

BENTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH BOARD
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2026
BENTON COUNTY BOARDROOM

The Benton County Community Health Board met in regular session on March 17, 2026 in the County Boardroom in Foley, MN with County Board members Pam Benoit, Ed Popp, Steve Heinen, Jared Gapinski, and Scott Johnson present.

Chair Heinen called the Community Health Board Meeting to order at 12:32 PM.

Community Health Services Administrator – Public Health Director Jaclyn Litfin requested to amend the agenda to add a discussion on the Farmer’s Market Agreement. Motion by Johnson and seconded by Gapinski to approve the amended Community Health Board Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Benoit and seconded by Johnson to approve the Community Health Board Consent Agenda items 1-2: 1) approve the Community Health Board Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2026, and authorize the Chair to sign; 2) approve the Purchase of Service Agreement renewal between Benton County and Sherburne County for Regional Program Manager – First Steps Family Home Visiting and authorize the Chair to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Litfin requested the Community Health Board to consider the annual Strong Foundations: Professional Development Grant. MDH family home visiting section is seeking applications from current Strong Foundations grantees interested in receiving additional funding to offer professional development opportunities for staff implementing evidence-based family home visiting models. Eligible activities within this funding opportunity include training across many themes (Mental health, trauma informed, prenatal support, nutrition, lactation, infant and child health, etc.) Benton County Public Health requests Community Health Board approval to submit an interest form each year (ongoing) to receive this grant from MDH to offset costs in providing staff development opportunities. Motion by Gapinski and seconded by Johnson to approve Benton County Public Health to submit an interest form each year (ongoing) to receive reimbursement for annual professional development grant opportunity. Motion carried unanimously.

Next, Litfin requested Community Health Board consideration of the contract with the Sauk Rapids Farmer’s Market to increase access to healthy foods. The Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) staff introduced the contract at the March 16, 2026 Committee of the Whole Meeting. The agreement facilitates the Farmer’s Market in obtaining SNAP/EBT tokens. These tokens will support SNAP/EBT transactions at Farmer’s Market and are pre-approved via our SHIP funding. Motion by Johnson and seconded by Benoit to approve the contract of agreement between Community Health Board and Sauk Rapids Farmers Market to increase access to healthy foods. Motion carried unanimously.

The Community Health Board Meeting adjourned at 12:34 PM.

Steve Heinen, Chair
Benton County Community Health Board

ATTEST:

Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator