

**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, March 27, 2025

1:30 p.m. – 5:08 p.m.

<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Guests</b>
<b>Present:</b>	Donna Lynne, DrPH	Lorena Zimmer	Judith Benton
Patti Klinge	April Audain	Morris Askenazi, M.D.	Gina Glockner
Tom Kim	Amy Friedman	Abraham Nussbaum, M.D.	Peg Burnette
Jim Chavez	Kris Gaw	Katherine Marinelli	Steve Clark
Kathy Nesbitt	Rebecca Hanratty, M.D.		Rebecca Scull
Chris Watney	Romana Hasnain-Wynia, Ph.D		Sandy Theunick
Hollie Velasquez-Horvath	Amy King		Lisa Horn
Frank deGruy, M.D.	Greg McCarthy		Jami Johnson
Eli Provencio-Vasquez	Jacque Montgomery		Tracy Bruns
Doug Friednash	Natalie Nicholson, RN,		Rebecca Allyn, M.D.
Pia Dean ( <i>Via Webex</i> )	Read Pierce, M.D.		Justin Helsper
<b>Absent:</b>	Crystal Potter Rivera		
Lily Cervantes, M.D.	Enid Wade, J.D.		

<b>Agenda Topic</b>	<b>Responsible Person(s)</b>	<b>Status/Comments</b>
<b>I. Call to Order and Preliminary Matters</b>	Patti Klinge	Ms. Patti Klinge, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
<b>A. Approval of February 27, 2025, Meeting Minutes</b>		Dr. Frank deGruy made a motion to approve the minutes, and the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

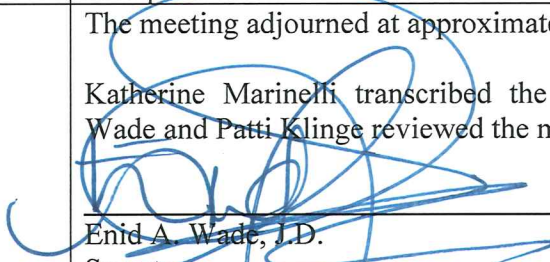
<p><b>B. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement</b></p> <p><b>C. Key Personnel Updates</b></p> <p><b>D. Public Comment</b></p> <p><b>E. Chaplain Patient Story</b></p>		<p>Ms. Klinge requested disclosure of any conflicts of interest. No conflicts were disclosed.</p> <p>Dr. Donna Lynne announced that Dr. Romana Hasnain-Wynia had shared her plans to leave Denver Health effective May 1<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Lynne highlighted all the accomplishments Dr. Hasnain-Wynia has made in Research at Denver Health and briefly reported on other updates.</p> <p>No public comment was provided.</p> <p>In lieu of a video, a patient story was shared by Ms. Sandy Theunick. Ms. Theunick shared an extraordinary story about a young patient who always wanted to help people in his short life and carried that out through organ donation following the patient's untimely death.</p>
<p><b>II. Medical Staff/Quality</b></p> <p><b>A. Approval of Medical Staff Appointments</b></p> <p><b>B. Medical Staff Executive Committee (MSEC) Update</b></p>	<p>Morris Askenazi, M.D.</p>	<p>Dr. Morris Askenazi, President of the Medical Staff, presented 16 new applicants for medical staff appointments, 58 reappointments, 7 physicians leaving the medical staff, and 4 red flags, which had been reviewed and discussed in greater detail, with all concerns being addressed. Mr. Kim made a motion to approve the requested appointments and privileges. The motion was seconded and was unanimously approved.</p> <p>Dr. Askenazi shared that Doctor's Day is on March 30 and the Annual Teaching Competition is on April 16. He also advised that a number of Denver Health physicians were being included in the 5280 Magazine listing of Top Docs.</p>

<p><b>III. Consent Items</b></p> <p><b>A. Resolution Relating to Issuance of Healthcare Revenue Bonds Series 2025A</b></p> <p><b>B. Resolution Approving Reclassification of Funds Contributed</b></p> <p><b>C. Resolution Authorizing and Approving Payment to DHHA to Denver Health Medical Plan</b></p>		<p>Ms. Peg Burnette, Chief Revenue Officer, and Mr. Steve Clark provided a brief update on the Healthcare Revenue Bonds for construction of the Westside Clinic. They explained this project also qualifies for New Market Tax Credit (NMTC) financing and provided other details of the transaction as consistent with the detailed description of the proposed transaction contained in the Resolution Relating to Issuance of Healthcare Revenue Bonds Series 2025A. This Resolution along with the two (2) other resolutions on the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved, after opportunity for questions and answers.</p>
<p><b>IV. New Business</b></p> <p><b>A. Executive Leadership Update</b></p>	<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 that Dr. Ro Pereira was selected for the highly competitive Executive Leadership in Academic Healthcare “ELAM” program. Dr. Lynne reported on the meetings with Federal Delegation in Washington, D.C. Representative Evans toured the Emergency Department with Dr. Stephen Wolf, Board Vice Chair Tom Kim, and Dr. Lynne. They discussed Medicaid Updates and populations served by Denver Health. Dr. Hasnain-Wynia shared that NIH research grants are being terminated requiring consideration of whether to pursue appeals to reinstate funding to continue research. Ms. Kris Gaw reported on the new patient waitlist which decreased a combined 90% since 2023. Chief Paramedic Gary Bryskiewicz is retiring in August after 27 years at Denver Health. Ms. Gaw and Dr. Read Pierce briefly outlined the process for replacing the MRI machines in Pavilion A. Dr.</p>

		<p>Pierce reported on the Measles outbreaks and provided updates on the searches to fill vacant Department Chair roles. Dr. Pierce also reported briefly on Quality/Efficiency Initiatives and the Hospital Transformation Program.</p>
<b>B. Physician Burnout</b>	Rebecca Allyn, M.D.	Dr. Rebecca Allyn presented on Medical Staff Burnout and the Mini – Z Experience Survey. Key findings included Denver Health burnout rates are trending down, but are still higher than national levels.
<b>C. 10-minute Break</b>		
<b>D. ForvisMazars Audit Report</b>	Justin Helsper and Auditor Team	Mr. Justin Helsper introduced the ForvisMazars team, Lisa Horn and Jami Johnson who summarized results of the 2024 audit as set out in the Audit report attached hereto as Exhibit B. They discussed certain audit adjustments, summarized financial information and summarized operating expenses over the last three years.
<b>E. 90 – Day Update from Chief Nursing Officer</b>	Natalie Nicholson, DNP, MBA, RN	Ms. Natalie Nicholson provided a brief update on her first 90 days as Chief Nursing Officer. Her observations included opportunities to renew focus on professional development and increase communication and engagement with staff and leadership.
<b>F. 90 – Day Update from Chief Medical Officer</b>	Read Pierce, M.D.	Dr. Pierce provided a brief update on his first 90 days as Chief Medical Officer. He described reinstating weekly meetings with all Chairs, which are co-led with Dr. Hanratty, and identified priorities and focus areas, including culture, leadership development, and mentorship for physician and APP leaders.



<b>G. Access Transformation: Scheduling Optimization</b>	Kris Gaw, Read Pierce, M.D., Rebecca Hanratty, M.D.	Ms. Kris Gaw and Drs. Pierce and Hanratty presented on work done on the strategic initiative of improving access.
<b>V. Community and Board Member Reports</b>		
<b>A. Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee</b>	Tom Kim	Ms. April Audain reported on the February financial results which reflected a gain of \$8.1M. Operational expenses were unfavorable in February due to an increase in volumes. There was a brief discussion about strategic plan metrics.
<b>B. Quality, Safety, and Service Improvement Committee (QSSIC)</b>	Frank deGruy M.D.	Dr. Frank deGruy shared that the committee saw presentations from Dr. Pierce and Ms. Stephanie Phibbs on Hospital Transformation Program; Dr. Ray Estacio presented on ACS Q1 Updates; and Mr. Sharif Abdelhamid presented on Patient Advocate Grievance and Complaint Reports.
<b>C. Denver Community Health Services</b>	Pia Dean	Ms. Pia Dean reported included that the HRSA site visit has been confirmed for April 22 <sup>nd</sup> - April 24 <sup>th</sup> , 2025, and that will include interviews of the Board. She reported on other work of the CHS Board including review of the service area needs assessment.
<b>D. Human Resources Committee</b>	Kathy Nesbitt	Ms. Kathy Nesbitt reported there is a new Director of Benefits, Ms. Erin Slattery. She briefly addressed work on emerging issues and the talent review process.
<b>E. Research &amp; Education Committee</b>	Eli Provencio-Vasquez, R.N., Ph.D.	Dean Eli Provencio-Vasquez reported that the committee saw a presentation by Dr. Hasnain-Wynia on the Mission and Vision of the Office of Academic Affairs. Ms. Amanda Breeden presented on Threats to Research and Federal Funding in 2025 and Beyond.

<b>F. Chair's Report</b>	Patti Klinge	Ms. Klinge reminded the board about the May 19 <sup>th</sup> Paramedic Event.
<b>VI. Executive Session – Deliberative Process Matters</b> <b>A. CEO Matters</b> <b>B. Emerging Updates</b> <b>C. Litigation + Strategy (As Needed)</b> <b>D. Review Study</b> <b>E. HR/Personnel Matters</b> <b>F. Board – Only Deliberation</b>		Mr. Kim made a motion at 4:26 p.m. to enter into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. sections 24-6-402 (4), (b), (c), (e), (f), and (g), which allow for review and discussion of legal advice on regulatory, legal, and compliance matters, and on pending, threatened, or imminent litigation and settlements; to deliberate and discuss personnel and peer review matters; and matters confidential under HIPAA, and matters confidential under other laws, and positions and strategy for negotiation; and under the deliberative process privilege pursuant to common law and C.R.S. Section 24-72-204 (3)(a), (4), and (13). The motion was seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. The board came out of executive session at 5:08 p.m.
<b>VII. Adjournment</b>	Patti Klinge	The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:08 p.m.  Katherine Marinelli transcribed the meeting. Enid A. Wade and Patti Klinge reviewed the minutes.   _____ Enid A. Wade, J.D. Secretary
		I, Enid A. Wade, Chief Legal Officer of Denver Health and Hospital Authority, attest that the discussion during any portion of the Executive Session that was not recorded, concerned attorney-client communication.   _____ Enid A. Wade, J.D. Secretary