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BOARD OF HEALTH:

Bruce DeLong
Nicole Fickes

George Bailey
Steven Sopocy

Adam Petersen
Matt Murray

MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (MMDHD)

BOARD OF HEALTH

REGULAR MEETING

at

Gratiot Office, Ithaca, Michigan

Wednesday, September 24, 2025

9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

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

Members Present: Adam Petersen, Chairperson; Steven Sopocy, Bruce DeLong, Nicole Fickes and Matt Murray

Members Absent: George Bailey, Vice Chairperson

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 called the Regular Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 24, 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:

A. Petersen asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

Motion made by S. Sopocy and seconded by M. Murray 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 August 11, 2025
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Regular Meeting held August 27, 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 – None.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None.

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: – None

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – Bruce DeLong, Acting Chairperson

- a. MMDHD's Expenses for August 9 through September 6, 2025

The expenses were reviewed for the board by B. DeLong.

Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by S. Sopocy to approve payment of the MMDHD's Expenses for August 9 through September 6, 2025, totaling \$627,171.81. Motion carried.

- b. MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for August 2025 and Proposed Budget Amendment

B. DeLong told the board the information was included in the packet and asked for any questions.

Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by M. Murray to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for August 2025 and place on file. Motion carried.

M. Selby told the board that there have been updates to the budget to align with the changes in grants, funding cuts made to the agency and other adjustments that have been made throughout the year that the board is already aware of.

Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by S. Sopocy to approve the budget amendment as presented. Motion carried.

c. Revised CHED Fee Schedule

M. Selby told the board the CHED fee schedule that was presented at a prior meeting was mistakenly presented with incorrect prices, they should have been listed as market plus 10% or Medicaid reimbursement, whichever is higher. There is also the addition of family planning medications at market price plus 10% or Medicaid reimbursement, whichever is higher.

Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by M. Murray to approve revised CHED fee schedule. Motion carried.

2. Personnel Committee – Nicole Fickes, Chairperson

N. Fickes noted the committee will be meeting after the regular board meeting today for the Health Officer's review.

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

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

1. Bats and Rabies

J. Morse presented an overview of her report on bats and rabies. Telling the board every state, with the exception of Hawaii, has bats infected with rabies. She explained how the virus travels through the body and that there is time to get the bat tested after a bite or potential bite before treatment needs to be initiated. Treatment involves multiple shots and is very costly so it's a good idea to test the bat in order to see if treatment is necessary. She encouraged the board to watch the video she linked to her report with valuable information about bats and rabies. Her recommendations are to avoid bat bites, contact your health department if there has been a bite or a potential bite, remove bats from buildings and seal any entry points.

S. Sopocy asked if there had been any recurrence with HPAI and dairy herds in the area. J. Morse said since there is now mandatory herd testing this has died down.

Motion made by N. Fickes 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. Marijuana Operations and Oversight Grants.

L. Braddock went over her report which included the grants that are awarded to each county for the safe use of cannabis. She said a Cannabis Conversation initiative has begun which includes education on safe storage, she said the agency has been able to purchase lock bags for families that may have cannabis in the home. There has also been education developed on pregnant and

breastfeeding women and the impact of cannabis in the home as well as the dangers of driving while under the influence of marijuana. She told the board the agency expects to receive this grant again in 2026. N. Fickes asked about teenagers and vaping, L. Braddock said the grant is very specific about being used to educate the public concerning legally obtained cannabis.

2. State Appropriations Update.

L. Braddock said the agency is cautiously awaiting what will happen next week with the state and federal budgets, she noted there is a meeting scheduled for Tuesday to see what actions may need to be taken by the agency. She reminded the board if the agency receives a pause letter the program effected will be kept up and running for 30 days, at which point if the funding is not reinstated, decisions will be made what actions need to be taken. A. Petersen asked M. Selby about the fund balance, he said in his opinion he thinks that is what the fund balance is there for, for filling in where needed. L. Braddock told the board there are essential services the local health departments are required to provide for the community. She noted the agency has been verbally told some of the CDC block grants will be coming through, however, without a contract we can't include those funds in the budget. A. Petersen stated if the need arises a special board meeting could be called to discuss funding and services.

3. Agreements Signed, July 17 to August 20, 2025

L. Braddock reviewed the agreements this month, three agreements for outreach WIC clinics in the community, as well as a memorandum of understanding with MDHHS concerning lead testing.

Motion made by M. Murray and seconded by S. Sopocy to accept and place the Health Officers Report on file. Motion carried.

H. OLD BUSINESS: -

A. Petersen asked L. Smith if he had anything, he said he was informed at an E.H. directors' conference that there is talk of the septic bill being reintroduced at the state level, however he didn't believe this would be coming any time soon.

I. NEW BUSINESS: - None.

1. Emerging Issues – None.

S. Sopocy spoke shortly about the opioid crisis asking how impacted our area is, L. Braddock said we typically get health alerts in the event there is a number of overdose deaths in an area in a short time. She noted the agency is doing a lot of work with Narcan and recently was able to purchase Fentanyl and Zylazine test strips for Montcalm County, the agency is also looking into purchasing special gloves for first responders. MMDHD does not have funds for each county, because the grants are designed for each county individually and other agencies may receive the funds. N. Fickes said she is on the state health network SUD committee, and she would pass along any information received if the agency would

find it beneficial.

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: - None.

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

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

L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: <https://www.mmdhd.org/2025-board-of-health/>

1. Local Health Department Eliminates 6 positions – September 5, 2025 – *Dailey News*

There being no further business to come before the Board, M. Murray made a motion to adjourn seconded by B. DeLong, the meeting adjourned at 9:36 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krishna Santana

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