



National Public Health Week

April 6-12, 2026

Gina Pistulka
Public Health Director
Dakota County Board of Commissioners Meeting
April 7, 2026

Ready. Set. Action!



Health In All Policies



2025 Accomplishments



- Public Health **completed over 9,900 visits with pregnant community members and families.**
- Over **4,900 vaccines were provided** to community at **95 clinics.**
- Our Fall Prevention Project helped **73 residents avoid falls and reduce lift assists.**
- Our health promotion team leveraged **over \$2.3 million** in funds for active living and physical development infrastructure.

2025 Accomplishments (continued)



- Our substance use prevention team provided **naloxone training to over 100 people.**
- Our environmental health team **distributed over 800 radon test kits.**
- Our Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) staff **provided nutrition and breastfeeding education to 8,666 community members.**
- Our Child and Teen Checkup (C&TC) staff contacted **7,854 individuals about the benefits of infant and child preventive health care.**

Continued Challenges



Winter Storm Warning
from SAT 10:00 PM CDT until MON 7:00 AM CDT, Pepin County, Barron County, Pierce County, Chippewa County, Dunn County, Polk County, Eau Claire County

CDC cancels \$38 million worth of public health investments in Minnesota

Minnesota's uninsured rate went from an all-time low to the highest in 6 years in 2025

More Minnesotans went without health care insurance in 2025 compared to 2023, when the state recorded its all-time low uninsured rate of 3.8%.

NEWS & POLITICS

Minnesota now has one of the nation's lowest kindergarten measles vaccination rates

Rural public health funding in question as Minnesota Department of Health faces federal cuts

When ICE sweeps a community, public health pays a price – and recovery will likely take years

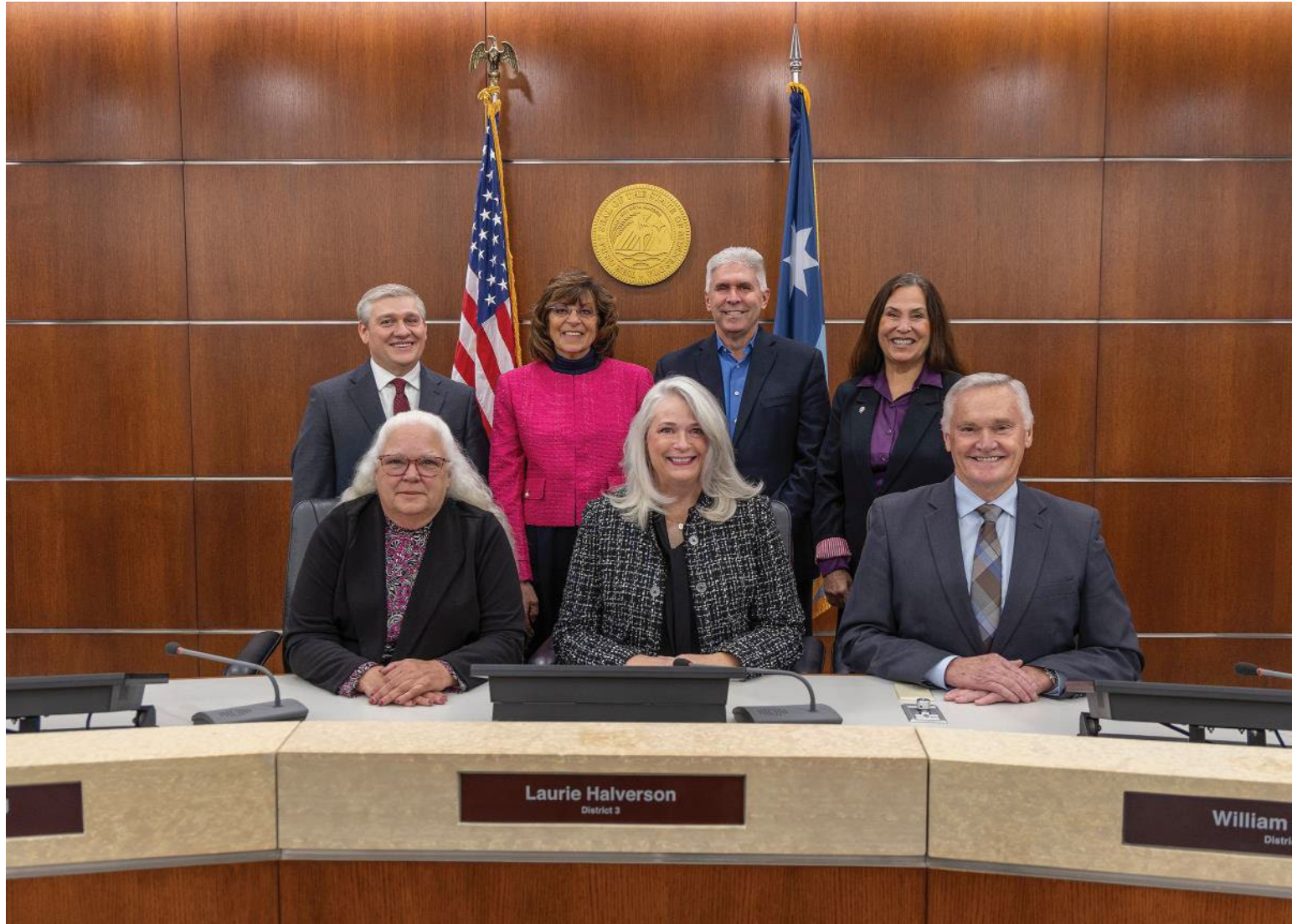
Published: February 18, 2026 8:46am EST

2026 Plans

- Reconnecting with community!
- Inaugural HOPE Summit
- New initiatives with water monitoring and corrections
- Practicing our strengths (WIC, Family Home Visiting, and Family Health+ programs)
- And constantly monitoring and responding to what's next!



Our Community Health Board



Recommendation

To encourage residents to take action to promote their health, the health of their families, and health of their community, staff recommends the Dakota County Board of Commissioners recognizes Public Health Week in Dakota County, April 6-12, 2026.



NATIONAL
**PUBLIC
HEALTH**
WEEK

Thank you!

Dakota
COUNTY

