

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

BOARD OF HEALTH:	Bruce DeLong	George Bailey	Adam Petersen
	Nicole Fickes	Steven Sopocy	Matt Murray

MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (MMDHD)

BOARD OF HEALTH

REGULAR MEETING

at

Clinton Office, St. Johns, Michigan

Wednesday, November 26, 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, Nicole Fickes and Matt Murray

Members Absent: None

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

Staff Absent: None

Guests: Courtney Murray

Adam Petersen called the Regular Meeting of the Mid-Michigan District Board of Health (BOH) to order at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, November 26, 2025, at the Clinton Office of the MMDHD, St. Johns, 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 G. Bailey 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 October 27, 2025 – Not available at this time.
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Regular Meeting held October 22, 2025.

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

2. Communications –

- a. Local Sharing Grant Award Notice

L. Braddock explained a grant received from MALPH that provides training for those in leadership roles.
- b. Local Community Stabilization Authority

L. Braddock told the board the funds awarded are to provide local public health services.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None.

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: – None.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

- a. MMDHD's Expenses for October 5 through November 15, 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 October 5 through November 15, 2025, totaling \$799,808.90. Motion carried.

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

M. Selby informed the board that it appears there will be a surplus for fiscal year 2025. This is due to unexpected Medicaid reimbursements as well as mid-year budget adjustments.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Murray to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for September 2025 and place on file. Motion carried.

2. Personnel Committee – Nicole Fickes, Chairperson – No Report.
3. Program Committee –Matt Murray, Chairperson – No Report.

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

1. Staying Healthy During the Holiday Gatherings

J. Morse presented her report to the board highlighting ways to stay healthy over the next couple months. Her recommendations are to get vaccinations for flu, COVID-19 and RSV if you have not already, normalize staying home if you’re sick and to practice food safety.

Motion made by G. Bailey was seconded by N. Fickes to accept and place on file the Medical Director’s report. Motion carried.

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

1. Agency Recognition

L. Braddock announced that the MMDHD was the third-place recipient of the 2025 MDHHS director’s award to local public health, this included a cash reward of \$500.00. She also told the board the MMDHD has been recognized by MIBFN with a Breastfeeding Friendly Outpatient Award.

2. Fluoride in drinking water

L. Braddock informed the board that some community water systems that currently add fluoride have discontinued or are considering discontinuing the practice. She emphasized that fluoridation is safe and can be especially beneficial in rural communities like ours. She asked the commissioners to notify the agency if they become aware of any community water supplies thinking about removing fluoride, noting that the agency would be glad to provide education and guidance to those cities or townships.

3. Agreements Signed, October 19 to November 19, 2025

L. Braddock reviewed the agreements and highlighted the following: a contract with EGLE has been signed for EH funding; an emergency vaccine storage agreement has been established with MyMichigan; and an agreement for a new program that updates the vaccine waiver procedures has also been signed.

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

H. OLD BUSINESS: -None.

I. NEW BUSINESS: -

Schedule January's organizational meeting.

B. DeLong made a motion seconded by S. Sopocy to schedule the organizational meeting for Wednesday, January 28, 2026 at 9:00 am to be held at the Montcalm office of the MMDHD. Motion carried.

G. Bailey made a motion to make December 26, 2025 a paid day off for MMDHD staff, seconded by N. Fickes. Motion Carried.

1. Emerging Issues – None.

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: - None.

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

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

L. Braddock asked the board to take note of the longevity recognition included in the report.

L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS:

1. 'Mid-Michigan District Health Department receives grant to expand dental care' – *Daily News* – November 2, 2025.

M. Agency Newsletter: <https://conta.cc/44aPvkf>

There being no further business to come before the Board, G. Bailey made a motion to adjourn seconded by S. Sopocy, the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krishna Santana

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