Roll call taken. Board members present were: Don Hanson, Chairperson, Dwight (Skip) Dyes, Robert Linderman, Roseann Marchetti, Vicki Vaughn and Dr. Vincent Cabras. Absent: Randall Peat.

Health Department Employees Present: Jeff Elliott, Dr. Larry Wile, Dr. Frederick Johansen, Julie Beeching, George Kilds and Tina Cox.

Corrections to January minutes. Estimated expenditures were $554,787.70. Actual expenditures are $580,055.88. Difference of $25,268.18. Difference due to: Photocopier maintenance, HRA Administration, Utilities, Telephones, ID Card Ribbon, Legal Fees, Unemployment Claims, COBRA Administration, HAZPower Bioterrorism training, Life Insurance, Office supplies, Wireless Services, CM-500 Enterprises and Payroll. Motion by Dyes, 2nd by Vaughn to accept the minutes as corrected. All voting yes, motion carried.

Cash Flow report was discussed and reviewed. Items highlighted were; AGENCY SUPPORT: Working with new Van Buren County Finance Director on outstanding Janitorial and Maintenance funding; DENTAL: State Plan Amendment. Money received was for second quarter of the fiscal year, outstanding funds due to new financial system the state is using.

Expenditure Report was discussed and reviewed. Items highlighted were; David Whipple is contracted for snow plowing of Mattawan facility and occasionally needs to plow the Hartford facility. Problems with the snow plowing of the Hartford facility was reviewed; discussed the expenditure to Lakeland Finance for Medical consultation; discussed Dowagiac 2018 building maintenance and operations is paid annually and includes maintenance, landscaping, garbage, elevator inspection/phone and plowing all contracted through the City of Dowagiac. Motion by Vaughn, 2nd by Dyes to accept the expenditures in the estimated amount of $725,515.00. All voting yes, motion carried.

Administrator’s Report: George gave the board a brief update on the recent financial audit held in January. Stated no findings. Auditors will give their report at the Board of Health meeting in April. Linderman expressed how pleased he is with Aaron Stevens and his group for their professionalism when conducting the audit.

A brief update on the building with Van Buren ISD was given with Jeff reporting that legalities have been worked out. Confident will go out for bids the first week in March. Was a difficult process because of building on school property.

Jeff announce that the agency has received two grants; $25,000 for Hepatitis A and $4,200 to be used to purchase respirators for staff that were unable to pass fit test protocols. A copy of type of respirator to be purchased was distributed.

Jeff informed the board about an upcoming Community Health Assessment meeting in March. Stating Bronson and Borgess are required to conduct an assessment within their areas to see what types of health needs and issues face the communities in which they serve. A handout from Bronson was distributed. Jeff stated that Danielle Persky, Health Promotions Director, is hoping to work with these hospitals on this project. Danielle and he have met with Tom Richardson and Jeff Mills of Van Buren ISD on this project. Working on making this a 5 county region with school representatives from each county involved in this project. This was discussed and reviewed.

Dr. Cabras asked about the status of the septic system at the Mattawan facility. Jeff reported we had to do on own instead of hooking up to the village. Permission is needed from Bronson, municipalities and village and was unable to accomplish in a timely manner.
Nursing Activities Report for January for Van Buren. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE: There were 21 Animal bites, all non-rabid. There were 3 Campylobacteriosis, 1 Cryptosporidiosis, 6 Chronic Hepatitis C, 1 Histoplasmosis, 254 Influenza Virus (Flu), 3 Streptococcus Pneumonia and 2 Streptococcus Pyogenes Group A. IMMUNIZATION CLINIC: Hartford: 84 vaccines were given to 35 individuals. Other locations: 0 vaccines were given to 0 individuals. Mattawan: 0 vaccines were given to 0 individuals. CSHCS: Two (2) Nursing Plans of Care were completed. One (1) client was assisted with enrollment, 7 clients were assisted with renewal. There were 6 Annual Assessments. 38 clients received Care Coordination of Services. Zero (0) Diagnostics were issued. There are 362 active clients. STD/HIV: There was 1 STD Court Order for testing. There were 15 total STD clinic visits, 15 for testing and/or treatment. 13 Partner notification interviews were completed. There were 9 Gonorrhea, 20 Chlamydia and 3 HIV/AIDS reported by private clinics. There were 0 Gonorrhea and 0 Chlamydia reported by the health department. 10 individuals received HIV/AIDS counseling and/or testing and 10 received post HIV/AIDS test counseling. 0 received positive HIV partner notification. 73 received HIV/AIDS education in a group setting. Van Buren: Educational presentations were held at Hartford High School and Gobles Middle School.

Nursing Activities Report for January for Cass. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE: There were 7 Animal bites, all non-rabid. There was 1 Campylobacteriosis, 1 Hepatitis B, 3 Chronic Hepatitis C, 72 Influenza Virus (Flu), 1 Lyme Disease and 1 Salmonellosis. IMMUNIZATION CLINIC: Dowagiac: 36 vaccines were given to 12 individuals. Other locations: 0 vaccines were given to 0 individuals. CSHCS: Two (2) Nursing Plans of Care were completed. 0 clients were assisted with enrollment. Six (6) clients were assisted with renewals. There were 0 Annual Assessments. Seven (7) clients received Care Coordination of Services. 0 Diagnostics were issued. There are 162 active clients. STD/HIV: There were 0 for STD Court order testing. There were 15 total STD clinic visits, 15 for testing and/or treatment. 9 Partner notification interviews were completed. There were 8 Gonorrhea and 2 Chlamydia reported by private clinics. There were 0 Gonorrhea and 0 Chlamydia reported by the health department. 11 individuals received HIV/AIDS counseling and/or testing and 11 received post HIV/AIDS test counseling. Zero Partner notifications were completed. 114 received HIV/AIDS education in a group setting. Educational sessions were given at Dowagiac Union High School and Cass County Jail.

These statistics were discussed and reviewed with Julie reporting on a new Hepatitis A case in Van Buren County; Berrien County has reported 2 cases. None of these had any high risk factors. Still looking to see if any similarities among all three. Julie reported the state is doing a Geno type on these individual’s blood to see if connected, waiting for results. She stated last year the Geno type showed the 1 Van Buren case came from the outbreak on the east side of Michigan where the 3 in Cass County came from Indiana outbreak. Julie reported she has been in contact with our regional Epidemiologist on getting Immunoglobulin for an infant that may require prophylactics. Dr. Wile reported that after contacting various health departments this immunoglobulin was obtained then Julie worked on the logistics of making sure it was picked up, kept at the correct temperature and given during the time restraints required. He stated it is not unusual that individuals under 5 years of age to not be systematic but can carry the disease. Julie informed the board that the Epidemiologists require us to go back 6 weeks from the onset looking into everything; travel, all medical information, etc. to see if there may be any similarities, nothing yet but she will continue to reach out to the individuals in case they remember anything. This was discussed and reviewed.

Medical Director’s report: Dr. Wile reported on one of the most noted changes involving population health over the years came as a direct result of public health education. Such as HIV/AIDS. He reported that communities responds differently today than 15-20 years ago. There is less stigma, better medications and those infected live longer. Better outcome in the US than in other countries.

Dr. Wile informed the board about Danielle (Health Promotions Director) and himself are looking at establishing a focus group for community needs assessment for 2020. Would be a 3 year program and we would work with other organizations and look at various programs above those that are currently mandated. Both Bronson and Borgess currently have a community assessment program and it is our goal to work with them and other agencies instead of going on own. Also want to involve area schools. Plan to meet with hospital CEOs to discuss health promotions, have them meet Danielle so that we can work and support each other on a common
goal. This was discussed and reviewed. A meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 14th. The board expressed their interest in being part of this meeting.

Dr. Johansen reported on the measles outbreak in California. Due primarily to vaccination rates being down. The world measles rate has improved however whenever there is a cut back in vaccines the disease comes back. The state of Washington has the worse vaccine waiver rate of 9-10%; which is higher than anywhere else in the country. Van Buren and Cass County have a 1-2% waiver rate.

Dr. Johansen reported that Cancer rates in Van Buren and Cass County from 2000 through 2015 are better than the state average. Cass County is dramatically lower than any other county in the state. Van Buren has always been lower than the state and Berrien County is slightly above. He also reported that breast, lung, cervical, prostrate cancers are seeing a decrease, however obesity related cancers (liver, gall bladder, pancreas) are increasing.

Dental Report: Jeff reported all is going well; stats lower due to numerous cancellations due to the weather. Discussion regarding loan repayment for the dentists was reviewed.

Dental Lab Report for December: There were 26 Starts, 39 Finishes, 8 Repairs, 6 Flippers, 7 Resets, 8 Relines and 60 Priors. Jeff reported that contracting some lab services to Heritage Dental Labs has begun and seems to be working out.

Environmental Health: Statistics were discussed and review with Jeff reporting numbers are low due to the time of the year. Staff are busy learning other aspects of environmental health and are participating in numerous trainings.

Other Business: Commissioner Marchetti commented that we need to do what we can to eradicate measles and shared her experience with this disease during her childhood.

No other business. Motion by Dyes, 2nd by Vaughn to adjourn. All voting yes, motion carried. The next regular District Board of Health meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. at the public health department facility in Dowagiac, Cass County.