

**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	George Bailey	Phil Kohn
	David Pohl	Steven Sopocy	Adam Petersen

MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT(MMDHD)  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
REGULAR MEETING  
at  
**Gratiot Office, Ithaca, Michigan**

**MINUTES**

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

Members Present: Adam Petersen, Chairperson; George Bailey, Vice Chairperson; Bruce DeLong, David Pohl; Steven Sopocy

Members Absent: Phil Kohn

Staff Present: Mari E. (Liz) Braddock, Health Officer; Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP, Medical Director; Melissa Selby, Director of Administrative Services; Lonnie Smith, Director of Environmental Health (EH); Sarah Doak, Director of Community Health & Education Division (CHED); Krishna Santana, Board Secretary

Staff Absent: None

Guests: None

Adam Petersen, called the Regular Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at the Gratiot Office of the MMDHD, Ithaca, Michigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by A. Petersen.

A. AGENDA NOTES, REVIEW, AND REVISIONS:

L. Braddock requested to add an item under Health Officer Report, 8275 Dewitt Rd., Clinton County.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by B. DeLong to approve the Agenda as amended. Motion carried.**

B. CONSENT:

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) Board of Directors Meeting held November 13, 2023

- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Regular Meeting held November 22, 2023

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by G. Bailey to accept Meeting Minutes B.1.a., and b. and place on file. Motion carried.**

2. Communications

- a. Special Funding Request Approval

L. Braddock explained the special funding is from the state, these were funds we had requested, the funding is to be used for retractable signs for use in clinics and emergency flip books for the branches.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: - None

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

- a. MMDHD's Expenses for November 18 through December 15, 2023

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded B. DeLong by to approve payment of the MMDHD's Expenses for November 18 through December 15,2023 totaling \$655,475.69. Motion carried.**

- b. MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for October and November 2023

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Pohl to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for October and November 2023 and place on file. Motion carried.**

- c. MMDHD's Financial Status Report (FRS)

D. Pohl asked about EGLE under revenues / EH misc. because it showed \$25,000 budgeted but year to date \$11,000. He asked if it rolled over, M. Selby explained it does not roll over, that this year EGLE had restructured some of the funding.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and by D. DeLong seconded by to accept the FSR for FY 22/23 and place on file. Motion carried.**

d. Data Specialist Position

L. Braddock went over the request to hire a data specialist, a position that was vacated July 2023 because of an employee's retirement. At that time the decision was made not to place this position in the budget. Since then, it has been realized this position is needed, one reason being we need to do three community health need assessments, one for each county. Some funding is received for these services such as \$20,000 from Cornwell Health and in addition our essential local public health funding was recently increased, these are just two ways we can supplement for this position. Without this position we would need to rely on our state epidemiologist, we would also not meet all the accreditation requirements. It would be possible to contract this out and have someone else do the work for us however our recommendation is to fill this position so they can provide data and reports for us and help with the grant writing process, which at this time is being done by herself and the other directors.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Pohl to fill the Data Specialist Position. Motion carried.**

2. Personnel Committee – David Pohl, Chairperson – No Report

3. Program Committee – Phil Kohn, Chairperson – No Report

F. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP - **Included**

1. Lung Fungus–

J. Morse provided a report concerning Lung Fungus. She went over her report, speaking of the fact that fungal infection is something most people aren't aware of. She noted some are endemic, they're only found in certain areas of the world. Recently there was the largest outbreak of Blastomycosis in the U.S. at a paper mill located in Escanaba, Michigan. Many people that become infected never actually get sick or know they have been infected, however for anyone with a weak immune system or certain medical problems there are steps to try to prevent becoming infected. A few of these steps would be avoiding construction or excavations sites, avoiding areas contaminated with bird or bat droppings and avoiding water damaged buildings. Wrapping up with her recommendations of being aware the symptoms seem like pneumonia and can be misdiagnosed, if your symptoms are not getting better with treatment talk with your doctor about possible fungal infections and take steps to avoid infection for yourself and your family.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by D. Pohl to adopt the BOH Monthly Healthy Living Recommendations as proposed and accept and place the Medical Director's Report on file. Motion carried.**

G. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT: Mari E. (Liz) Braddock

1. Agreements Signed.

L. Braddock noted there were two agreements signed; Clinton County Substance Awareness and Prevention Coalition in the amount of \$10,000 and the Montcalm County opioid settlement in the amount of \$14,000, this grant will be used for first aid kits that include Narcan and information concerning stigma surrounding Narcan use these kits will be available at such places as local libraries.

2. Accreditation Update

L. Braddock informed the board that the State visited all three offices during accreditation and all our programs reviewed would have met minimum program requirements during a full accreditation cycle, she noted the state was happy with the way we worked through the pandemic and maintained our programs. The new accreditation period started the date they left, a three-year cycle. We were accredited in 2019 then stopped due to COVID. It has now started back up with this year focusing on getting everyone back on track. and the State offering technical assistance as needed. There will be a written report presented to the board in January.

A. Petersen stated on behalf of the board they'd like to say thank you and good work and this was a big step forward.

3. 8275 Dewitt Rd., Clinton County

This is informational only to inform the board that during an environmental health well inspection of a new build the wrong spicket was turned on in error which caused damage to the flooring. Actions have been taken to pay for the \$2,300.00 in damages. This was a man cave / barn type dwelling where the plumbing had been installed but no fixtures. As a result, a policy will be updated to ensure when inspecting there should be a homeowner or builder on site. A claim has been submitted to our liability insurance.

G. Bailey asked if L. Braddock could fill in the board on the district wide meeting that was held on December 12, 2023 at AgroLiquid in St. Johns. She spoke on a presenter that introduced a dog trained to detect sewage. She also spoke on the other presentations by Dr. Morse about rabies and a presentation by Environmental Health about their summer program collecting and testing ticks and mosquitos. She informed the board this is an annual meeting and as always, they are welcome to attend.

S. Sopocy stated he had been contacted by a township supervisor that submitted a complaint and was inquiring about the status, L. Smith took the address and will be following up on the progress of the complaint.

H. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Statewide Septic Code Update – Nothing to report currently as legislators are on break.

I. NEW BUSINESS:

1. None

2. Emerging Issues – None

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: - None

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Mid-Michigan District BOH Action Items, November 2023
2. Staffing Report

L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: <https://www.mmdhd.org/2023-board-of-health/>

1. Montcalm County awards opioid settlement to 5 local organizations - *The Dailey News* – December 7, 2023

M. AGENCY NEWSLETTERS: <https://conta.cc/3tn3qo7>

**There being no further business to come before the Board, G. Bailey made a motion to adjourn seconded by D. Pohl. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,



Krishna Santana, Board Secretary  
For Adam Petersen, Chairperson  
Mid-Michigan District Board of Health

DRAFT