  
 BOARD OF HEALTH  
 REGULAR MEETING

Wednesday, May 26, 2021  
 9:00 a.m.

*Meeting held online 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 Township, Michigan), Chuck Murphy (Alma, Michigan), George Bailey (Ithaca, Michigan), 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: WLNS, Craig Lyons, Lansing State Journal

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, May 26, 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	✓	

C. Partlo indicated that there was a quorum.

A. AGENDA NOTES, REVIEW, AND REVISIONS:

M. Selby requested to add Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) Negotiations to the Agenda as item E. 2. a.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Washington to approve the Agenda as amended. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

B. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) Board of Directors Meeting held April 12, 2021
- b. Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting held April 28, 2021

**Motion made by D. Washington and seconded by C. Murphy to accept the Meeting Minutes B. 1. a. and b. and place on file. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

2. Communications – None

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: – A. Petersen clarified for the record that after he recited the pledge, he did not make the ending statement. C. Murphy indicated that it was him.

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: – None

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

a. MMDHD’s Expenses for April 10 through May 7, 2021

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Beach to approve payment of the MMDHD’s Expenses for April 10 through May 7, 2021 in the amount of \$392,536.37. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

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

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Beach to approve and place the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for April 2021 on file. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

c. Schedule Time For Online Special Finance Committee Meeting, June 9, 2021

G. Bailey stated that the Finance Committee scheduled their online Special Meeting for Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. to develop the FY 21/22 Budget and fees.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Washington to schedule the online Special Finance Committee Meeting for Thursday, June 10, 2021, at 8:30 a.m. to develop the FY 21/22 Budget and fees. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

- d. Contract Extension Agreement with My Community Dental Centers, Inc. (MCDC)

M. Cheatham added that the Agreement extends the Medicaid dental services provided in Clinton County for another 10 years without any cost implications for the agency or Clinton County.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Beach to approve the Contract Extension Agreement with MCDC as proposed and authorize B. DeLong to sign as Chairperson. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

- 2. Personnel Committee – Dwight Washington, Chairperson

D. Washington requested M. Cheatham schedule an exit meeting with the Personnel Committee before his departure.

- a. Michigan Nurses Association (MNA) Negotiations

M. Selby mentioned that the MNA Contract was expiring soon, and she reached out to them to begin the negotiations process scheduling an online only meeting for June 21, 2021 at 9 a.m. She indicated that in the past, the Personnel Committee was present for the meeting and at other times they were not present. She asked the BOH their preference. M. Cheatham commented that he strongly encouraged the BOH Personnel Committee members to attend these negotiation meetings. B. DeLong agreed and recommended that at a minimum, the Personnel Committee Chairperson should attend. M. Selby indicated that she would forward the invitation to the Personnel Committee members.

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. Vitamin and Herbal Supplements to Prevent Infectious Illnesses

Dr. Morse reported that vitamins and herbal supplements, used to prevent illnesses, have gained interest during the COVID-19 pandemic. She said that taking large doses of supplements has not shown to be significantly beneficial in reducing risk of illness. She reported that taking zinc has shown to provide benefits in shortening the length of the common cold by about 50%; however, zinc has side effects. Additionally, she recommended not using zinc nasal sprays as damage to one’s sense of smell or permanent loss can result. Dr. Morse added that zinc has not shown to have any benefit of shortening or preventing COVID-19.

Additionally, she said that dietary supplements are not required to prove safety, quality, or effectiveness. Dr. Morse said that dietary supplements have very little regulation on their manufacturing. She said due to variations in different commercially available products (plant species or parts used; how and when the plant was harvested, stored, and processed; chemicals used in the extraction process; purity of ingredients; etc.), it is difficult to determine the safety and effectiveness of supplements. In summary, she recommended that eating a well-balanced diet was the best way to support a healthy immune system.

Dr. Morse explained the function of the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) and recommended looking for the seal when purchasing supplements to ensure that the product contained the ingredients listed on the label, that the potency and amount declared was accurate, that the supplement does not contain harmful levels of specified contaminants and will break down and release into the body within the specified amount of time, and the product has been made using safe, sanitary, and well-controlled manufacturing practices according to FDA and USP guidelines.

D. Washington asked Dr. Morse about ticks indicating that he thought that they were very active this year. He asked if there was a way to track tick activity and tick-borne diseases. Dr. Morse indicated the State has a tick tracker to provide that information, although disease reporting may be delayed. She provided the link below to the BOH.

<http://www.mcgi.state.mi.us/midiseasemapper/?Category=Human&SpeciesGroup=Mammal&Species=All&Condition=Lyme%20Disease&Status=case&Year=2016&By=County&Acquired=Local>

C. Murphy asked if there was any data on COVID-19 vaccinated individuals getting COVID. Dr. Morse reported that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has a web page tracking that data and the State website also provided data. She reported that in Michigan, over 5,000 fully vaccinated individuals have been infected with COVID-19 and tended to have mild disease. She said that most individuals are asymptomatic, and their disease was found during routine testing at a hospital, such as prior to a procedure or surgery. M. Cheatham added that the State data showed that in our district there have been 125 breakthrough cases out of 70,000 vaccinated individuals.

Dr. Morse’s BOH Monthly Healthy Living Recommendations for June are:



G. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT:

1. COVID-19 Update

M. Cheatham provided an update regarding COVID-19 stating that agency's ability to contact people with COVID has improved after the recent surge. The second report focused on younger people under 40 years of age with COVID-19 (highest cases recently seen).

M. Cheatham reported the status of COVID-19 within the district.

	Clinton County	Gratiot County	Montcalm County
Positive Cases per day	5	5	10
Deaths per week	1	2	3
Positivity Rate	4%	7%	9%
Daily Tests	90	100	160

He summarized that the data for all counties should improve, but at an uneven rate. M. Cheatham reported that people were still being vaccinated in the district at the rate of 2,000 to 3,000 people per week. He indicated that the rates of coverage were increasing about 1% across the district per week, which was slower than he would like.

2. Staff Survey on Remote Work

M. Cheatham said that based on the data reported above, if the BOH wanted to return to in-person meetings they could do so safely in compliance with MIOSHA rules. M. Cheatham spoke about existing emergency declarations stating his concern that COVID-19 tended to be worse in rural parts of the district. He said the advantages of continuing emergency declarations allowed discretion at the local level to delay returning to in-person meetings until comfortable doing so. D. Washington indicated that he was very happy to hear M. Cheatham's report; however, several Clinton County events just won't be happening this year due to the inability for advanced planning.

G. Bailey asked M. Cheatham if there was a need to continue emergency declarations after the State opens everything up July 1<sup>st</sup>. M. Cheatham replied that emergency declarations would not be needed after July 1, 2021. He cautioned that looking at the unevenness of COVID-19 cases among the district and that cases in rural areas were declining at a slower rate, he advised it would be prudent to allow the option of in-person meetings for the next few months in areas with community spread. G. Bailey asked for clarification that if the Gratiot County Board rescinded its emergency declaration before its expiration of December 31, 2021, then meetings would have to be conducted in-person. M. Cheatham agreed.

M. Cheatham indicated that on Monday the MIOSHA announced new rules, although those rules do not apply to vaccinated employees. He mentioned that vaccinated employees can return to work without masking. He said that MMDHD conducted a staff survey regarding returning to work and remote working. He reported that staff feelings were diverse. He explained that the survey results were given to the Quality Vision Action Team (QVAT) for them to study and make recommendations. After the QVAT meeting May 28<sup>th</sup>, M. Cheatham said that an announcement would be made to staff about a schedule of when they will return to the office. He reviewed the survey results with the BOH reporting that a large percentage of the staff were interested in some form of remote work.

C. Murphy asked for clarification that unvaccinated people must wear a mask in the office and socially distance. M. Cheatham said that was the current MIOSHA requirements for employers and said that an employer could be fined if found not in compliance. D. Washington said that he was very proud of M. Cheatham's leadership and the health department's performance. He asked if there were plans to recognize staff. M. Cheatham indicated that staff recognition would be discussed at QVAT. He said that staff were exhausted and have lots of accumulated leave time. He said management was encouraging all staff to take their vacation time this summer.

#### H. OLD BUSINESS:

##### 1. EH FY 20/21 Food Service Establishment Fees

M. Cheatham provided an overview of the FY 20/21 food service establishment fees and Senate Bills 353 and 354 proposing to waive fees for the entire food industry. He said that the BOH asked staff to find out the status of the bills and discuss options with the County Administrators if the bills were to pass. M. Cheatham reported that the Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) has talked with the sponsor of the bill, Senator VanderWall. The Senator was very clear that no replacement revenue would be appended to these bills, but he expected American Rescue Plan funds from counties would be used to cover the costs. M. Cheatham mentioned that those funds are county funds not Senate or House dollars. M. Cheatham said that Senator Outman was asked about the chances of the legislation passing. He indicated that the bills would most likely pass in the Senate, but he could not speculate the outcome in the House. M. Cheatham said that the County Administrators agreed that whatever the decision, it needed to be supported by all three counties districtwide. Additionally, they felt that the use of American Rescue Plan funding for this purpose was appropriate and welcomed additional suggestions where those funds could be used to benefit residents of the district to recover from COVID-19. M. Cheatham summarized that the County Administrators recommended:

1. Wait and see if the bills pass;
2. If the bills pass, MMDHD would invoice the counties for lost revenue based on the FY 20/21 license fees; and
3. MMDHD would cut the checks to reimburse food service establishments.

M. Cheatham said for this recommendation to move forward, it would require action from the Boards of Commissioners. B. DeLong, M. Beach, and C. Murphy indicated their support as proposed. B. DeLong asked if there was a current update on the passing of the bills. M. Cheatham indicated that no further movement was noted as of Monday, May 24, 2021. C. Murphy asked if the actions would only be taken if the bills became law. M. Cheatham explained that the Counties could decide to waive the fees whether the bills pass or not.

**Motion made by C. Murphy and seconded by M. Beach to authorize M. Selby to invoice Clinton, Gratiot, and Montcalm Counties for the loss of FY 20/21 food service establishment licensing fees if Senate Bills 353 and 354 are approved. B. DeLong requested C. Partlo to call the roll:**



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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**Motion made by C. Murphy and seconded by M. Beach to reimburse food service establishments for their FY 20/21 licensing fees, using county American Rescue Plan funding, if Senate Bills 353 and 354 are approved.**

G. Bailey mentioned that with the above motions, the BOH was making decisions for the County Boards of Commissioners. M. Beach added that the motions could be changed to a recommendation. A. Petersen said that the BOH was acting as if the County Boards of Commissioners had already approved the recommendation. G. Bailey summarized that he believed the BOH supported the recommendation; however, Commissioners must take the recommendation back to their County Boards of Commissioners for consideration.

**Motion made by C. Murphy and seconded by M. Beach to rescind the two above motions. B. DeLong requested C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

**Motion made by C. Murphy and seconded by M. Beach to recommend that the County Boards of Commissioners use county American Rescue Plan funding to reimburse MMDHD for the loss of revenue for their FY 20/21 licensing fees if Senate Bills 353 and 354 pass in the House and Senate and to authorize M. Cheatham to send the amounts of lost revenue for MMDHD to the County Boards of Commissioners. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

I. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Bathing Beach Water Sampling Grant

L. Braddock said that the agency recently received a grant award to monitor bathing beach water sampling for 10 weeks during the summer. If E. coli is found, the second part of the grant allows tracking to determine the source of the E. coli and testing would be done by Michigan State University to determine the origin of the DNA (human or bovine). The agency's EH Health Educator would be working on the grant in conjunction with a paid intern. L. Braddock indicated that updates would be presented to the BOH at a future meeting.

2. Health Officer Recruitment/Transition Process

M. Cheatham stated that although the recruitment process for a new Health Officer was to be led by the BOH Personnel Committee, Administrative Staff provided recommendations for the different issues that needed to be addressed during the process. He reported that the position was posted, and three applications had been received to date with the posting closing on June 1, 2021. M. Cheatham recommended a diverse interview committee including the BOH Personnel Committee, a community representative, a member of Administrative Staff which could be M. Selby, and a Health Officer from the Central Michigan District Health Department (CMDHD) or District Health Department (DHD) #10. He reviewed the timeline indicating that an offer could potentially be made by the end of June. B. DeLong indicated that he received a letter from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) regarding their staff assisting in the interview process. G. Bailey added that it was a well thought out plan and encouraged the Personnel Committee to be selective in their choice and continue to advertise if not satisfied with the applicants.

A. Petersen asked if there would be an interim health officer. M. Cheatham said that he was very confident in the Administrative Team, and the BOH could appoint an interim Health Officer.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Beach to approve the proposed hiring committee and timeline to recruit a new health officer. B. DeLong asked C. Partlo to call the roll:**

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

**Motion carried 6-0.**

3. Emerging Issues

b. PFAS, Residential Sampling at Capital Region International Airport, DeWitt Township

L. Braddock explained that the agency was notified that 10 residential sites were identified near the Capital Region International Airport to be sampled for PFAS. She indicated if PFAS results came back elevated, MMDHD would work with MDHHS to provide filters to residents impacted or provide long-term water solutions for them. Additionally, L. Braddock mentioned that there was the potential for 40 additional homes to be sampled.

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: None

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

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

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

1. B.1.617 COVID-19 Variant Found In Clinton County, *Lansing State Journal*, May 1, 2021
2. COVID-19 Appointments Advertisement, *Daily News*, May 1, 2021
3. Multiple COVID-19 Variants Showing Up Around The Area, *Daily News*, May 4, 2021
4. Breckenridge HS Athletes Part Of Two K-12 Outbreaks, *Morning Sun*, May 6, 2021
5. Local Health Department Shortens Quarantine, *Daily News*, May 6, 2021
6. CC-C School Board Debates Quarantine And Contract Tracing Rules, *Daily News*, May 12, 2021
7. Youths 12 And Older Can Now Receive COVID-19 Vaccine From Pfizer Locally, *Daily News*, May 14, 2021

M. AGENCY NEWSLETTERS: None

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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