



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Grand Forks Public Health

GRAND FORKS BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Thursday, April 9th 2026 @ 4:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting over Zoom or @ Council Chambers

A G E N D A

Board Members: Dr Joel Walz (Chair), Rebecca Osowski (Vice Chair)
Dr. David Bradley, Chris Harsell, Anthony Hodny

Notice is hereby given that the Grand Forks Board of Health will meet at the above date and time. Members of Grand Forks Board of Health may be attending this meeting electronically or in person.

Members of the public may view the live stream of the meeting which will be held via Zoom (see below agenda for details). Meeting materials are posted to the [city website](#). If you are attending in person and would like a packet, please contact Cheyenne Swanson at the below email address by the specified time. Any member of the public seeking to submit comments relating to an agenda item should submit their comments to Cheyenne Swanson at cswanson@grandforksgov.com or call 701-787-8100 for further information. All comments received prior to 3:00 p.m. on April 9th, 2026 will be considered part of the record of the meeting as if personally presented.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Walz Osowski Bradley Harsell Hodny

i. Recognition of Board Member Cynthia Pic

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 8th, 2026

III. Oath for Commissioner Anthony Hodny

IV. Old Business
NONE

V. New Business
National Public Health Week – Shaylee Miller
Emergency Preparedness & Response (EPR) Program-Marcus Lee
Pool Code Proposed Ordinance Change- Jake Anderson
Director’s Report
Other New Business

VI. Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: July 9th, 2026

VII. Adjournment

Virtual Meeting Information:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81806214326?pwd=ARTbt3qvC824awa7xlqVSfmrzzmDHI.1>

Passcode: 441489 | Webinar ID: 818 0621 4326

National Public Health Week!

Each event includes a chance to win a 12-month carwash pass from Rydell!

Healthy Selfie

Submit a photo to our Healthy Selfie Challenge on Facebook for a chance to win!

@gfpublichealth



Stroll N Roll ND

Join us April 8 at 1 p.m. for a group walk!

The group will meet at Town Square by the paddlewheel.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Grand Forks Public Health

More details can be found in the events section of our Facebook page! @gfpublichealth



BOARD OF HEALTH ISSUE STATEMENTS

April 2026

Topic: Emergency Preparedness & Response (EPR) Program

Contact: Marcus Lee 701-787-8107

Background: Previous meetings have highlighted different programming within Grand Forks Public Health (GFPH), this presentation is intended to enhance the Board's knowledge of the EPR program. GFPH contracts with North Dakota Health and Human Services (ND HHS) to offer subject matter expertise and regional EPR coverage with access to state and federal resources in the event of an emergency.

Action: Information only.

Topic: Pool Code Ordinance Change

Contact: Jake Anderson 701-787-8106

Background: Grand Forks Public Health oversees all public and semi-public aquatic facilities within city limits, safeguarding water quality, sanitation, and patron safety, yet our municipal pool code, last amended in 1993, has not kept pace with decades of advances in national model codes and pool technologies; by adopting the 2021 International Swimming Pool and Spa Code published by the International Code Council, we will align with current best practices for design, construction, operation, maintenance, and safety, improve consistency across jurisdictions, and strengthen our Aquatics Program.

Action: Approve the proposed amendments to Chapter XIII, Article 8 – Swimming Pools.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Grand Forks Public Health

POOL CODE ADOPTION CHANGES

Adoption by Reference Language Clarified

Current Code:

Adopts ISPSC 2021 with deletions.

Floatation tanks excluded from scope.

Revised Code:

Adopts ISPSC 2021 (Chapters 2–6 retained; 1,7,8,9,10 deleted).

Removes explicit float tank exclusion in §13-0801.

Adds formal definition and separate section for specialty pools.

Float tanks and cold plunge pools are now clearly categorized and regulated rather than excluded.

Definitions Expanded

Revised version adds:

Bulkhead definition

Cold Plunge Pool definition

Clarified Health Officer capitalization

Additional operational terminology

II. PLAN REVIEW & CONSTRUCTION CHANGES

Plan Review Expanded to Multiple Departments

Current Code:

Plans submitted to “city.”

Revised Code:

Plans submitted to city health AND building safety departments.

Allows routing to Fire Department for emergency system review.

Formalizes interdepartmental review.

Backflow Protection Added

Revised code explicitly requires:

All water supplies protected against backflow and cross-connections.

Explicit cross-connection prevention language added.

Bulkhead Specifications Added

Revised version adds detailed requirements:

Structural integrity

Slip-resistant surfaces

Visibility markings

Safe access/egress

Required inspection documentation

III. LICENSING CHANGES

Expanded Definition of Public Pool

Revised §13-0805 adds:

Pools offered via online rental platforms or shared use are considered public.

IV. HEALTH & SAFETY CHANGES

Diaper Language Updated

Revised code replaces “swim diapers” language with broader:

“Diaper-dependent persons required to wear swim diapers.”

Minor clarification.

Clarity Standard Maintained but Tightened in Wording

Drain visibility standard retained but clarified.

No threshold change, language cleaner.

V. OPERATIONS & TESTING CHANGES

Water Testing Language Strengthened

Revised code:

Requires accurate water testing kit.

Clarifies minimum testing every 4 hours OR twice daily.

Clarifies compliance trigger for closure if testing not maintained.

Microbial Sampling Language Refined

Revised code:

Clarifies laboratory reporting.

Allows increased sampling at discretion of health department.

Substantively similar, but clearer enforcement authority.

Cyanuric Acid Clarified

Revised language:

Applies to outdoor recreational aquatic facilities.

Clarifies scope.

Closure Triggers Codified More Explicitly

Revised code clearly states CPO must close pool for:

Microbial exceedance

Residual failure

Combined chlorine >0.4 ppm

Parameter violations

Stronger closure mandate language than prior version.

VI. RECORDKEEPING CHANGES

Contamination Response Protocols Added

Revised §13-0809 now requires:

Written contamination response protocols on site.

Previously not explicitly required.

Reporting Clarified

Revised:

Requires 72-hour reporting of closures.

Clarifies lab-direct reporting exemption.

Clarifies administrative burden.

VII. SPECIALTY POOLS – MAJOR ADDITION

Entire New Section 13-0811.1 – Specialty Pools

Not present in original code.

Adds regulation of:

Cold plunge pools

Float tanks

Specialty aquatic facilities

Cold Plunge Requirements Added:

<60°F temperature limit

6-hour turnover rate

Continuous filtration & disinfection

Weekly draining & cleaning

Safety signage

Health warnings

Float Tank Requirements Added:

Manufacturer sanitation compliance

Health department inspection authority

VIII. FEE STRUCTURE CHANGES

Reinspection Fee Authority Added (Earlier Draft Only)

Earlier revision included §13-0814 reinspection fee language

Final revised version instead:

Keeps fee authority under §13-0812.

Leaves reinspection fee to Council resolution.

IX. PRIVATE POOL SECTION

Private pool language largely maintained but clarified formatting and structure.
No major substantive changes except improved clarity.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Grand Forks Public Health

ISPSC Reference Summary

Included Chapters:

- Chapter 2: Definitions
- Chapter 3: General Requirements
- Chapter 4: Public Swimming Pools
- Chapter 5: Public Spas
- Chapter 6: Aquatic Recreation Facilities

Excluded Chapters:

- Chapter 1: Scope and Administration
- Chapter 7: Exercise Spas
- Chapter 8: Permanently Installed Residential Pools
- Chapter 9: Portable Residential Spas
- Chapter 10: Portable Residential Pools

Local Substitution:

- Section 303 (Private Pools) replaced with City Code Section 13-0811.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Grand Forks Public Health

Director's Report and Activity Highlights for January-March 2026

Communications: Compiled and completed the 2025 Annual Report.

Collaborated with other public health communicators to organize Stroll N Roll ND, a state-wide walking event recognized by Governor Armstrong.

Emergency Preparedness & Response: Attended kick off meeting for Grand Forks County Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning, a five-year cycle.

Assisted ND HHS with facilitation of quarterly Medical Reserve Corp evaluation exercise in Devils Lake.

Environmental Health: Renewed agreement with ND Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for the Hazardous Algae Blooms (HABs) program.

Presented at Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) classes at Schroeder Middle School.

Javin Bedard attended the NOWRA septic conference in Devils Lake in February.

Nursing and Nutrition & Public Health Professionals: Launched media campaigns to increase awareness of legal consequences of fake ID use and possession and smoke-free laws about indoor vaping.

Collaborated with GFPD on placing two new Forensic ID scanners at alcohol establishments proximal to UND. ~650 fake IDs were confiscated in Grand Forks in the past 6 months.

Launched 2026 Employee Wellness program.

Launched Meal Repack Program with Valley Senior Living and Grand Forks HeadStart. Over 200 meals have been repacked and donated to families.

Provided overhaul and technical assistance to Fargo Cass Public Health's *Women's Way* program as they had staff turnover.

Hosted breastfeeding skills training for 64 nursing students.

Taught On The Move Jr. and puberty curriculum at rural county schools.

Department-wide: Collaborated with Altru on the Community Health Improvement Process (CHIP).

2025 Annual Report

Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Annual Report submitted to maintain accreditation status.

Staffing:

- Welcomed Erin Lauckner, Public Health Dietitian