

<b>BOARD OF HEALTH:</b>	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  
**Clinton Office, St. Johns, Michigan**

**Wednesday, February 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: Ali Barnes, Yeo & Yeo, Nicholas Burlingame, Robin Town and Ashley Tate

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, February 25, 2026, 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:

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 January 12, 2026
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Organizational Meeting held January 28, 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

a. MMDHD FP/WIC Audit Reports

L. Braddock informed the Board that the federal programs WIC and Family Planning recently underwent an audit. She noted that the audit process is extensive and requires a significant amount of staff time. The audit report was returned from the State of Michigan with no exceptions noted.

**Motion made to place the FP/WIC Audit Report on file by B. DeLong supported by M. Murray. Motion carried.**

b. MDARD Delegation Letter

L. Braddock reviewed MDARD letter, she explained this letter outlined that MMDHD has the authority to conduct enforcement actions at food service establishments in the district where MDARD conducts the food related inspections and enforcement for establishments such as grocery stores and gas stations. This is a letter to be put on file with the agency for the food program.

**Motion made by S. Sopocy seconded by M. Murray to accept and place on file the MDARD Delegation Letter. Motion carried.**

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS: - None.

D. BRANCH OFFICE EMPLOYEES: –

L. Braddock introduced the three employees attending the meeting. She noted that two are new hires: Robin Town, who has been hired as the agency-wide Dental Hygienist, and Nick Burlingame, the new Data Specialist, who is primarily located in the Clinton office. Also in attendance was Ashley Tate, Finance Specialist, who was present to hear the audit report.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

a. MMDHD's Expenses for January 11 through February 7, 2026

The expenses were reviewed for the board, the board had no questions.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by M. Murray to approve payment of the MMDHD's Expenses for January 11 through February 7, 2026, totaling \$530,874.94. Motion carried.**

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

G. Bailey told the board the information was included in the packet and asked for any questions. N. Fickes asked about an overage in rent, it was explained that in addition to the three spaces rented for WIC clinics EH has rented conference rooms for the septic installers' training next week (which occurs every two years), this was not originally included, there will be a budget adjustment reflecting this amount.

**Motion made by G. Bailey and seconded by B. DeLong to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for January 2026 and place on file. Motion carried.**

c. *Agency Audit, skipped for CHED Fee Schedule (originally d.) –*

L. Braddock informed the Board that a request is being made to adjust fees for certain Family Planning and Oral Health services. She explained that the proposed adjustments reflect the agency's ability to receive higher reimbursement rates from insurance companies. Some fees reflect a significant increase, as these services are performed infrequently and it had not previously been recognized that the fees could be raised. She also noted that additional Oral Health fees are being proposed, as the agency is now able to provide these services and bill private insurance accordingly.

**Motion made by S. Sopocy and seconded by B. DeLong to approve the CHED Fee Schedule adjustments. Motion carried.**

d. *CHED Fee Schedule addressed in item c. Agency Audit (originally c.) –*

Ali Barnes from Yeo & Yeo went over the audit, highlighting the key points. She informed the board that the agency received an unmodified (clean) opinion.

She directed the board to page 1-1 of the financial statements, noting that the second paragraph outlines the audit opinion, which confirmed an unmodified/clean audit. She also reviewed several new accounting standards that the board may not have encountered previously.

Ms. Barnes reviewed pages 3-1, 3-3, and 3-5, pointing out that the agency maintains a healthy amount of cash on hand, which comprises the majority of the balance sheet. She also emphasized that liabilities are less than the cash on hand. She reviewed the income statement

and then discussed expenditures, noting that the agency generated more revenue than originally budgeted. Additionally, she stated that the agency continues to maintain a healthy fund balance.

Overall, she concluded that this was a clean audit and commended the financial staff for their work. The complete audit can be found on the agency's website.

**Motion made by B. DeLong and seconded by M. Murray to accept the FY 24/25 MMDHD Agency Audit 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. Direct-To-Consumer Advertisements (DTCA)

M. Morse told the board that only two countries allow direct-to-consumer advertising (DTCA) of prescription drugs: the United States and New Zealand. She explained that some advertisements can be misleading and may drive up the cost of health care and prescription drugs.

Her recommendations include reporting questionable ads to the Office of Prescription Drug Promotion if you believe they contain false, misleading, or biased information. She also encouraged patients to be smart consumers, remembering that advertisements are designed to sell a product, so it is important to understand all available treatment options.

If you believe drug advertisements should be banned, she suggests contacting your lawmakers and supporting advocacy groups that are working on these issues.

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

1. No written report
2. Agreements Signed, January 22 to February 18, 2026

L. Braddock told the board there was a contract with MALPH, a wellness grant for the agency employees in the amount of \$4,000.00, these funds are typically used for the district wide meeting.

H. OLD BUSINESS:

1. State Septic Code.

L. Smith informed the Board that Bill 771, the State Septic Code bill, has been introduced and is currently in committee, with hearings scheduled to begin next week. He explained that the bill is substantially similar to the version presented last year. He wanted the Board to be aware of the proposed legislation and the potential impact on the Environmental Health Division, including the need to adopt new environmental health regulations and hire additional staff, without additional

funding from the state.

The bill would require inspection of septic systems beginning with the oldest systems in the district, following a 10-year inspection rotation. Concerns were expressed regarding homeowners' ability to afford repairs or replacements if their septic systems fail inspection or do not meet current code requirements.

I. NEW BUSINESS: -

1. Narcan Vending Machine.

L. Braddock informed the Board that she had been approached by a local organization, Samaritan Health Care, Greenville, with an offer to provide a Narcan vending machine for placement in Montcalm County. She noted that the Montcalm office is currently the only office without Narcan available in the lobby. Braddock stated she would like to accept the machine and asked if there was any opposition. The Board expressed agreement that the vending machine is a good idea and acknowledged that it would be provided at no cost to the agency.

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. State sealant program expands with Delta Dental Foundation grant - February 4, 2026
2. 'WIC services offered in Montcalm County' – *Daily News* – February 14, 2026

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

**There being no further business to come before the Board, G. Bailey made a motion to adjourn seconded by M. Murray, the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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