



BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2019

Materials Distributed at the meeting: November Financial Report; Environmental Health Monthly Report and Activities; Personal Health Monthly Report; Workforce Development Plan

- I. **Call to Order:** Jim Maike, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed and introduced guests to the meeting.
- II. **Roll Call – Members Present:** Patty Cox, Pauline Jaquish, Bryan Kolk, Charles Lange, Phil Lewis, Jim Maike, Dawn Martin, Martha Meyette, Judy Nichols, Tom O’Neil, Roger Ouwinga, Denny Powers, Richard Schmidt, Ray Steinke, Gary Taylor, Hubert Zuiderveen
Members Excused: Betty Dermeyer, Steven Hull, Shelly Pinkelman, James Sweet
Alternate Present: Ron Bacon
Staff Present: Anne Bianchi, Jane Drake, Kevin Hughes, Christine Lopez, Lisa Morrill, Dr. Jennifer Morse, Sarah Oleniczak, Tom Reichard, Anne Young
Guests: State Senator Jon Bumstead; State Senator Curtis S. VanderWall
- III. **Approval of the Agenda:** Motion by Bryan Kolk, seconded by Patty Cox, to approve the meeting agenda. *Motion carried.*
- IV. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes:** Motion by Ray Steinke, seconded by Hubert Zuiderveen, to approve minutes of the November 22, 2019, meeting. *Motion carried.*
- V. **Public Comment:** None
- VI. **Committee Reports**
 - A. Legislative Committee: Kevin Hughes thanked the State Senators for their attendance. He explained questions for discussion had been approved by the Board at the November meeting and shared in advance of the meeting with the Senators.
 - Question 1: Do the legislators support 50-50 cost share of Essential Local Public Health Services as stipulated in the Public Health Code? Senator VanderWall said the legislature needs to continue to work toward the goal (of 50-50 funding); but it comes down to budget. He noted there had been a “positive note” in the last few years, but there is room for improvement. Senator Bumstead said an increase in funding was dependent on the budget and it depends on the economy.
Kevin Hughes noted funding in this year’s State budget for local public health did include an additional \$6 million, and he thanked the legislators.
 - Question 2: Should e-cigarette products fall under the same taxation and enforcement standards as tobacco products? Senator VanderWall said e-cigarettes should be taxed as tobacco products with no differences. Senator Bumstead said it was unanimous on both sides of the aisle in the Senate to regulate e-cigarette products.
 - Question 3: Does Michigan need a Statewide Sanitary Code? Senator Bumstead indicated he was not in favor of a statewide code as it “should be left up to the locals.” Senator VanderWall noted that previous proposed bills on a code have not made it out of committee. He said he would have issues with a statewide code because of the increased demands have on local governments and the potential financial impact.

- Question 4: What are the legislators’ thoughts on vaccination waiver rules? Senator Bumstead said the decision to vaccinate should be left up to the parents. Senator VanderWall also expressed support for parental rights.
- Question 5: What is the biggest issue affecting the health of Michiganders? Senator Bumstead’s answer was “clean water.” He said, “Water is the lifeblood of our system.” Senator VanderWall said one of his biggest concerns – especially in northern Michigan – was access to healthcare. He said there is a lack of doctors in rural areas, and hospital services there are shrinking as large healthcare systems consolidate services to metropolitan areas.

Kevin Hughes also asked the senators if there had been discussions in the legislature about sustaining the State’s expansion of the Medicaid Healthy Michigan Plan. Senator VanderWall said over 300 thousand individuals were enrolled in HMP. He said there is concern the costs of supporting the large number of enrollees would result in a budget shortfall. He said adding work requirements to the eligibility rules for Medicaid helped bring the number down. Senator VanderWall said the program cost will increase \$300 million over the next three years. Senator Bumstead said if the program will cost that much, he did not know where the money would come from.

The Senators left the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

- B. Executive Committee: No meeting. No report.
- C. Finance Committee: Did not meet. Christine Lopez, Administrative Services Director, presented the financial report for the month ended November 30. She said the preliminary total for the fund balance is over \$7 million, which includes over \$400 thousand expected to be added to the 2019 totals after the final audit. Total revenues for the month were \$1.55 million, with expenses on target at \$1.52 million.

1. *Approve Accounts Payable and Payroll.* Motion by Ray Steinke, seconded by Richard Schmidt, to approve the November accounts payable and payroll total of \$1,373,274.77.

Roll Call Vote

Patty Cox	Yes	Jim Maike	Yes	Denny Powers	Yes
Ron Bacon	Yes	Dawn Martin	Yes	Richard Schmidt	Yes
Pauline Jaquish	Yes	Martha Meyette	Yes	Ray Steinke	Yes
Bryan Kolk	Yes	Judy Nichols	Yes	Gary Taylor	Yes
Charles Lange	Yes	Tom O’Neil	Yes	Hubert Zuiderveen	Yes
Phil Lewis	Yes	Roger Ouwinga	Yes		

Motion Carried.

Lopez requested Board approval of an additional payment to reduce the unfunded liability of the MERS retirement program. She suggested a payment of \$400 thousand which would come from a portion of the increased fund balance. Lopez said if a payment was made before the end of December, it would be reflected in the 2020 MERS actuarial report.

2. *Approve Additional Payment to MERS.* Motion by Richard Schmidt, seconded by Ray Steinke, to approve additional payment of \$400 thousand.

Roll Call Vote

Patty Cox	Yes	Jim Maike	Yes	Denny Powers	Yes
Ron Bacon	Yes	Dawn Martin	Yes	Richard Schmidt	Yes
Pauline Jaquish	Yes	Martha Meyette	Yes	Ray Steinke	Yes
Bryan Kolk	Yes	Judy Nichols	Yes	Gary Taylor	Yes
Charles Lange	Yes	Tom O’Neil	Yes	Hubert Zuiderveen	Yes
Phil Lewis	Yes	Roger Ouwinga	Yes		

Motion Carried.

- D. Personnel Committee: Did not meet. Kevin Hughes reported offers to candidates for the position of Environmental Health Director were not accepted. He said a decision was made to instead recruit for a manager-level position, where the incumbent would be mentored by Tom Reichard in preparation for taking over the director position once he retired. He said a new job description was drafted, and it was expected the position would be posted in January.

Hughes next explained that in the course of the recruitment process for the EH Director, a question about available leave time came up. Hughes explained the current agency policy on Paid Days Off does not allow flexibility for adjusting leave days to accommodate individuals with long employment histories who might have to give up significant paid time off benefits in coming to the agency.

3. *Authorize Health Officer to Approve Additional Level of Paid Days Off for Purposes of Recruitment.* Motion by Hubert Zuiderveen, seconded by Charles Lange, to allow discretion by Health Officer to approve one additional level of paid days off if needed for recruitment.

Hughes next reminded the members revisions to the Employee Handbook and Personnel Policies were presented at the last meeting for consideration and were included in the current Board packet. He requested approval of the changes, and signature by the Chair authorizing continuation of the current Personnel Policies.

4. *Approve Employee Handbook and Personnel Policies Changes and Authorize Continuation of Personnel Policies.* Motion by Hubert Zuiderveen, seconded by Patty Cox, to approve changes as presented and authorize continuation.

VII. Program Reports

- A. Environmental Health: Monthly report distributed with meeting materials. Tom Reichard invited questions. No questions.
- B. Personal Health: Monthly report distributed at the meeting. Anne Young noted since the inception of Michigan's Safe Delivery of Newborns Law in 2001, 251 infants have been surrendered safely and legally. Young also said flu activity is increasing and is widespread.
- C. WIC: Monthly report distributed with meeting materials. Anne Bianchi said a recent study reported in the Journal of the American Medical Association found that Preterm birth and infant mortality rates were significantly reduced among participants in WIC programs.
- D. Community Health: Monthly report distributed with meeting materials. Sarah Oleniczak highlighted a project conducted in partnership with Lions Club International. The project provided walk-in clinics in all DHD#10 counties for individuals to receive A1C screenings to determine risk of diabetes and receive referrals if necessary. A total of 82 individuals received the screenings, and 11 were referred for services. Oleniczak also discussed recent grant awards to support census outreach during 2020.

VIII. Administrative Reports

- A. Medical Director: Monthly report distributed with the meeting materials. Dr. Jennifer Morse's report topic was *Mercury*. She explained the many uses of mercury over human history, how it is released into the environment, and the negative health effects and symptoms of chronic mercury exposure. She also discussed a study which showed no relation between a mercury compound used as a preservative in vaccines and autism.

The healthy living recommendations were: (1) Increase awareness of safe fish guidelines to limit exposure to mercury by pregnant and nursing women and young children; (2) Remove all sources of mercury in homes to prevent accidental spills; and (3) Know the facts: there has never been evidence that thimerosal causes autism.

5. *Approve Healthy Living Recommendations.* Motion by Ron Bacon, seconded by Hubert Zuiderveen. Motion Carried.

B. Deputy Health Officer: Sarah Oleniczak distributed copies of the draft Workforce Development Plan at the meeting and provided an overview. Oleniczak requested Board approval of the plan.

6. *Approve Workforce Development Plan.* Motion by Richard Schmidt, seconded by Ray Steinke to approve plan as presented. Motion Carried.

C. Health Officer: Written report included in meeting materials. Kevin Hughes provided updates on activities related to PFAS contamination around Camp Grayling, and a recent event related to expansion of the Community Health Innovation Region. He also reported the agency was contacted by an organization interested in partnering on efforts to increase access to Naloxone, and set up syringe service programs in Wexford and Kalkaska counties.

Hughes next requested approval of the Medical Director renewal contract included with the meeting materials. The agency shares the contract with Central and Mid-Michigan District Health Departments. These agencies already approved the agreement.

7. *Approve Medical Director Contract.* Motion by Patty Cox, seconded by Judy Nichols to approve contract as presented.

Roll Call Vote

Patty Cox	Yes	Jim Maike	Yes	Denny Powers	Yes
Ron Bacon	Yes	Dawn Martin	Yes	Richard Schmidt	Yes
Pauline Jaquish	Yes	Martha Meyette	Yes	Ray Steinke	Yes
Bryan Kolk	Yes	Judy Nichols	Yes	Gary Taylor	Yes
Charles Lange	Yes	Tom O'Neil	Yes	Hubert Zuiderveen	Yes
Phil Lewis	Yes	Roger Ouwinga	Yes		

Motion Carried

IX. **Other Business:** Members were advised the January Board meeting will be the annual organizational meeting. Hughes said the Board will also need to consider if a committee to oversee Tencon funding should be established. He explained the Tencon Board approved dissolution of the organization and turning over the assets to an endowment fund at the Fremont Area Community Foundation to support public health initiatives of DHD#10. The Board of Health will need to determine if endowment fund allocations should be approved by the Executive Committee or by a separate committee.

X. **Next Meeting**

The next regular meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled for Friday, January 31, at 10:00 a.m.

XI. **Adjournment**

Jim Maike adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Chair

Date

Secretary

Date