

**Board of Health Meeting
Minutes
April 29, 2026**

The meeting of the Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health was **Called to Order** by Mr. Stauber on Wednesday, April 29, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Iron County office in Crystal Falls, Michigan.

Roll Call was taken: Present were Board Members: Mark Stauber, Chairperson; Joe Stevens, Vice-Chairperson; Pete Judd; Ean Bruette; Dan Harrington and Victoria Jakel. Also, present was Wade Dishaw, REHS, Health Officer; Angela Applekamp, Community Health Services Director; Sheila McNulty, REHS, Environmental Health Director; Dr. Robert Van Howe, Medical Director; Tina Edlund, Finance Director; Kristina Santilli, Office Supervisor; and Jessica Perry, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

M/S/C (Bruette/Judd) to **Adopt the Agenda** as presented.

M/S/C (Stevens/Jakel) to **approve the March 25, 2026 Minutes** as presented.

Mr. Dishaw discussed a one-year free trial to **Arclet**, an AI tool, made available to DIDHD by MALPH. The tool will assist DIDHD and allow information sharing to the public easier. The tool includes a library of over two thousand public health resources.

Ms. Applekamp spoke about the **Botvin's** program. The instructor was recently reviewed and she received great, positive feedback. Ms. Applekamp has been working on the **Title V Grant**; she will be submitting it later this week. She also spoke about the **Child Death Review** Program; the health department is one of six mandated members.

Ms. McNulty has been working with MDHHS to apply for a **Wildfire Smoke Community Preparedness grant**. If awarded, the grant could contribute to the following projects, smoke readiness planning, outreach activities, deployment of portable air cleaners, and air quality monitoring. She also reported back regarding the Fiscal Year 2025 **Type II Well program evaluation**; DIDHD passed all requirements.

Dr. Van Howe provided an informational report on **Kratom**. The product is marketed as a caffeine-free stimulant. When the concentrated and synthetic forms are used with other substances, it can be very dangerous. Currently, legislation has been introduced to ban these products. Some local communities are considering doing a local ban. Dr. Van Howe also gave a Michigan **Measles** case update.

M/S/C (Stevens/Bruette) to accept the **Director Reports**.

M/S (Jakel/Judd) to approve the **March 2026 Finance Reports**. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

The actual **cash balance** at 3/31/2026 is \$1,631,562.81.

M/S (Bruette/Judd) Approved the **April 2026 Vouchers**. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. April: Payroll Expense \$142,162.74; General Expense \$ 163,025.57 and Travel Expense \$121.80. Total Claims: \$305,310.11.

There was no **Public Comment**.

Under Old Business:

The **Botvin's LifeSkills Incentive Funding** has been approved by both Dickinson and Iron County Boards. Ms. Edlund will submit invoices to the county offices.

Mr. Dishaw has contacted a few businesses to provide a bid on the **DC parking lot seal coating**. Currently, he has only heard back from one business.

At the request of the Board, Mr. Dishaw reached out to those contractors who had put in a **bid for the IC garage**. He inquired whether changing materials could lower the cost of the bid. He received the updated bids and presented them to the Board for review.

Mr. Stevens brought up the concern that a garage can be nice, but it's not a necessity. He is concerned how the public will feel spending **millage funding** on a garage instead of solely on healthcare services. Mr. Stevens mentioned that it is at the discretion of the county whether a millage is put on a ballot. Mr. Bruette agreed that he is concerned; however, looking at it from the other view, some of the department vehicles were paid for by millage funds and a garage is a way to preserve those assets. Having department vehicles saves the department over \$30,000.00 annually by not paying staff mileage expenses; the savings can cover the majority of the cost to build a garage, with the hope to preserve and prolong the life of the department vehicles. Mr. Stauber inquired if this could be done without millage funds; he does not want to jeopardize services for the garages. Dr. Jakel inquired if there are other less expensive means to protect them from the elements without building a garage. Mr. Harrington is opposed to building a garage. As Mr. Stevens stated, the millage must pass the commissioners to get on the ballot and Mr. Harrington is not inclined to do that.

M/S (Jakel/Judd) to table the building of the **Iron County garage** until further notice. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Mr. Dishaw placed an ad in the newspaper to seek bids for **DC Landscaping**. To date, he has only had one business stop by to see the project. He did reach out to Trico to see if they wanted to bid on the project; however, it is too large of a job for them.

Under New Business:

M/S/C (Stevens/Jakel) to approved **3-1.240 Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy** as presented.

Ms. Edlund presented the **2025 Analysis on the department owned vehicles**. For 2025, the total savings to DIDHD was \$30,736.00.

Under Educational Presentation:

Jessica Perry, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, provided a presentation on **Strategic National Stockpile**.

Under Other Information:

There were discussions about the upcoming millage renewal in 2027.

Mr. Harrington brought up concern about changes to the **construction code fees act**. He wasn't sure if DIDHD's wells/septic program inspections would be affected but wanted to share the information. Mr. Dishaw will look further into it.

There was no **Other Business**.

M/S/C (Jakel/Judd) to **Adjourn** at 10:58 a.m. The next Board of Health Meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at the Dickinson County office in Kingsford, Michigan.

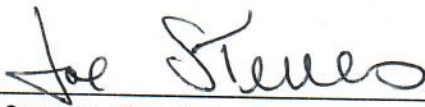
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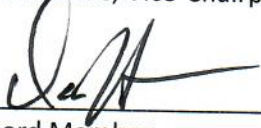
Kristina Santilli, Office Supervisor



Mark Stauber, Chairperson



Joe Stevens, Vice-Chairperson



Board Member