

<b>BOARD OF HEALTH:</b>	Bruce DeLong Nicole Fickes	George Bailey Steven Sopocy	Adam Petersen Matt Murray
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**DRAFT**

MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (MMDHD)  
BOARD OF HEALTH  
REGULAR MEETING  
at  
**Montcalm Office, Stanton, Michigan**

**Wednesday, April 22, 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); Krishna Santana, Board Secretary

Staff Absent: Sarah Doak Director of Community Health and Education Division (CHED)

Guests: Nicole Duffy

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, April 22, 2026, at the Gratiot Office of the MMDHD, Stanton, 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 March 9, 2026
- b. Mid-Michigan District BOH Meeting held March 25, 2026

**Motion made by S. Sopocy 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 Nicole Duffy, Nicole is a CD nurse that works primarily out of the Montcalm branch office.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance Committee – George Bailey, Chairperson

- a. MMDHD's Expenses for March 8 through April 4, 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 March 8 through April 4, 2026, totaling \$534,269.79. Motion carried.**

- b. MMDHD's Monthly Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for March 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 M. Murray to accept the Balance Sheet, Revenue and Expenditure Report for March 2026 and place on file. Motion carried.**

2. Personnel Committee – Nicole Fickes, Chairperson –

It was noted there will be a meeting with the Teamsters union on May 6, 2026, to discuss the upcoming contract.

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

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

1. Kratom

M. Morse reviewed her report with the board, explaining that kratom is a plant with stimulant effects. She noted that some forms are concentrated and may include synthetic components. She added that regulations vary by state, with some banning it, others regulating it, and some having no restrictions. She also summarized federal-level legislation related to kratom and mentioned that her report includes links for further information.

Her recommendations are to support some level of state and federal regulation of kratom, add kratom information to substance use awareness education and become aware of local retail establishments where kratom is sold.

**Motion to approve and place on file the Medical Directors report made by G. Bailey seconded by N. Fickes. Motion carried.**

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

1. Quarterly Service Report (QSR), Second Quarter FY 25/26.

L. Braddock reviewed the QSR with the board, including WIC service numbers, noting that outreach clinics are conducted throughout the counties. She also presented data on Family Planning and Immunization services, highlighting a decrease in numbers that may be influenced by negative public perception of immunizations. She reported that there are currently nine cases of measles in the state.

A brief discussion followed about the public image of the health department and the overall challenges public health in Michigan faces in effectively communicating the range of services it provides to communities.

She then continued her report by reviewing Environmental Health service numbers, including Food Service, the Onsite Wastewater Program, the Drinking Water Program, and Nuisance Complaints.

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

The two agreements were reviewed for the board, a grant received for Too Good for Drugs to provide health education to Montcalm County schools and a program to assist with community health assessment to conduct a behavioral risk factor survey.

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

H. OLD BUSINESS:

1. State Septic Code

L. Smith informed the board that Senate Bill 771 went to committee last month and that a new revision has since been released. He stated that he will continue to keep the board updated on the bill's progress.

L. Braddock also revisited the challenges with EGLE that were discussed at the last meeting. She reported that she and L. Smith will have an upcoming call with the agency's legal team to discuss possible options and expressed that she hopes to provide the board with more information on this matter next month.

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/> - None.

M. AGENCY NEWSLETTER: <https://conta.cc/3O6gmtf>

M. Murray expressed appreciation to the department for the services he received this month.

**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 9:39 a.m.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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