P U B L I C N O T I C E

HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF NORTHWEST MICHIGAN
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Meeting will be held at:
10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 7, 2026
Charlevoix County Shirley Roloff Center
13513 Division St., Charlevoix, MI 49720
(231) 547-7663

ZOOM OPTION AVAILABLE

Safety Capacity
In person attendance will be limited to allow for spacing and following the Charlevoix County Shirley Roloff Center capacity limits as established by the Fire Marshall. Attendees are reminded they can also view the meeting via Zoom with the link provided. Public comment will not be allowed via Zoom.

Submission of Comments on Agenda Items
Public Comment on any agenda item may be shared through our website to address the Board of Health by clicking this link: PUBLIC COMMENT CARD. To have your comment electronically delivered to Board of Health members for review prior to the meeting, they must be submitted by 10 a.m. the day prior to the scheduled public meeting. Public comment cards submitted after that time will be printed and provided to Board of Health members at the scheduled meeting. NOTE: Public comments submitted via public comment card will be
reviewed but not read at the meeting.

Meeting Accessibility
Pursuant to the American with Disabilities Act, individuals who, because of a disability, need special assistance to attend or participate in the Board of Health meeting, may request assistance by calling (231) 547-7663 or by emailing m.bosman@nwhealth.org. Requests should be made by Sunday, July 5, 2026.

The availability of Public Comment is recognized by Robert's Rules of Order and the Michigan Open Meetings Act to provide for orderly comment from the public. Public comments are welcome and are important to the Board of Health. To that end, the following information is provided:

1. Speakers are encouraged to use the podium and microphone so that Board members can clearly hear their message.

2. Before beginning, a speaker should clearly state their name.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT of Northwest Michigan

AGENDA

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

10:00 a.m. Tuesday, July 7, 2026

Meeting will be held at the Charlevoix County Shirley Roloff Center

13513 Division St., Charlevoix, MI 49720

For more information, please call (231) 547-7663

ZOOM OPTION

https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83705123863?pwd=5o6EfBr0XudxAitZvaCO91barr9r7h.1

Passcode: 849059

Or dial: 1 929 205 6099

Webinar ID: 837 0512 3863

Passcode: 849059

I.	Call to Order	Commissioner Hankins
II.	Opening Ceremony a. Pledge of Allegiance b. Invocation	Commissioner Hankins
III.	Roll Call	Commissioner Hankins
IV.	Approval of the Agenda a. Add or Remove Agenda Items	Commissioner Hankins
V.	Review/Approval of the Meeting Minutes from June 2, 2026	Commissioner Hankins
VI.	Public Comment (Three Minute Limit)	
VII.	Staff Reports a. Health Officer Report	Shannon Klonowski
	Written Reports Submitted By: a. Medical Director b. Family Health Director c. Environmental Health Director d. School Health Director	 Josh Meyerson Melissa Hahn Jeremy Fruk Jen Vollmer

Oral Report Submitted By:

a. Administrative Services — Tim Hella

II. Committee Reports

a. Personnel & Finance Committee

1. May and Employee Expense Approval (Action Item) — Commissioner Koontz

b. Program & Evaluation Committee

III. Unfinished Business

IV. New Business

V. Public Comment (Three Minute Limit)

VI. Commissioner Comment (Three Minute Limit)

VII. Adjournment

Minutes of the Regular Board of Health Meeting
Health Department of Northwest Michigan
10:00 a.m. June 2, 2026

Call to order: A regular meeting of the Board of Health was held at the Shirley Roloff Center on June 2, 2026. The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Commissioner Hankins, Chairperson. Seven (7) members of the Board of Health were in attendance establishing a quorum.

Members in attendance, roll call: Commissioners Scott Hankins, Josh Chamberlain, Terry VanAlstine, Jason Helwig, Matt Koontz, Don Mapes, and Dana Wingo.

Members absent/excused: Commissioner Jonathan Turnbull.

Staff in attendance: Shannon Klonowski**,** Dr. Joshua Meyerson, Kevin Hartley, Janenne Pung, Jen Vollmer, Tim Hella, Jeremy Fruk, Olivia Van Elslander, Nate Damer, Susan Pulaski, Nichole Flickema, and Melanie Bosman.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA
MOTION: Commissioner Chamberlain made a motion to remove DCN Evaluation under New Business from the agenda. Supported by Commissioner Wingo. Roll Call. Three (3) ayes. Commissioners Chamberlain, Wingo, and Koontz. Four (4) no. Commissioners Mapes, Hankins, VanAlstine, and Helwig. Motion failed.

APPROVAL OF THE MAY 5, BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES:
MOTION: Commissioner VanAlstine made a motion to approve the May 5, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. Supported by Commissioner Helwig. Roll Call. All ayes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was heard.

STAFF REPORTS
Shannon Klonowski, Health Officer – Oral and written reports were shared, State-wide Public Health Campaign, Together for Health.

Written reports:

- Joshua Meyerson, MD, MPH, Medical Director – Submitted a report on Evolving Use of Synthetic Kratom Products and Public Health Impact.
- Melissa Hahn, MPH, BA, RN, Director of Family Health - Submitted a report on Hearing and Vision Program.
- Jeremy Fruk, MSA., REHS, Director of Environmental Health – Submitted a report on 2026 Food Program Update.
- Jen Vollmer, MA LPC, Director of School Health– Submitted a report on Rural Health Transformation Funds.

Oral report:

- Janenne Pung, Director of Community Health, Susan Pulaski, Community Health Supervisor, and Nichole Flickema, Community Health Coordinator – Submitted an oral report on the Office of Highway Safety Program that the Health Department is working on in conjunction with the State Police.

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

MOTION: Commissioner Koontz made a motion that the finance committee met to review the bills and employee expenses and would like for the full board to approve April 2026 bills in the amount of $513,082.69. Supported by Commissioner Helwig. Roll call. All ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION: Commissioner Koontz made a motion that the finance committee met to review the bills and employee expenses and would like for the full board to approve April 2026 employee expenses in the amount of $18,890.86. Supported by Commissioner Helwig. Roll call. All ayes. Motion carried.

COLA:

MOTION: Commissioner Koontz made a motion that the full Board of Health give approval to provide a 2.5% Cost of Living Adjustment for Health Department staff to be implemented in fiscal year 2027. Supported by Commissioner Mapes. Roll call. Six (6) ayes. Commissioners Hankins, VanAlstine, Helwig Mapes, Wingo, and Koontz. One (1) no. Commissioner Chamberlain. Motion carried.

PROGRAM & EVALUATION COMMITTEE:

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

DCN EVALUATION:

MOTION: Commissioner VanAlstine made a motion that the Board of Health terminate the dental services agreement between Dental Clinics North, the Non-Profit, and the Health Department of Northwest Michigan. Per the agreement, the 180-day written notice will be sent after the Board of Health meeting today. Supported by Commissioner Hankins. Roll call. Six (6) ayes. Commissioners VanAlstine, Helwig, Hankins, Mapes, Wingo, and Chamberlain. One (1) no. Commissioner Koontz. Motion carried.

JULY BOH MEETING VERIFICATION:

Commissioners confirmed that there will be a July 7, 2026, Board of Health Meeting at the Shirely Roloff Center.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment was heard.

COMMISSIONER COMMENT: Commissioner comment was heard.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner VanAlstine made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Supported by Commissioner Chamberlain. Voice vote. All ayes. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m. Tuesday, June 2, 2026. The fixed date and time for the next regular meeting of the Board of Health will be July 7, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. and this meeting will be held at the Charlevoix County Shirley Roloff Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Klonowski, Health Officer
July 7, 2026

Scott Hankins, Chairperson

HEALTH DEPARTMENT of Northwest Michigan

MEMORANDUM

Date: **July 7, 2026**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Shannon Klonowski, Health Officer**

Re: **Dental Clinics North (DCN) Transition Update**

Since the last Board of Health Meeting on June 2, 2026, when the Board approved terminating the agreement with DCN the Non-Profit, our team has taken steps to move this process forward. First, the notice of termination was sent out immediately after the Board of Health meeting, it was delivered via certified mail on June 8, 2026. This delivery date determines the 180-day termination date, which is December 5, 2026.

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan (HDNW) also sent an email to all DCN staff informing them of the pending transition and welcoming them to our team. As expected, there were quite a few questions and concerns about the transition. In response, the HDNW team decided to combine all the questions we were receiving into a single Q&A document to share with all DCN staff. We figured if one person was wondering, others would be wondering, too. On June 12, we sent out the first round of Q&A answering 28 questions. On June 25, we sent the second round of Q&A, answering another 19 questions. Most of the questions were related to benefits and payroll, but a few also addressed the overall intent of this transition.

To ensure no questions were unread, HDNW created an online repository where DCN staff can submit a question directly to HDNW. Questions can include name and office location or can be anonymous. Each question submitted is emailed to three HDNW staff members to ensure none of the questions slip through the cracks.

HDNW has also reached out to our benefits coordinator, HUB, to discuss bringing the DCN staff onto HDNW benefit plans. HUB has reassured us that since both HDNW and DCN use HUB as a benefits coordinator, the transition should be simple and straightforward. We were happy to hear this.

In an effort to get to know DCN staff better and provide correct information, HDNW staff have been visiting DCN clinics. I have personally been making rounds to the clinics, and the conversations have been very productive and positive. Staff were worried they would lose their jobs, would be paid less, would have fewer benefits, and we would close clinics. At each office visit, staff were reassured that none of these things are true. Our intent is to support the clinics and to bring the current DCN staff over to HDNW. Although staff would like to see everything in writing, we definitely saw and felt the relief when we left each clinic. Staff provided great feedback about their biggest concerns, and it allowed us to hear directly from the clinics about how we can make improvements. It is a positive step forward, and

we will continue to regularly visit the clinics throughout this transition to listen to and address their concerns.

On June 22, 2026, I was informed that the Beaver Island Health Center was very concerned because they were under the impression that the DCN Clinic on Beaver Island was going to close. I immediately called the executive director of the Beaver Island Health Center to let him know that was not the plan, and we had a great discussion. By the end of the conversation, he invited me to be a guest at the Health Center's upcoming reception to meet the residents of the island and to show our support in keeping the clinic open.

As we continue to work through this transition, I will provide updates. For now, we are listening and using feedback from the clinics to help ensure the transition goes smoothly.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT of Northwest Michigan

MEMORANDUM

Date: **July 7, 2026**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Joshua Meyerson, Medical Director**

Re: **Swimmer's Itch**

Cercarial dermatitis, also known as "swimmer's itch," is an uncomfortable rash caused by microscopic parasites found in freshwater lakes and can be found worldwide. When the parasite's larvae enter human skin, they cannot survive and soon die, but this triggers an allergic reaction. Symptoms such as burning, itchy red pimples or small blisters typically appear 12-24 hours and may last over a week or longer. Not everyone reacts to swimmer's itch, but like poison ivy, sensitivity can increase with repeated exposure due to immune sensitization. Swimmer's Itch has long been an issue in many of our area lakes, and is more common on certain beaches or swimming areas due to snail presence, prevailing onshore winds, and other factors that increase the likelihood of the parasites being present. Often swimmer's itch is first noted when the lake water first warms up in early summer (and obviously more people are swimming as well). By late summer or early fall it is generally less present in our waters.

The parasite that causes Swimmer's Itch is a flatworm, called a schistosome, that lives in the blood vessels of birds and commonly infect waterfowl such as ducks, mergansers, and geese. The worms eggs are passed into the water through bird droppings, and these eggs hatch into larvae, miracidia, which infect certain species of freshwater snails. In the snail the parasite multiplies and then thousands of its second larval stage, known as cercariae, are released into the water where they generally float on the surface or in shallow water seeking a bird host. If they instead encounter a human, they burrow into the skin but cannot complete their life cycle and die, leading to the immune response that causes the rash. The presence of the organisms in lakes is based on presence of waterfowl and host snails and is thus part of a healthy ecosystem, and not due in any way to water quality.

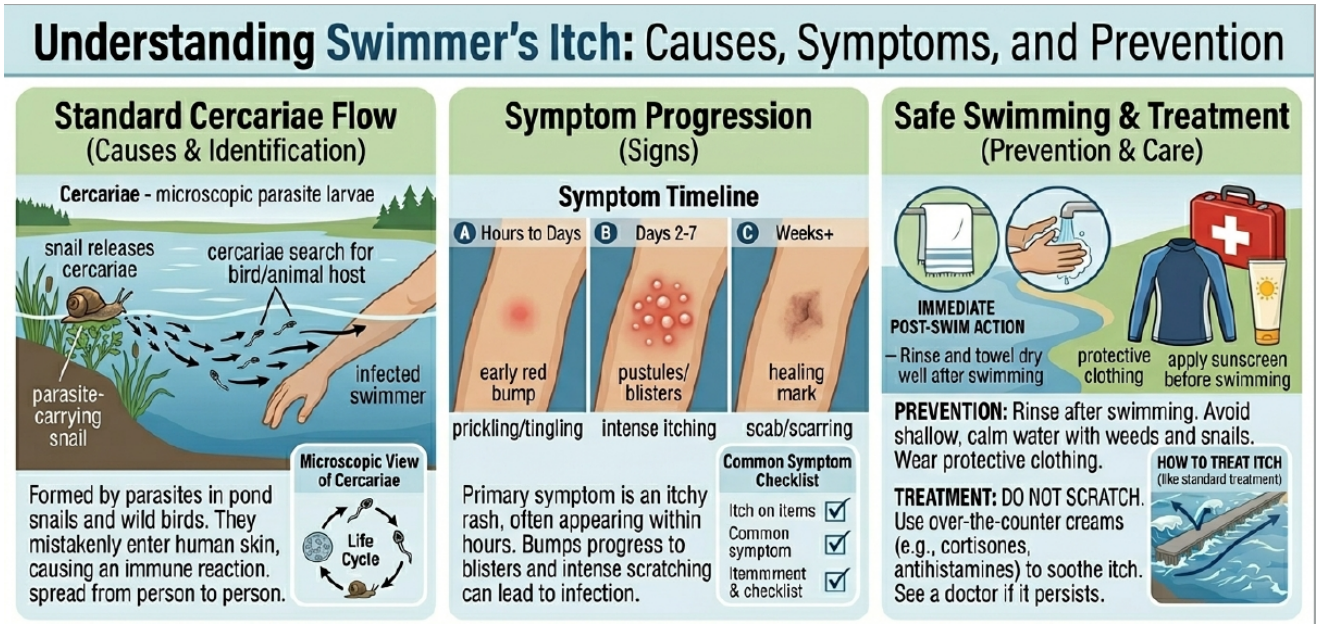
Some area lake associations, including Glen Lake, Lake Leelanau, and Walloon Lake, have over the years tried several environmental methods to control swimmers itch by either reducing merganser populations or treating parts of the water with copper sulfate to kill the snails. Besides the potential adverse environmental impact, after many years of study they were not successful in reducing human impact in Northern Michigan.

Prevention methods have become the mainstay of control and there are many things that can be done to reduce the risk of getting Swimmer's Itch when swimming in affected lakes:

- Use protective clothing such as tight-fitting rash guards which prevent parasites from reaching the skin. Wear waders when installing boat docks or other activities that involves prolonged time in shallow water.

- Swim in deeper water as parasites are more concentrated in warm shallow water near shore where snails are present.
- Swim later in the day as risk is highest in the morning especially on calm days. Onshore winds can push parasites into shallow water and thus risk is less when winds are offshore.
- Mineral-based waterproof sunscreens may prevent parasites from entering skin, but evidence of effectiveness is anecdotal.
- Rinsing or showering immediately after getting out of the water as well as vigorously towel drying can remove cercariae before they penetrate the skin as the skin dries. Changing out of a wet bathing suit which may harbor many cercariae can also help especially in small children that spend time wading in shallow water.

Treatment for swimmer's itch is centered on symptomatic relief of itching and includes using over the counter antihistamines or anti-itch creams such as topical hydrocortisone. Scratching can lead to secondary infection so the affected area should also be kept clean. Swimmer's Itch is not contagious and cannot be spread.



MEMORANDUM

Date: **July 7, 2026**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Melissa Hahn, MPH, RN Director of Family Health**

Re: **Healthy Families Northern Michigan (HFNM)**

Healthy Families America is the signature home visiting program of Prevent Child Abuse America; the nation's oldest and largest organization committed to preventing child abuse and neglect before it happens. Healthy Families America promotes programs and resources informed by science that enable kids, families, and entire communities to thrive- today, tomorrow, and for generations to come.

The Health Department of Northwest Michigan's Healthy Families home visiting program is Healthy Families Northern Michigan. Healthy Families is one of the leading family support and evidence-based home visiting programs in the United States. The program focusses on early childhood relational health-partnering with families to help the children in their lives thrive. Healthy Families offers home visits to families from pregnancy through the child's fourth birthday.

Health Department of Northwest Michigan currently has 9 staff members who currently provide support to 66 families throughout our area. The family support staff are made up of nurses and social workers to meet the needs of the families that we serve.

In the Spring of 2026 Healthy Families Northern Michigan went through a Quality Assurance Visit. The results showed the amazing work that our team does every day. The reviewers found that 100% of Safety and Essential Standards were in adherence. They also shared that the team feels supported in their work and shared that their needs are advocated for.

As part of the program, we complete yearly family satisfaction surveys. Here are a few of the things our families said about their experience in 2025:

- When asked if they feel that HFNM has strengthened their role as a parent, 38 out of 38 responded yes.
- When asked "What do you find is most important during your visits?" parents answered:
    - There's so much. The resources, the support, the time, the help.
    - Learning about new ways to bond with and teach my daughter.
    - The mental health check-ins.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT of Northwest Michigan

MEMORANDUM

Date: **July 07, 2026**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Jeremy Fruk, M.S.A., R.E.H.S., Director of Environmental Health**

RE: **2026 Beach Monitoring Program**

Northwest Michigan is known for its recreational waters, with hundreds of miles of Lake Michigan shoreline, as well as hundreds of miles of shorelines on inland waterways and inland lakes. Each year thousands of visitors, as well as many local citizens, visit our beaches to enjoy and take advantage of these beautiful resources. The Health Department of Northwest Michigan (HDNW) has historically conducted sampling at select beaches in our region, conducted limited beach surveys to assure that the public is protected, and to maintain the safety of our beaches for recreational use.

The beach program has been a hugely successful endeavor for our agency and has garnered appreciation within the community and with visitors to our area. Our primary beaches, that are the most popular, are sampled once a week for 11 weeks. Beach sampling this year started the week of June 22nd. Our secondary beaches that, historically, are not as heavily used, are sampled twice during the summer.

When beach samples are elevated, HDNW will post either a partial body contact advisory or a no body contact advisory based on sample results. Partial body contact advisories occur when beach sample results are between 300 E. coli per 100ml to 1000 E. coli per 100 ml. A partial body contact advisory indicates that the beach shall be used for wading, boating, paddling, and fishing. When beach sample results are elevated above 1000 E. coli per 100ml, the beach will be advised for no body contact. This procedure aligns with the E. coli standards for swimming provided in the Michigan Public Health Code and Rule 323.1062(1) of the Part 4 Water Quality Standards (as promulgated pursuant to Part 31 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended).

Our regional lab has also been conducting microbial source tracking (MST) for beaches that require repeat testing. MST identifies fecal sources of water contamination by detecting microbes found in a variety of animals. Currently, we are testing microbials for humans, bovines, geese, and dogs. MST can provide valuable information, especially if a beach has consistent repeats or very high levels of E. coli. in the water. With MST results, it's possible to identify the source of contamination and help correct an issue at a beach.

The list below provides the names of the beaches that we are currently sampling this summer.

Monitored Primary Beaches

Barnes Park
Elk Rapids Veterans Memorial
Elk Rapids North Beach
Richardi Park
Torch Lake Day Park
Wooden Shoe Park
Echo Twp Park
Eastport
Fisherman's Island
Lake Michigan Beach
Young State Park
Elm Point Beach
East Jordan Tourist Park
Whiting Park

Melrose Twp. Park
Ferry Beach
Depot Beach
Thumb Lake Beach
Zorn Park
Petoskey State Park
Mackinaw 1
Mackinaw 2
Middle Village
Cross Village
Wilderness State Park
Sturgeon Bay
Camp Petosega
Oden

Little Traverse Township
Arbutus Beach
Otsego County Park
Otsego Lake State Park
WahWahSoo Beach
Big Lake

Monitored Secondary Beaches

Antrim County Day Park
Banks Twp Park
Thurston Park
Eastern Ave. Beach
Norwood Park
Glenwood Beach
Washington St Beach
Michigan Ave Beach
Resort Pike Rd. Beach
Center Twp./ Pioneer
Magnus Park
Readmond Twp Beach
Channel Beach
Zoll Street
Bear Lake SFCG

HEALTH DEPARTMENT of Northwest Michigan

MEMORANDUM

Date: **July 7, 2026**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Jen Vollmer, MA LPC**

Re: **School Nurses**

School Health nurses play a critical role in advancing the health and wellbeing of children and adolescents. They often serve as educators who deliver classroom-based health instruction that promotes health lifestyle choices, disease prevention, and lifelong wellness habits. This education supports the mission of public health by reaching students at a formative stage of development, improving health literacy and reducing future health risks.

Schools provide an ideal setting for health promotion because they reach nearly all children on a regular basis. Our nurses often set up education tables outside the lunchroom, in the hallways, or provide direct education to a whole classroom. Our nurses constantly work to find new ways that engage students in learning.

Topics may include:

- Nutrition and healthy eating habits
- Sleep and stress management
- Physical activity
- Personal hygiene
- Hand hygiene
- Personal safety

School Health nurses possess a unique skill set that is helpful to provide health education and disease prevention. They share a passion for prevention and desire to reach as many students as possible. By presenting health information in engaging and age-appropriate ways, school nurses help students understand not only what healthy choices are, but also why they matter.

Research consistently shows a strong correlation between student health and academic success. Healthy students are more likely to attend school regularly, show improved concentration, participate more actively, and achieve better academic performance.

Our school nurses empower students to make informed, healthy choices. Through education and ongoing support nurses help students develop the knowledge, attitudes, and habits necessary to prevent illness, reduce health risks, and establish lifelong wellness practices that contribute to living healthier lives.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT of Northwest Michigan

MEMORANDUM

Date: **July 7, 2026**

To: **Board of Health**

From: **Janenne Irene Pung, Director of Community Health**

Re: **Providing ID Scanners to Community Groups**

Are you helping plan a community event? SAFE in Northern Michigan has two battery-powered ID scanners available for local groups to use at events and festivals throughout Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet counties. The scanners support responsible alcohol service at events where alcohol is served. The free scanners were recently used at the Mancelona Bass Festival and have been reserved for summer use by the Antrim County Sheriff's Department, Up North Busker Festival, Charlevoix Venetian Festival, Emmet County Fair, and the City of East Jordan.

We are sharing this opportunity with Chamber contacts, area event committees, municipalities, and other partners who may be planning or supporting local events. The scanners were purchased through Sober Truth on Prevention Underage Drinking Grant Funding. We have also distributed flyers, shared information with staff, and marketed scanner availability on our social media channels.

For more information on the scanners, please click here to learn about the model we have available.

Why Purchase and Loan the Scanners?

In 2025, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services data showed that alcohol availability in all three SAFE counties exceeds statewide norms. Antrim County has 44.4 alcohol outlets per 10,000 residents, Charlevoix County has 53.6, and Emmet County has 54.2, compared to a statewide county average of 34.0 alcohol outlets per 10,000 residents.

Retail Alcohol Data finds that high-alcohol, single-serve products are available in 91.5% of retail outlets, often priced lower than non-alcoholic beverages. This level of visibility, affordability, and retail access contributes to the normalization of alcohol and increases the likelihood that youth are exposed early and perceive alcohol use as low-risk.

This environment contributes to measurable health impacts. From 2021-2023, alcohol was involved in 8.3% of all emergency department visits in Antrim County (n = 646), 8.8% in Charlevoix County (n = 532), and 8.7% in Emmet County (n = 710). Across the combined Antrim-Charlevoix-Emmet region, alcohol was involved in 8.6% of all emergency department visits (n = 1,888), matching the statewide rate of

8.6%. Alcohol was also involved in injury-related emergency department visits across the region. Antrim County reported 12.2% of injury-related ED visits involving alcohol (n = 138), while Charlevoix and Emmet Counties each reported 12.8%, with n = 108 in Charlevoix and n = 126 in Emmet. The combined regional rate was 12.6% (n = 372), compared to 11.9% statewide. (MDHHS, 2024)

Youth data also show that alcohol access remains a concern despite reductions in youth use. SAFE regional high school data show that past 30-day alcohol use declined from 19.9% in 2014 to 8.2% in 2024, and binge drinking declined from 11.2% to 4.6% during the same period. However, in 2024, 50.2% of high school students still reported easy access or availability of alcohol. Among students who drank recently, 43.5% reported usually getting alcohol from someone who gave it to them and 21.7% reported taking alcohol from a family member, according to the Michigan Profile for Healthy Youth.

This data shows that although youth alcohol use has declined, alcohol remains highly visible, accessible, and normalized across Antrim, Charlevoix, and Emmet counties. Elevated outlet density, retail access to high-alcohol products, alcohol-involved emergency department visits, and alcohol-related treatment admissions all support the need for continued prevention strategies focused on reducing youth access and responsible serving practices.

To reserve an ID scanner at no cost, please contact Nichole Flickema at n.flickema@nwhealth.org.

May 2026 Bills and Employee Expenses

Suggested Motion The finance committee met to review the bills and employee expenses and would like to make a motion for the full board to approve the MAY 2026 bills, in the amount of $540,348.14.

Suggested Motion: The finance committee met to review the bills and employee expenses and would like to make a motion for the full board to approve the MAY 2026 employee expenses of $23,870.34.