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|                         |               |               |               |
|-------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>BOARD OF HEALTH:</b> | Bruce DeLong  | George Bailey | Adam Petersen |
|                         | Nicole Fickes | Steven Sopocy | Matt Murray   |

Mid-Michigan District Health Department  
 BOARD OF HEALTH  
 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
 at  
 Montcalm Office  
 Stanton, Michigan

Wednesday, January 22, 2025  
 9:00 a.m.

**MINUTES**

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

Members Present: George Bailey, Bruce DeLong, Nicole Fickes, Adam Petersen, Steven Sopocy

Members Absent: Matt Murray

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

Liz Braddock, Health Officer called the Organizational Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:00 a.m., on Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at the Montcalm Office of the Mid-Michigan District Health Department (MMDHD), Stanton, Michigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by L. Braddock.

L. Braddock began with roll call; all present excluding M. Murray.

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| <b>Member</b>      |                |
| <b>G. Bailey</b>   | <b>Present</b> |
| <b>B. DeLong</b>   | <b>Present</b> |
| <b>N. Fickes</b>   | <b>Present</b> |
| <b>M. Murray</b>   | <b>Absent</b>  |
| <b>A. Petersen</b> | <b>Present</b> |
| <b>S. Sopocy</b>   | <b>Present</b> |

A. AGENDA NOTES, REVIEW, AND REVISIONS:

As the election of a chairperson for 2025 had not occurred, L. Braddock opened the Organizational Meeting by requesting any additions or revisions to the Agenda.

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2025

L. Braddock requested nominations for Chairperson. B. DeLong suggested all assignments remain the same with N. Fickes taking the place of D. Pohl's assignments.

**Motion made by B. DeLong to take agenda items B. Election of Chair and Vice Chair for 2025 and Appointment Standing Committee Chairpersons and Membership Assignments and continue 2025 with the same assignment as 2024 with the addition of Nicole Fickes to Personnel and Mid-Central Coordination Committee, replacing David Pohl, also noting MALPH representatives will be Liz Braddock and Lonnie Smith, seconded by S. Sopocy. Motion carried unanimously.**

The meeting was turned over to the Chairperson, Adam Petersen.

B. APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOH FOR 2025:

1. Appointment of BOH Secretary

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by S. Sopocy to have Krishna Santana continue as 2025 Board of Health Secretary. Motion carried unanimously.**

Adam Peterson welcomed the new Clinton County Commissioner, Nicole Fickes.

C. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Meeting Minutes

a. Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) Board of Directors Meeting held December 9, 2024

b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Regular Meeting held December 18, 2024

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

2. Communications –

a. MCDC Termination of Lease

L. Braddock told the board the Clinton office of MCDC (My Community Dental Center) has given notice in the form of a letter dated January 6, 2025, terminating the lease between MMDHD and MCDC as this office is closing effective this month. She noted pursuant to the contract requirements MCDC will continue to pay the office rent for the next 180 days. Braddock told the

board MMDHD plans to utilize the space as this office is in need of more room. There will be a walk through with the MCDC to determine if any renovations or repairs will be needed and possibly keeping one of the dental chairs for the agencies use.

b. Annual Self – Assessment of the Private and Type III Public Water Supply – EGLE

L. Braddock shared the letter from EGLE as recognition of the Environmental Health Division's commendable work.

D. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Sheila Salmon of Gratiot County addressed the board concerning the solar farms in Gratiot, Clinton and Montcalm Counties. S. Salmon provided printed information for the board's review relating to possible negative health impacts from the solar farms and battery storage.

Barb Litwiller a resident of the City of Ithaca, told the board she is a property owner in Gratiot County and expressed her concerns about the solar farms going in beside her property. Her concerns included property values, health concerns, quality of life living close to the solar panels and effect on wildlife and hunting.

E. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: None

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee:

a. MMDHD's Expenses for December 12,2024 through January 11, 2025

G. Bailey went over the expense totals for December 16,2024 through January 12, 2025.

B. DeLong asked about a payout to former employees, M. Selby explained that we used to offer medical insurance, however we can no longer do this so as a result we offer the employees a once-a-year payout.

**Motion made by G. Bailey to approve the MMDHD's Expenses for December 12, 2024 – January 11, 2025, totaling \$626,163.36. Motion seconded by B. DeLong. Motion carried.**

b. MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for December 2024.

G. Bailey asked if there were any questions surrounding the report that was included in the board packet, he encouraged board members to review the report if they did not do so.

**Motion made by G. Bailey to approve the MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for December 2024 and place on file. Motion seconded by B. DeLong. Motion carried.**

c. BOH Per Diem Compensation and Travel Reimbursement

L. Braddock asked the board if they felt the policy should be updated or would they accept it as presented.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by S. Sopocy to accept the BOH Per Diem Compensation and Travel Reimbursement Policy as presented. Motion carried.**

2. Personnel Committee – No report.
3. Program Committee – No report.

G. MEDICAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jennifer E. Morse, M.D., MPH, FAAFP

1. H5N1 Update

J. Morse gave an overview of her report to the board, she also explained where to find her past reports on the MMDHD website. Her recommendations concerning H5N1 are not to panic about the avian flu but also don't ignore it and to encourage non-Partisan public health and emergency preparedness.

**Motion made by S. Sopocy and seconded by B. DeLong to adopt the BOH Monthly Healthy Living recommendation and accept the Medical Directors Report and place it on file. Motion carried.**

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

1. Quarterly Service Report (QSR), First Quarter FY 24/25 (October 1,2024 through December 31, 2024)

L. Braddock went over the report with the board, she noted there have not been any significant changes in the numbers from the prior year. She did say there has been a change in location with our Gratiot outlying clinics. She reviewed agency services such as immunizations, WIC and family planning, reminding the board we also serve Shiawassee County for family planning. She went over the EH numbers noting that we do unannounced inspections on all restaurants in the district every six months. She also reviewed all aspects of the EH division including well and septic permits and complaints.

2. Kids Falling Behind December 2024 Report

L. Braddock went over the county percentages verses the state average, she pointed out the district is above the state average at the 24-month milestone, however there is still room for improvement. She also told the board the agency has increased the hours of the clinics to offer evening immunization clinics.

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by G. Bailey to accept the health officer's report and place on file. Motion carried.**

J. OLD BUSINESS:

Petersen remarked that the Septic legislation is no longer listed as old business, L. Smith told the board the septic legislation is gone for now, there is a chance it could be reintroduced in late spring.

K. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Adoption of Proposed 2025 BOH Finance Committee and Regular Meeting Schedule

A. Petersen read over the dates and asked the board if they would have any issues with the proposed schedule.

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by S. Sopocy to approve the 2025 BOH Finance Committee and Regular Meeting Schedule as proposed. Motion carried.**

2. NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health) Renewal of annual membership for \$350.00

A. Petersen asked if membership was required, L. Braddock told the board it was not required and that MMDHD has not been a member for the last two years, however she wanted to ask if this board would be interested as this is a membership for the board members not the MMDHD staff.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by B. DeLong not to renew the NALBOH membership. Motion carried.**

Emerging Issues –

Wolverine Oil Spill – Arcada Township

Smith told the board between Christmas and New Year there was a small spill that happened on the Wolverine pipeline in Arcada Township, Gratiot County, the reason for the spill is still unknown. He noted Wolverine, Gratiot County Emergency Management and the Gratiot County Drain commission contained it before it reached the Pine River, and the majority of the spillage has been recovered. Wolverine sampled six area residents' water supply as well as taking soil samples to determine if any contamination is in the soil surrounding the leak, from there the state health department will be consulted to determine if long term well testing is needed. This was an informational item for the board.

L. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: – None.

M. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Mid-Michigan District BOH Action Items, December 2024
2. Staffing Report, January 2025

N. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: – <https://www.mmdhd.org/Press-Articles>

1. Organizational Meeting Public Notice – *Gratiot County Herald, The Daily News and Lansing State Journal*
2. 'An emergency exists' – *The Daily News* – 1-2-25
3. 'Free flu shots for farmworkers at local health department' – *The Daily News* – 1-8-25
4. January is Radon Action Month – Press Release – 1-15-25

L. Braddock went over the news articles for the month and noted there are free radon test kits available to the public at the offices.

O. AGENCY NEWSLETTERS:

1. January 2025 Newsletter

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

Respectfully Submitted,

*Krishna Santana*

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

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