

BOARD OF HEALTH:	Bruce DeLong Nicole Fickes	George Bailey Steven Sopocy	Adam Petersen Matt Murray
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MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (MMDHD)
BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING
at
Gratiot Office, Ithaca, Michigan

Wednesday, March 25, 2026
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; Lonnie Smith, Director of Environmental Health (EH); Sarah Doak, Director of Community Health and Education Division (CHED); Krishna Santana, Board Secretary

Staff Absent: None

Guests: William Fierro

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, March 25, 2026, 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 G. Bailey 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 February 9, 2026
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Meeting held February 25, 2026

Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by M. Murray 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: –

L. Braddock introduced Will Fierro, Will works out of the Gratiot Office as an EH specialist and has been employed by the agency since July.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

- a. MMDHD's Expenses for February 8 through March 7, 2026

The expenses were reviewed for the board.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by S. Sopocy to approve payment of the MMDHD's Expenses for February 8 through March 7, 2026, totaling \$527,921.28. Motion carried.

- b. MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for February 2026

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 S. Sopocy to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for February 2026 and place on file. Motion carried.

- c. Trust Fund Balance Recommendations

M. Selby informed the Board that several legacy trust funds have remained on the balance sheet for many years. She recommended reclassifying these funds as unassigned and using them in alignment with their intended purposes. She noted that the board action sheet in the board packet provides an itemized list of the funds, including their amounts and descriptions.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Murray to approve the reassignment of unassigned funds balances and use the funding for the purpose designated as proposed. Motion carried.

d. Fund Balance –

M. Selby informed the Board that the Finance Committee held a lengthy discussion regarding fund balances, including the history of the funds and whether certain designations remain necessary. She noted that some funds, such as those previously assigned to the Community Health Worker program, are no longer needed in their current classifications due to program changes.

She explained that the most significant adjustment would be the transfer of \$500,000 to MERS for the retirement fund.

N. Fickes asked whether this action was essentially a balance adjustment, and M. Selby confirmed that it was. She added that, by approving the proposed changes—outlined in full in the board packet—funds previously designated as committed would be reclassified as uncommitted and made available for use where needed.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by S. Sopocy to authorize the agency to change committed fund balances as proposed. Motion carried.

Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by B. DeLong to pay \$500,000.00 to MERS towards the unfunded liabilities. 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. Non-Medical IV Hydration, Vitamin, and Drug Treatment

M. Morse reviewed her report with the board, explaining that IV treatments are increasingly offered at spas with very little medical oversight. She emphasized the need to raise public awareness about this issue. She noted that Michigan is one of 19 states without a regulatory body overseeing medi-spas, meaning there is typically no oversight unless a complaint is filed.

She also shared that an individual in Texas died due to complications from a treatment at a spa of this kind.

M. Morse recommended supporting reforms to strengthen oversight of medi-spas and IV hydration clinics in Michigan. She advised that anyone with concerns about unsafe practices should file a complaint with Michigan's Bureau of Professional Licensing. Additionally, she encouraged individuals to consult their healthcare provider before receiving these services and to research facilities by verifying the credentials of staff administering IVs or other treatments.

Motion to approve and place on file the Medical Directors report made by G. Bailey seconded by M. Murray. Motion carried.

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

1. My Community Dental Center (MCDC) – Sidney Building.

L. Braddock informed the board that MCDC has contacted them regarding its Sidney location, which will need to be relocated in 2028 due to the non-renewal of its current lease. She brought this matter forward to highlight the potential loss of another dental clinic in the rural area. MCDC hopes to maintain a presence in Montcalm County and will actively seek alternative facilities and funding sources. She also advised that MCDC may approach county boards for support in the future

2. On-Site Wastewater Program, State Partner Expectations

L. Braddock discussed the challenges experienced over the past few months in working with state partners, noting that health departments have faced significant criticism. She stated that, despite requesting clarification on recent changes, no response has been received from EGLE.

L. Smith added that approximately six to twelve health departments across the state are currently in disagreement with EGLE regarding certain program requirements, including issues related to isolation distances.

L. Braddock also informed the board that she spoke with multiple legislators about these concerns during last week's Day at the Capitol for health departments.

3. Proposed Statewide Septic Code

L. Braddock explained that she had three key concerns to share with the board regarding the proposed statewide septic code:

1. There needs to be financial assistance available for property owners, as many residents may require costly system upgrades.
2. The funding currently being proposed is insufficient for the health department to properly implement the program, including covering the cost of additional staff.
3. There is uncertainty around enforcement—specifically, who will ensure homeowners complete required upgrades and how access will be handled if property owners do not allow health department inspections.

4. Michigan Measles Update

L. Braddock wanted to raise awareness that there once again are measles cases in Michigan and remind everyone that if you are traveling for spring break, be aware of areas with cases of measles.

5. Agreements Signed, February 19 to March 18, 2026

The two agreements were reviewed for the board.

Motion made by M. Murray and seconded by N. Fickes to accept and place on file the health officer's report. Motion carried

H. OLD BUSINESS: - None.

I. NEW BUSINESS: - None.

1. Emerging Issues – None.

J. LEGISLATIVE ACTION: - None.

K. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1. Mid-Michigan District BOH Action Items, January 2026
2. MMDHD Staffing Report

L. RELATED NEWS ARTICLES AND LINKS: <https://www.mmdhd.org/2026-board-of-health/>

1. PBB Registry Hosts Upcoming Community Meeting – Press Release – March 20, 2026

L. Braddock informed the board that an online PBB community meeting was held the previous evening, with 136 participants attending remotely in addition to viewers on Facebook Live. She noted that the agency supports this initiative and its efforts to raise community awareness.

M. AGENCY NEWSLETTER: <https://conta.cc/4kzujLV>

There being no further business to come before the Board, M. Murray made a motion to adjourn seconded by S. Sopocy, the meeting adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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