

**Board of Health Meeting  
Minutes  
May 28, 2025**

The meeting of the Dickinson-Iron District Board of Health was **Called to Order** by Mr. Stevens on Wednesday, May 28, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Dickinson County office in Kingsford, Michigan.

**Roll Call** was taken: Present were Board Members: Joe Stevens, Chairperson; Mark Stauber, Vice-Chairperson, Pete Judd, and Victoria Jakel. Also, present was Dr. Robert Van Howe, Medical Director; Daren Deyaert, RS, Health Officer; Wade Dishaw, REHS, Environmental Health Director; Angela Applekamp, Community Health Services Director; Tina Edlund, Finance Director; Kristina Santilli, Office Supervisor and Amber Grassinger, Hearing and Vision Coordinator.  
Excused: Ean Bruette Absent: Dan Harrington

M/S/C (Jakel/Stauber) to **Adopt the Agenda** with the addition of **8.c. PTO Policy Extension**.

M/S/C (Jakel/Judd) to **approve the April 30, 2025 Minutes** as presented.

Mr. Deyaert discussed the **possibility of funding cuts** if the proposed federal budget is approved as presented. The funding cuts would impact grant funded positions and many of the health department programs. With that in mind, he would like to postpone the building of the new garages at each county office as this project was slated to come out of the general fund. He would like to focus on spending the **infrastructure funding**, as the certainty of funding sources is unknown for future years if there are budget cuts at the federal level. Originally, the Crystal Falls location's parking lot was scheduled to be fixed next year; however, Mr. Deyaert asked Board approval to put out an RFP to replace it prior to this fall.

M/S (Stauber/Judd) to allow Mr. Deyaert to seek bids and put out **RFP to replace the Crystal Falls location parking lot**. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Mr. Deyaert explained that if he was able to secure a company to replace the Crystal Falls parking lot this year, that would leave approximately \$44,000.00 in Infrastructure funding available. He provided examples of how the funding could be used. Mr. Deyaert will take the list to the next Management meeting to discuss priority items, and he will report to the Board next month.

Mr. Stevens said that he would like to send letters to representatives to explain what and how the cuts would affect people within our communities. Mr. Deyaert will reach out to the other UP Health Departments about sending a joint letter.

Ms. Applekamp shared that DIDHD attended **"One Big Day for Healthy Kids"** event. The event was well attended, over 300 children and 800 family members. The Health Department provided educational materials about ticks, bats, food safety, water safety, growth and development, and WIC nutrition education. Ms. Applekamp spoke at the **Health Advisory and Mental Health Advisory Committee** this month. She provided information on vaping.

Mr. Stevens questioned if the health department had received any complaints about the **Felch community center**. Mr. Dishaw explained that the Health Department did receive a complaint, and per health department policy, did complete an inspection. There was no finding at the time of inspection; however, they did use the opportunity to provide education.

Mr. Dishaw discussed the **Tick Identification program**. The public can submit a tick to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services laboratory. The lab will analyze the tick for identification of tick species, determine the sex, whether it is an adult or nymph, and if the tick is engorged or not. The state lab no longer tests the actual Lyme Disease bacteria.

Dr. Van Howe discussed data from the **U.P. Community Health Issues and Priorities Survey**. Preventative health screenings and childhood vaccinations rates have failed to return to baseline levels post COVID-19 pandemic.

M/S/C (Jakel/Judd) to accept the **Director Reports**.

M/S (Stauber/Jakel) to approve the final **April 2025 Finance Report**. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

The actual **cash balance** at 04/30/2025 is \$2,011,015.22.

M/S (Stauber/Judd) Approved the **May 2025 Vouchers**. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. May: Payroll Expense \$ 134,904.76; General Expense \$ 150,513.89 and Travel Expense \$217.88.  
Total Claims: \$285,636.53.

There was no **Public Comment**.

Under **Old Business**:

A follow-up discussion of the **7. a. Health Officer succession plan** was tabled until the full Board of Health was in attendance.

**7.b. Appointment of Health Officer Discussion** was also tabled until the full Board of Health is in attendance.

Under **New Business**:

M/S/C (Stauber/Jakel) to accept the **staff resolution** for Ramona Siegler, Public Health Clerk. She has been with DIDHD for over 6 years. The Board and Department wish her well in her retirement.

M/S/C (Stauber/Jakel) to approve **3-1.2230 Whistleblower Policy** as presented.

Mr. Deyaert asked the Board to allow an exception to the current PTO policy that only allows staff to accrue up to 375 hours. The health department asked a staff member to work more hours due to the recent retirements and due to this the staff member has been unable to use PTO and therefore is losing time. The Board thanked the employee for stepping up and helping during the transitions.

M/S/C (Stauber/Jakel) to allow an **exception to the current PTO policy**. The affected staff member will be allowed to accrue over 375 hours up until June 30, 2025 at that time the staff member will have 2 months to use PTO below the max of 375 hours.

There was an **Educational Presentation** on the **Hearing and Vision programs** provided by Amber Grassinger, Hearing and Vision Coordinator.

There was no **Other Information**.

Under **Other Business**:

Mr. Deyaert reminded Board members of the importance of letting him know in advance of an absence to make sure there is a quorum for the meeting.

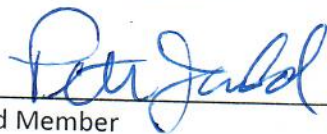
M/S/C (Jakel/Judd) to **Adjourn** at 10:53 a.m. The next Board of Health Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 25, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. at the Iron County office in Crystal Falls, Michigan.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kristina Santilli, Office Supervisor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Stevens, Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Stauber, Vice-Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Board Member