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BOARD OF HEALTH:	Bruce DeLong Nicole Fickes	George Bailey Steven Sopocy	Adam Petersen Matt Murray
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Approved 7/23/25

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

Wednesday, June 25, 2025
9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

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

- Members Present: Adam Petersen, Chairperson; George Bailey, Vice Chairperson; Steven Sopocy, Bruce DeLong and Nicole Fickes
- Members Absent: Matt Murray
- Staff Present: Mari E. (Liz) Braddock, Health Officer; Melissa Selby, Director of Administrative Services; Jennifer E. Morse, MD, MPH, FAAFP, Medical Director; Lonnie Smith, Director of Environmental Health (EH); Krishna Santana, Board Secretary
- Staff Absent: Sarah Doak, Director of Community Health and Education Division (CHED)
- Guests: None

Adam Petersen, Chairperson, called the Regular Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 25, 2025, at the Gratiot Office of the MMDHD, Ithaca, Michigan.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by A. Petersen.

A. AGENDA NOTES, REVIEW, AND REVISIONS:

Petersen asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Motion made by S. Sopocy and seconded by B. DeLong to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

B. CONSENT ITEMS:

1. Meeting Minutes

- a. Michigan Association for Local Public Health (MALPH) Board of Directors Meeting held May 12, 2025
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Regular Meeting held May 28, 2025

Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by N. Fickes to accept Meeting Minutes B. 1. a. and b. and place on file. Motion carried.

2. Communications

- a. Notice of Award – Strengthening Public Health Workforce and Infrastructure in Michigan

L. Braddock reviewed the communication item indicating the agency has received funding of about \$190,000 per year (two years' worth of funding received). This funding is not restricted to any particular area, in the past funding of this nature was used for the cabling projects in the offices, these funds may be used for projects of this nature also to supplement where other funding sources have been decreased.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None.

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: – None.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

- a. MMDHD's Expenses for May 3 through June 13, 2025

The expenses were reviewed for the board by G. Bailey.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by S. Sopocy to approve payment of the MMDHD's Expenses for May 3 through June 13, 2025, totaling \$1,230,365.60. Motion carried.

- b. MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for May 2025

G. Bailey told the board the information was included in the packet and asked for any questions.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by B. DeLong to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for May 2025 and place on file. Motion carried.

c. Public Health Emergency Preparedness Funding

L. Braddock told the board the position of Emergency Preparedness Coordinator that was previously 100% funded by the state has been reduced to 72%, leaving the agency to make up the difference, as a result the agency will be requesting an increase in appropriations from the counties to support this position as it benefits each county.

2. Personnel Committee – Nicole Fickes, Chairperson

a. Health Officer Update

Motion made by B. DeLong to go into closed session seconded by G. Bailey. Roll call vote to go into closed session to discuss Health Officer Update. Motion carried.

Board Member	Yes	No
G. Bailey	x	
B. DeLong	x	
N. Fickes	x	
M. Murray Absent		
S. Sopocy	x	
A. Petersen	x	

Motion made by B. DeLong to come out of the closed session seconded by G. Bailey. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the administration’s recommendations made by B. DeLong seconded by G. Bailey. Motion Carried.

3. Program Committee –Matt Murray, Chairperson – No Report.

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

1. Ticks

J. Morse presented her report telling the board tick bites are at an all-time high in our area. She went over diseases carried by ticks. She noted wearing clothing treated with permethrin can be useful. Her recommendations are to promote awareness of tick prevention strategies, making educational materials available and to support tick and tickborne disease preventions such as keeping trails clear of overgrowth.

Commissioner Petersen commended Dr. Morse for 10 years of service with the MMDHD.

Motion made by B. DeLong seconded by S. Sopocy to accept and place on file the Medical Director's report. Motion carried.

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

1. Health Officer's Report

L. Braddock presented a report to the board which included measles cases reported in the state, Montcalm opioid resource kits and Michigan Premier Public Health's conference scheduled for October in Muskegon. She also told the board about two events this summer, Project Connect in Gratiot County and in Clinton County, Project Connect assist school age children with school supplies, backpacks, socks and undergarments, there will also be vendor tables presented by other community agencies.

She reviewed the Community Health Assessment being conducted in each county. The priority areas have been identified in each county; Clinton's are Access to Care, Behavioral Health and Housing; Gratiot's are Behavioral Health, Access to Health and Chronic Disease Prevention; Montcalm's are Access to Care and Social Services, Financial Security, Substance Abuse and Mental Health.

Motion made by N. Fickes seconded by B. DeLong to accept and place on file the Health Officer's report. Motion carried.

2. Agreements Signed, May 25 to June 16, 2025

L. Braddock reviewed the agreement for WIC Breastfeeding Peer Counseling Funding for 2026.

H. OLD BUSINESS:

Petersen asked L. Smith if there were any updates with the state septic code, L. Smith said there had been no new legislation introduced at this time.

I. NEW BUSINESS: - None.

1. July Finance Committee Meeting

M. Selby told the board next month's meeting will include the 25-26 budget, with this in mind she asked if they would like to have a special finance committee meeting, G. Bailey said he felt the budget could be presented to the full board and would not need to be included in the finance committee meeting.

2. Emerging Issues –

a. Harmful Algal Bloom

L. Smith told the board an algal bloom was reported on Muskegon Lake, near Trufant, the health department posted the lake last week. Since then, it has cleared and the posts have been taken down. L. Braddock showed the board where there is information and pictures of algal blooms on the MMDHD website.

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: - None.

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Mid-Michigan District BOH Action Items, May 2025
2. MMDHD Staffing Report

L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: - None.

M. NEWSLETTER: - [June 2025](#)

There being no further business to come before the Board, S. Sopocy made a motion to adjourn seconded by G. Bailey, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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