

BRANCH-HILLSDALE-ST. JOSEPH COMMUNITY HEALTH AGENCY
BY-LAWS for Board of Health

ARTICLE I. NAME

The Boards of Commissioners of the Counties of Branch, Hillsdale and St. Joseph under Michigan's Public Health Code, Act 368, P.A. 1978, MCL 333.2415, have established a District Health Department, which is hereinafter called the Community Health Agency.

ARTICLE II. OBJECTIVES

Section 1. These by-laws are subject to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Branch, Hillsdale and St. Joseph counties which governs in the case of inconsistencies.

Section 2. The primary purpose of this organization is to provide the necessary policies and administrative controls for Branch, Hillsdale and St. Joseph Counties to strengthen and enforce health regulations, and to improve the quality of public health services to the people residing in this health jurisdiction.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERS

The governing body of the Community Health Agency shall be the Board of Health, hereinafter called the Board. The Board shall be composed of representatives from the respective counties' Boards of Commissioners, who are current county commissioners, and in accordance with Michigan's Public Health Code, Act 368, P.A. of 1978, MCL 333.2415.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

Section 1. The election of a Chairperson and Vice Chairperson and appointment of committees for the calendar year will be held at the first regularly scheduled meeting in January. The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson shall not be from the same county.

Section 2. Following the elections of the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, a Board member may be designated to attend the annual meeting of the Michigan Association of Local Public Health (MALPH). The Health Officer shall be designated as the primary delegate to represent the Community Health Agency at the MALPH meetings.

Section 3. Current officers and committee members shall remain in place until newly elected. In the event that the current Chairperson resigns from the Board, resigns or is

removed as a county commissioner from their respective county or no longer meets the requirements to serve on the Board, the Vice Chairperson shall assume the Chairperson's duties. The Board of Health will then at the next regular meeting take nominations for the Vice Chairperson position and elect a new Vice Chairperson. As these positions are elected on a rotation between the counties the Vice Chair position will be elected from the commissioners from the county in the next rotation.

Section 4. In the Event that the Chair and the Vice-Chair from the prior year do not return to the Board of Health for the organizational meeting, the Health Officer will call the organizational meeting for the Board of Health to order and conduct business through the election of a new Chairperson.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

Section 1. The Board will meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at 9:00 AM unless otherwise determined by the Board. In the event that the Board meets less than once per month, claims may be negotiated, resolved or paid prior to the next Board meeting by the Health Officer and Chairperson of the Board of Health, who shall report the action to the Board at its next regular meeting as outlined in Michigan's Public Health Code, Act 368, P.A. 1978, MCL 333.2415.

Section 2. The agenda for each Board meeting shall be set by the Health Officer in consultation with the Chairperson of the Board. An individual wishing to suggest a topic for discussion at a Board meeting shall submit a written request for consideration to the Chairperson of the Board at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. The request shall include the subject matter, estimate time needed, individual(s) to appear and contact information of the requestor.

Section 3. For the purpose of public participation during public hearings or during the public comment portion of a meeting, every speaker prior to the beginning of the meeting is requested but not required to provide the Board with his or her name, address and subject to be discussed. Speakers are requested to provide comments that are civil and respectful. Each speaker will be allowed to speak for no more than three (3) minutes at each public comment opportunity.

Section 4. The Board shall abide by requirements of Michigan's Open Meetings Act.

Section 5. Special meetings of the Board of Health or its Committees may be held at any time upon call of the Board Chairperson by providing just purpose and giving at least 18 hours' notice.

Section 6. Voting for the expenditure of funds, the adoption of a resolution or ordinance shall be by a roll-call vote. All other votes shall be by voice vote.

Section 7. Meetings will be conducted according to the latest edition of Roberts' Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VI. QUORUM

Four (4) members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

ARTICLE VII. COMMITTEES

Section 1. The Finance Committee and the Program, Policy and Appeals Committee shall be two (2) standing committees established by the Board. The Board may, from time to time, establish special committees and/or additional standing committees for other matters of concern to the Community Health Agency.

Section 2. The Board Chairperson, with the approval of the Board, shall appoint a representative from each county to the Finance Committee and to the Program, Policy and Appeals Committee. Appointments to committees shall be made annually.

ARTICLE VIII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Board of Health member will vote or otherwise participate in a decision by the Board of Health if they have a direct personal interest, wherein they may financially or materially gain from the action of the Board of Health.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended at any regular meeting by a majority vote of the Board. A proposed amendment shall be submitted in writing to all members at least ten (10) days prior to the meeting. Any amendment thereto shall become effective immediately upon its adoption.

Reviewed and amended by the Board of Health on the 27th day of February 2025.