



**DENVER HEALTH™**  
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**FOR LIFE'S JOURNEY**

## Denver Health and Hospital Authority Board Meeting Minutes

601 Broadway, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor Conf. Rm  
Thursday, February 27, 2025  
1:32 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

| Board of Directors       | Staff                      | Staff                 | Guests              |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Present:</b>          | Donna Lynne, DrPH          | Chuck Scully          | Tracy Bruns         |
| Patti Klinge             | April Audain               | Enid Wade, J.D.       | Sonja O'Leary, M.D. |
| Tom Kim                  | Steve Federico, M.D.       | Lorena Zimmer         |                     |
| Jim Chavez               | Amy Friedman               | Duane Mata, D.D.S.    |                     |
| Kathy Nesbitt            | Kris Gaw                   | Morris Askenazi, M.D. |                     |
| Chris Watney             | Romana Hasnain-Wynia, Ph.D | Katherine Marinelli   |                     |
| Lily Cervantes, M.D.     | Amy King                   |                       |                     |
| Frank deGruy, M.D.       | Greg McCarthy              |                       |                     |
| <b>Absent:</b>           | Jacque Montgomery          |                       |                     |
| Doug Friednash           | Natalie Nicholson, RN,     |                       |                     |
| Pia Dean                 | Abraham Nussbaum, M.D.     |                       |                     |
| Hollie Velasquez-Horvath | Read Pierce, M.D.          |                       |                     |
| Eli Provencio-Vasquez    | Crystal Potter Rivera      |                       |                     |

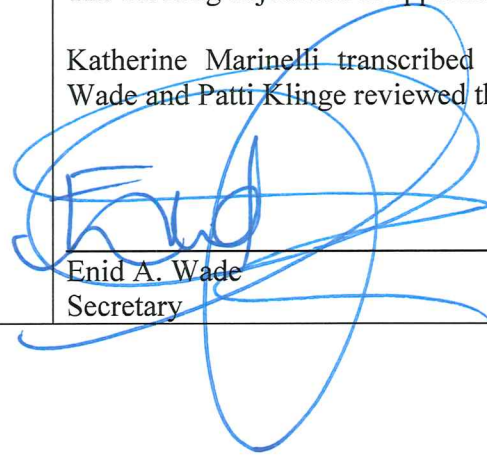
| Agenda Topic  | Responsible Person(s) | Status/Comments   |
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| <b>I. Call to Order and Preliminary Matters</b>         | Patti Klinge          | Ms. Patti Klinge, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.                                 |
| <b>A. Approval of January 23, 2025, Meeting Minutes</b> |                       | Mr. Tom Kim made a motion to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded and approved unanimously. |

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| <p><b>B. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement</b></p> <p><b>C. Key Personnel Updates</b></p> <p><b>D. Public Comment</b></p> <p><b>E. Video Highlights</b></p>   |                       | <p>Ms. Klinge requested disclosure of any conflicts of interest. No conflicts were disclosed.</p> <p>No key personnel updates were provided.</p> <p>No public comment was provided.</p> <p>A video was shown reflecting the care provided to a Washington Park shooting survivor, Ben Vargas and how Dr. Lakshmi Karra, who was in the park with her family, was able to act quickly to treat his injuries and to help save his life.</p>  |
| <p><b>II. Medical Staff/Quality</b></p> <p><b>A. Approval of Medical Staff Appointments and Ratification of Staff Added Since January 2025</b></p> <p><b>B. Approval of Medical Staff Appointments</b></p> <p><b>C. Medical Staff Executive Committee (MSEC) Update</b></p> | Morris Askenazi, M.D. | <p>Dr. Morris Askenazi presented 15 new applicants for medical staff appointments, 71 reappointments, 18 physicians leaving the medical staff, 3 mild concerns, which were discussed and resolved, and 3 physicians requesting new privileges. Mr. Kim made a motion to approve the requested appointments and privileges. The motion was seconded and was unanimously approved.</p> <p>Dr. Askenazi reported that the committee is planning events for the staff and is having discussions relating to Emerging Issues.</p> |
| <p><b>III. Consent Items</b></p> <p><b>A. Resolution to Approve Proposed Changes to DHHA Bylaws, Article IX – Medical Staff</b></p>   |                       | <p>After a brief discussion and Ms. Klinge ensuring that all questions were answered. Ms. Chris Watney made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded and was unanimously approved.</p>  |
| <b>IV. New Business</b>   |                       |  |

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| <p><b>A. State of the Department</b></p>  | <p>Sonja O’Leary, M.D.</p>                            | <p>Dr. Sonja O’Leary presented on the department of Ambulatory Pediatrics and School and Community Programs. The department is made up of 44 physicians and 74 APPs; those individuals staff 3 pediatric clinics, 3 family medicine clinics, 19 SBHCs, 3 mobile clinics, urgent care, newborn nursery, bariatric clinic, and a sports medicine clinic. They also have 32 medical students and 32 Pediatric Residents. Dr. O’Leary briefly reported on education, patient visits, and grant funding.</p>  |
| <p><b>B. Executive Leadership Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Consideration of Remediation Regarding DHMP Premium Deficiency Reserves</b></li> </ul> | <p>Donna Lynne, DrPH &amp; Senior Leadership Team</p> | <p>Dr. Donna Lynne, herself or by calling on others provided updates on key Denver Health events and matters. Dr. Lynne shared a story about a patient who is a retired physician, and his daughter works at Denver Health as a hospitalist. He recently suffered a cardiac arrest while playing at a Jazz show in Denver. After he was discharged, he wrote a note thanking all the providers who treated him and expressed that he could see how committed they all were to their patients and to the mission of Denver Health. Dr. Lynne announced that Dr. Read Pierce is the new Chief Medical Officer and the search to find the Chief Quality, Safety, and Transformation Officer, will begin soon. Ms. Natalie Nicholson, DNP, RN, was also announced as the new Chief Nursing Officer. Dr. Lynne briefly reported that the 2Q contract with the City, which supports distribution to Denver Health of 2Q funds, has been finalized. Dr. Lynne and Dr. Steve Federico will be traveling to Washington D.C. the first week of March, to meet with all eight congressional offices. Ms. Kris Gaw briefly reported on the capital construction updates, including the Westside Clinic. The departments of Care Management and Patient Flow are seeing ongoing improvements in patient lengths of stay. Ms. Gaw also</p> |

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|  |  | <p>discussed the two new programs launched by RMPDS: the Drug Center is providing support for serious adverse events for non-pharmaceutical clients and the Poison Control Center is providing toxicology support for chemical companies. The primary care waitlists dropped from 2000 to under 50, which is due to the work of the Patient Access and Appointment Center Teams. Dr. Read Pierce briefly reported on his transition into the Chief Medical Officer role. He reported on the ongoing Department Chair searches, and shared that the committee expects to have someone hired for the vacant Radiology Chair position by the March board meeting. He also shared that the Physician Leadership Academy has been successful and has generated a lot of positive feedback from the co-hort. The Breast Imaging team recently passed all American College of Radiology Requirements. Dr. Pierce also reported on the Culture of Safety and how the safety event reporting remained strong throughout 2024. Ms. Gaw and Dr. Pierce reported on a difficult case in the Denver Health OR earlier in the day, and how our care teams and the police department managed the situation with tremendous dedication, kindness, and grace. All those involved displayed compassion and support for the family in their time of need. Dr. Romana Hasnain-Wynia briefly reported that the Department of Academic Affairs and Public Health had over 130 articles published by Denver Health staff in 2024. Dr. Abraham Nussbaum was also recently featured on Don Berwick's podcast discussing medical education at Denver Health. Drs. Jason Haukoos and Sarah E. Rowan published clinical trials for randomization in emergency department-based pragmatic trials.</p> |
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| <b>C. Denver Community Health Services</b> | Pia Dean      | Dr. Duane Mata, D.D.S., reported, on behalf of Ms. Pia Dean, who was absent, that several DH physicians and two DCHS board members went to Washington D.C. recently for the National Association for Community Health Services Conference. Dr. Mata shared that 32.5M Americans in the U.S. get their health care at Community Health Centers. There was a brief discussion about federal funding, HRSA, and grants. The committee also discussed emerging issues and the UDS report. |
| <b>D. Human Resources Committee</b>        | Kathy Nesbitt | Ms. Kathy Nesbitt reported that the Employee Pulse Survey will be sent out on March 1st. The committee also discussed the health insurance dependent care audit.  |
| <b>E. Chair's Report</b>                   | Patti Klinge  | Ms. Klinge reminded the board about the May 22 <sup>nd</sup> Board Offsite meeting and to ensure it is on their calendars.  |
| <b>VII. Adjournment</b>                    | Patti Klinge  | <p>The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:15 p.m.</p> <p>Katherine Marinelli transcribed the meeting. Enid A. Wade and Patti Klinge reviewed the minutes.</p> <div data-bbox="1108 836 1591 1291" data-label="Text">  </div> <p>Enid A. Wade<br/>Secretary</p>  |