

ST. CLAIR COUNTY ADVISORY BOARD OF HEALTH
MONTHLY MEETING
January 21, 2026

- I. MEETING – called to order at 9:03 a.m. by Chair, Monica Standel.
- II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
- III. MEMBERS PRESENT – Monica Standel, Paul Urben, Dawn Fulk, Joseph Hayes, Stephen Smith, Leann Clink, Carolyn Richards & Dave Rushing. New members were welcomed to the Board.
STAFF PRESENT – Liz King, Greg Brown, Dr. Nevin and T. Berger
- IV. APPOINTMENT OF TEMPORARY CHAIR/ELECTION OF OFFICERS – The Board appointed Richards as temporary chair and nominations were opened. Nominations for Chairman: Clink nominated Monica Standel for Chairman, seconded by Fulk. Nominations for Vice Chair: Fulk nominated Carolyn Richards for Vice Chairman, seconded by Smith. Nominations for Secretary: Richards nominated Leann Clink for Secretary, seconded by Urben. Motion to close the nominations and support ballot for the slate of officers as nominated. Motion carried unanimously.
- V. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD –
 - a. Pastor David Hoffman – Offered prayer.
 - b. Mark Smith – Burtchville Twp. – Discussed Board's need to remain objective.
 - c. Vickie Blackburn – Port Huron – Discussed political view on HD decisions.
 - d. Mary Lou Creamer – Port Huron – Vaccine supporter
 - e. Fred Fuller – Yale – Vaccine supporter
 - f. Amiee Nelson – St. Clair – Vaccine Choice supporter
 - g. Jane Howard – Clyde – Community health
 - h. Andrew Eberly – Columbus – School of Choice Macomb County; Vaccine Choice supporter
 - i. Kim – Measles outbreak
 - j. Kristyn Secory – Vaccine supporter
 - k. Sandra Tannehill – Wales Twp. - Vaccine Choice supporter and no fluoride
 - l. Libby Prill - China Twp. – Vaccine Choice supporter
 - m. Tracy Birgy – Marysville – Vaccine Choice supporter
 - n. Kevin Watkins – Wales Twp. – Vaccine supporter
 - o. Bishop Kim Brown- Port Huron – Advisory Board of Health responsibility
 - p. Marlene Harris – Fluoride removal supporter
 - q. Diane Huelett – Riley Twp. – Vaccine Choice supporter
 - r. Sandra Richardson – Health Department and vaccine support
 - s. Dave Squires – Port Huron Twp. – Vaccine Choice supporter
 - t. Sherry Mercurio – Clyde – Discussed how vaccine choice is available now.
 - u. Carrie Darden – Marysville – Vaccine Choice supporter

At this the time Chair, Monica Standel noted two emails received for the record.
- VI. MINUTES – The Board received the December 2025 meeting minutes. Richards noted correction to item 10(f) as a motion “passed” per Robert Rules and not a motion “failed.” Monica noted she will confirm with legal. Motion by Richards, seconded by Clink to approve the minutes as corrected. Motion carried.

VII. BUDGET TO ACTUAL & AP TRANSACTION REGISTER - The Board received and reviewed the December 2025 AP Transaction Register in the \$44,829.20 and the December Budget to Actual Report. Greg explained to new Board members how the Health Department works with two different budget cycles. The County budget runs on a calendar year (Jan-Dec) and the State budget that run on the fiscal year (Oct-Sept). Motion by Richards, seconded by Urben to accept the December 2025 AP Transaction Register and Budget to Actual Report to forward to the controller.

VIII. CORRESPONDENCE – The Board received the following correspondence for review:

- a. Health Department letters to newly appointed Advisory BOH members, Joseph Hayes and Paul Urben.
- b. Letters from county administration sent to recently re-appointed and appointed Advisory BOH members.
- c. Email letters to Advisory Board of Health.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. MEDICAL DIRECTOR UPDATE – Dr. Remington Nevin

- Memorandum January 14, 2026 – Vaccine choice for SCC residents – Dr. Nevin discussed public health changes. His memorandum has a 3-point plan. 1. The HD to endorse and promote the CDC recommendation regarding the new vaccine schedule. Acknowledge that the Michigan and CDC recommendation differ on vaccine. 2. Implementation of fully on-line vaccine exemption. 3. Promotion of alternatives to state vaccine data tracking. Encourages the right to opt out of MCIR, i.e. the State data tracking system for vaccine management. Recommends that we check in on SCC physician compliance with the opt out. Clink asked if parents coming to the HD will still have choice and availability of vaccine. Dr. Nevin concurred. Dr. Nevin will change standing orders. There are certain vaccines that will be classified as shared decision vaccines and will require an encounter with a prescriber (MD, NP) for shared decision-making. Fulk asked Dr. Nevin to clarify which vaccines will be offered. Core childhood immunization schedule will include, MMR, Varicella, dTap, Polio, Hib, HPV, and PCV. Shared Clinical Decision Making: RSV; COVID, Flu: Hep A; Hep B; and Men ACWY and Men B. Spoke about Dr. Bagdasarian, MDHHS letter noting this does not replace individual physician recommendations. Motion to support Dr. Nevin's January 14, 2026, made by Richards, seconded by Fulk. Clink asked Liz about status of on-line vaccine exemption. Liz noted that work continues with DocuSign and the project is close to completion. Dr. Nevin discussed that he expects legal action and a lawsuit with the State. Smith commented that he would like to add language to the motion to include support from the Health Officer as outlined in the memorandum. Fulk motioned to accept the amendment to the motion, Urben seconded. Amended motion to support Dr. Nevin's January 14, 2026 and for the Health Officer to support as outlined. Roll Call; Clink – yes; Richards – yes; Fulk – yes; Smith – yes; Urben – yes; Hayes – Yes; Standel – Yes. 7 Ayes, 0 Nyes. Motion carried.
- Dr. Nevin distributed an additional packet of information regarding adolescent health centers and training recommendations by MDHHS. Monica noted that this would be tabled until the next meeting.

b. HEALTH OFFICER UPDATE – Liz King

1. Manning Table Change – Liz discussed the need for a manning table change to reduce a full-time public health nurse position to a part-time position in order to align with current caseload and support a part-time NP position moved from the Yale office. Motion of

support to take a manning table change to the Board of Commissioners for approval by Urben. Seconded by Standel. Motion carried.

2. Contract with STAT courier service. Liz is seeking Board approval to take the renewal of the contract with the STAT courier service that delivers specimens to the State lab. Liz noted that it is a daily service. Greg commented that the cost is approximately \$500 a month. Motion by Fulk, Seconded by Urben to forward the contract to the BOC for approval.
3. HD Summary Report
 - The new EH fee schedule that was adopted by the BOC began on January 1, 2026.
 - January is Radon testing month and free test kits are available in Environmental Health. New this year will be the outcomes will be recorded so that education can be provided with elevated results.
 - CSHC and MIHP case loads reported, along with lead case management.
 - WIC enrollment is at 2,275 with participation at 89.2%.
 - Communicable disease: 151 non-respiratory cases.
 - Personal Health is currently reporting above their caseload goal.
 - PPEv – Client feedback collected electronically. 44 responses received. Score 4.8 out of 5.
 - M. Standel asked if there was any push back on the EH fee increase. None has been noted.

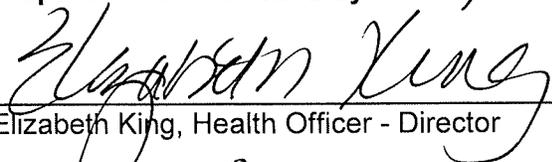
XI. ITEMS FROM MEMBERS -

- a. Richards – commented about the Advisory Board of Health by-laws and medical autonomy. Discussed vaccine schedule and autism rates.
- b. Fulk read a prepared statement concerning public health and bodily autonomy.
- c. Clink put forth to Board members a draft evaluation form for the Health Officer review. Discussion followed.
- d. Standel discussed St. Clair County standing within the State of Michigan on vaccine rates. Discussion followed.

XII. NEXT MEETING - The next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT – Motion by Clink, seconded Smith to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Prepared and submitted by:


Elizabeth King, Health Officer - Director


Monica Standel, Chairman


Leann Clink, Secretary

Distribution to:
Advisory Board of Health Members
Board of Commissioners
Thomas Hull, Interim Administrator/Controller
Elizabeth King., Health Officer - Director
Greg Brown, Administrator

To the St Clair County Health Department Advisory Board of Health and County Commissioners,

I would like this email read at the SCCHD Advisory Board of Health Meeting on Jan 21st.

I am speaking out against the St Clair County Medical Director, Dr **Remington Nevin** 's memorandum titled **Promoting and Protecting Vaccine Choice for St Clair County Residents:**

(Please see attached memo)

I am very concerned with this memorandum that functions like a consultant's court testimony with **attached exhibits**. Medical professionals have a responsibility to present evidence-based science when proposing a change or making recommendations that affect a population or a patient. This means using reliable empirical data that relies on observation and experimentation found in studies **not just personal theories or beliefs**. Dr Nevin **attempts to discredit the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)**. The infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), the Association for Professional in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), as well as many other medical societies support keeping the vaccine schedule as it was before the NEW ACIP made changes to the vaccine schedule **without evidence-based studies**. This memorandum tries to indicate that Dr. Nevin's opinions and advice is right and **ALL** the doctors and medical professionals that belong to those organizations are wrong. In addition, there has ALWAYS been an option to opt out (decline) vaccinations. Dr Nevin insinuates and uses speculation to say that St. Clair County Health Department used coercion when providing vaccinations to the public; however, he has not provided any evidence to support this claim. It is hearsay for Dr Nevin to write in a memorandum what happened during vaccine discussions when he did not work at SCCHD.

The Michigan Care Improvement Registry (MCIR) is a software program designed to record vaccines of Michigan residents. Michigan residents are provided with a Vaccine Information Statement (VIS) that provides vaccine information and informs the vaccine recipient of the record created in MCIR. Many people can't remember which vaccines they received. This software provides a vaccines records that **healthcare providers can use to provide clinical guidance and discussion with their patients**. The vaccine record from MCIR is also available for the vaccine recipient to help the individual keep track. Dr Nevin used a petty excuse of a software that sends overdue notices to the physician as a form of coercion.

In this memorandum, Dr Nevin's uses his past memorandums as support of his stance. Dr Nevin did not present any new evidence-based studies that support the safety and efficacy when making changes in the vaccine schedule. In fact, the memorandums that I have seen on every issue, only cite studies that support Dr Nevin's stance. A true professional provides pros and cons and allows the adult to make the choice. Dr Nevin compares our country to other countries that have universal health care. He is not comparing apples to apples. **Changes in**

vaccine schedules should be made only where there is new evidence from evidence-based studies that demonstrate a change is needed.

For decades before Dr Nevin was the medical director, St Clair County Health Department's staff and public health nurses have been a **trusted source to many residents and health professionals. Dr Nevin instills mistrust in public health and erroneously believes he speaks for the majority.** I am not sure **who funds his opinions;** however, he has restricted access to public health for many St. Clair County Residents. He refuses to trust nurses and nurse practitioners that have decades of evidence of safety and accreditation in the care they provided as public health staff. **He does not need more hours as a public health officer. His contract should not be renewed in July.** We need a medical director that can focus on the public health needs of St. Clair County not the special interest groups that fund him. **The advisory board should investigate facts and what all the other Michigan County Health Departments are doing. Why does Dr Nevin compare our SCCHD to other countries instead of comparing SCCHD vaccine recommendations to all the OTHER MICHIGAN County Health Departments?** Who funds Dr Nevin's Actions. Where is his Conflict of Interest Statement?

I urge the Advisory Board to follow the vaccine advice of **the entire American Academy of Pediatrics as well as all the experts at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. How many of the Michigans county health departments are following the vaccine guidance from MDHHS? Don't be misguided, by Dr Nevin. For decades, the SCCHD has provided informed choice and the ability to decline vaccinations. Do what is right for the county residents.**

Thank you for your time,
Respectfully submitted, A St Clair County resident
Sharon Kortas, MSN, RN, CIC

To: SCC Board of Health <SCCBOH@stclaircounty.org>

Subject: Please read at 1/21/26 meeting of the Advisory Board

Our current Medical Director of St. Clair County, MI, Dr. R. Nevin, recently sent out a two-page memo to the public that reads less like new medical guidance and more like a very loud reminder of something that was never in danger to begin with: the right to make your own health decisions. That principle has long been embedded in standard medical practice, informed consent, and Michigan law. Presenting it as though it's under siege feels less like reassurance and more like a carefully pitched dog whistle—alerting people to a threat that doesn't actually exist.

The memo circles the same point repeatedly, to the extent that one starts to wonder if the copy-and-paste function got stuck. Repetition, after all, is a classic rhetorical device: say something often enough and it begins to feel urgent, even if nothing has changed. But there is no new policy here, no new restriction, no new risk to personal autonomy—just the same message, echoed again and again, as if volume alone might turn routine medical ethics into a breaking news event.

What's notably absent is alignment with established, evidence-based guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services. Instead of collaboration with these trusted authorities, the memo positions itself as a kind of lone sentinel—standing watch over freedoms that were never threatened, while quietly stepping away from the consensus of the broader medical and public health community.

The tone suggests an effort to be seen as uniquely authoritative, rather than part of a coordinated system working toward shared public health goals. It's hard not to be reminded of an overlong résumé: impressive in its own way, but also raising the question of whether brevity—and collaboration—might better serve the audience.

Dr. Nevin is clearly intelligent and capable. That's precisely why this is so frustrating. I expected strong leadership from him, not childish games. Has he made an effort to meet and network with the physicians and other healthcare providers in our community?

Public health works best when leaders work together, follow evidence, and communicate clearly—without sounding alarms for fires that aren't there. One can only hope that future communications focus less on signaling and more on substance. I ask that our Medical Director focus on his job more constructively. If he cannot provide our county with more substantial education and guidance, I ask that you consider terminating his contract before it ends this summer. He is not an asset for the public health of our county.

Sincerely,
Debra Roberts, BSN, RN, IBCLC
Burtchville Township