



Denver Health and Hospital Authority Board Meeting  
MEETING MINUTES

601 Broadway, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor, Conf Room 927  
Thursday, September 21, 2023  
1:32 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Board of Directors	Staff	Staff	Guests
<b>Present: In Person Unless Otherwise Stated</b>	Donna Lynne, DrPH.	Lorena Zimmer	Christian Thurstone, M.D.
Patricia "Pia" Dean	Bob Belknap, M.D.	Heather Young, M.D.	Peg Burnette
Patti Klinge	Steven Federico, M.D.	Katherine Marinelli	Michael Moore
Frank deGruy, M.D.	Amy Friedman		Rebecca Hanratty, M.D.
Doug Friednash	Romana Hasnain-Wynia		Sean VanBerschot
Eli Provencio-Vasquez, PhD, RN <i>Via WebEx</i>	Ansar Hassan		Allison Barth
Lily Cervantes, M.D. <i>Via WebEx</i>	Greg McCarthy		Kateri Dir-Munoz, RN
Tom Kim	Jacque Montgomery		Hudson Ritter, BHT
	Read Pierce, M.D.		Rebecca Webb, NP
<i>Absent:</i>	Connie Savor Price, M.D.		Alex Yanish
Kathy Nesbitt	Crystal Potter Rivera		
Jim Chavez	Chuck Scully		
Danielle Shoots	Enid Wade, J.D.		
Hollie Velasquez-Horvath	Jackie Zheleznyak		



Agenda Topic	Responsible Person (s)	Status/Comments
<b>I. Call to Order and Preliminary Matters</b> <b>A. Approval of July 27th, 2023, Meeting Minutes</b>  <b>B. Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement</b>  <b>C. Public Comment</b>	Pia Dean	<p>Ms. Pia Dean, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Mr. Doug Friednash made a motion to approve the minutes, the motion was seconded and approved unanimously.</p> <p>Ms. Dean requested disclosure of any conflicts of interest. No conflicts were disclosed.</p> <p>Public Comment was provided by Kateri Dir-Munoz, Hudson Ritter, and Rebecca Webb.</p>
<b>III. Medical Staff/Quality</b> <b>A. Medical Staff Appointments</b> <b>B. Medical Staff Executive Committee (MSEC) Update</b>	Heather Young, M.D.	<p>Dr. Heather Young reported 11 new applicants for appointments, 51 reappointments, and 20 leaving the medical staff. A motion to approve those identified as new members to the Medical Staff was made and seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved. Dr. Young shared a brief overview of the revisions that were made to the Medical Staff Bylaws. The Annual Awards Dinner for the Medical Staff is on October 25 at the Denver Athletic Club.</p> <p>A motion was made to approve the revised Medical Staff Bylaws, the motion was seconded and unanimously approved.</p>
<b>IV. Consent Items</b> <b>A. Approval of 2024 Board Meeting Dates</b> <b>B. Approval of Revised Medical Staff Bylaws</b> <b>C. Resolution of Approval of Revised Medical Staff Bylaws</b>		<p>Mr. Tom Kim made a motion to approve the consent calendar, the motion was seconded, and the consent calendar was unanimously approved.</p>
<b>V. New Business</b> <b>A. CEO Report</b>	Donna Lynne, DrPH & Leadership Team	<p>Donna Lynne, herself or by calling on others, provided updates on key issues across the organization. Dr. Lynne shared an employee</p>



	<p>note which highlighted the positive effect of communications during Suicide Prevention Month in September. Dr. Lynne briefly discussed the mural being painted on the wall on the side of the parking garage between Acoma and the Outpatient Medical Center. This mural is representative of the diversity of our employees. Denver Health received the Million Heart Award from the Center for Disease Control. Ms. Jacque Montgomery reported that the Lown Institute recognized Denver Health as the most racially inclusive hospital in Colorado. Dr. Lynne also reported that there are several key personnel changes to our team: hiring a new Chief DEIB Officer and Director of Government Relations; Dr. Sonja O'Leary is the new DOS for general pediatrics and Dr. Bob Belknap is the Executive Director for Public Health Institute at Denver Health. As part of the Operating Agreement process, the proposed Denver Health 2024 Budget was submitted in May, and DH leaders recently met with the Mayor's Office to discuss the budget. Mr. Michael Moore, reporting on behalf of Ms. Kris Gaw, reported that the Department of Emergency Medicine had high patient experience scores. The OBGYN Team delivered 367 babies in July, which is the highest number in a single month since 2008, and 336 babies were delivered in August. Dr. Connie Savor Price reported on out-of-service area uncompensated care and advised that the volume of this care has plateaued recently, which led to questions and a brief discussion. Dr. Kathy Boyle reported that the August new Graduate RN Cohort was the largest in 12 years, with 82 New Grads. She also reported that workplace violence has increased on the inpatient units. Security and Leadership are taking steps to ensure prompt responses to assaults. Dr. Read Pierce reported briefly on the unannounced CDPHE visit to investigate a complaint, which ended with no findings. Ms. Amy Friedman shared that the Overall Rating of the Hospital continues to trend upwards, with an increase to the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile in August. Dr. Romana Hasnain-Wynia briefly reported that Dr. Sarah Rowan's pilot program is successfully treating Hepatitis C</p>
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		<p>through telehealth care visits at the Harm Reduction Action Center. The Dr. John Sbarbaro Memorial Lecture series is starting again with a presentation on November 2, 2023, on "Using Racial Equity to Promote Positive Mental Well-Being and Provide Culturally Responsive Services" by Dr. Anthony P. Young.</p> <p>Ms. Crystal Potter Rivera gave a brief update on the Foundation's progress towards its Campaign Goal. The Gala has been scheduled for April 6, 2024. The Kaiser Challenge has raised \$2.8M in funds which qualify for the match. The Executive Briefings from the Foundation have resumed, and the upcoming session is on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Greg McCarthy reported that Medicaid Choice membership is declining due to the end of the Public Health Emergency. The Medicaid Choice Membership Cap is now at 100K in place as of July 1<sup>st</sup>.</p>
<b>i. Infectious Disease and Equipment Update</b>	Connie Savor Price, M.D.	<p>Dr. Savor Price provided a brief update on projections for the upcoming respiratory season. RSV is likely to return to normal season patterns this year, while influenza rates are expected to fall within the typical range of severity.</p>
<b>B. State of the Department</b>	Christian Thurstone, M.D.	<p>Dr. Christian Thurstone provided a presentation and update on the Department of Behavioral Health. Dr. Thurstone shared metrics relating to employees and staffing, facilities, and number of patients treated. Office of Behavioral Health has 679 employees of which: 214 are RNs, and 121 are Clinicians. OBH also opened the only Adolescent Withdrawal Management Program in the state.</p>
<b>C. 10 Minute Break</b> <b>D. Strategic Plan for 2024-2026</b>	Donna Lynne & Sean VanBerschot	<p>Mr. Sean VanBerschot briefly reported on the Strategic Plan. The Steering Committee is working on a three-year strategic plan for the organization to include metrics to monitor its success.</p>
<b>E. Community Health Needs Assessment</b>	Lorena Zimmer	<p>Ms. Lorena Zimmer reported on the Benefit Implementation Plan for the Community Health Needs Assessment focusing on</p>



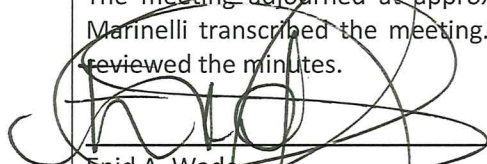
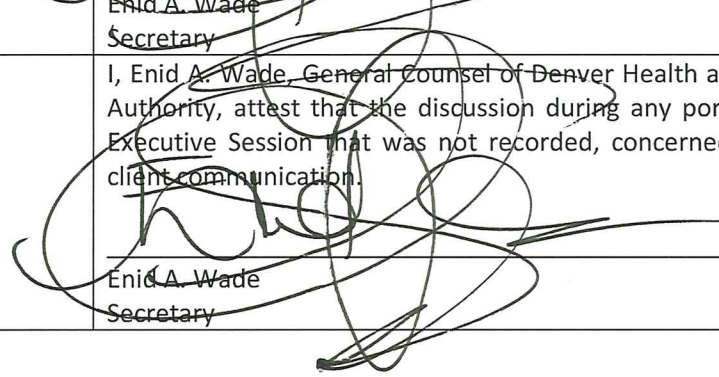
<b>F. Sustainable Funding Task Force</b>	Lorena Zimmer & Steve Federico, M.D.	<p>Behavioral Health, Child Health &amp; Wellbeing, and Economic Opportunity. Ms. Dean asked for a motion to approve the implementation plan, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.</p> <p>Dr. Steve Federico briefly reported on implementing a task force that will provide community engagement as we engage in work to explore viable, additional funding sources into 2024.</p>
<b>VI. Community and Board Member Reports</b>		
<b>A. Finance, Audit, and Compliance Committee</b>	Tom Kim/Ansar Hassan	Mr. Ansar Hassan briefly discussed the financial trends as the 2024 budget is in the works. We have currently have 87 days cash on hand.
<b>B. Quality, Safety, and Service Improvement Committee (QSSIC)</b>	Frank deGruy, M.D./Read Pierce, M.D.	Dr. deGruy shared that the committee saw presentations from Ms. Amy Friedman and Dr. Boyle on Workplace Violence and from Dr. Boyle on Staffing Effectiveness. Dr. deGruy also briefly discussed Health Equity.
<b>C. DCHS</b>	Patti Klinge	Ms. Klinge reported that the committee is meeting later after the board meeting. The committee hosted a retreat recently, and it was informative.
<b>D. Human Resources Committee</b>	Patti Klinge	Ms. Klinge reported that the committee is working on the 1 <sup>st</sup> phase of the senior management compensation study and received relevant, current information from Sullivan Cotter.
<b>E. Research and Education Committee</b>	Eli Provencio-Vasquez, R.N. Ph.D.	Dr. Eli Provencio-Vasquez shared that Dr. Holly Frost presented on the different health systems that support Denver Health. Sarah Meadows also presented on Graduate Education and the accreditation process. Dr. Jama Goers presented on Longitudinal Clinical Placement.



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<b>F. Chair's Report</b>	Pia Dean	Ms. Dean noted that there has been a long list of media reports with information favorable to Denver Health, including a recent 5280 Article.
<b>VII. Executive Session</b> <b>A. CEO Matters</b> <b>B. Litigation Update (As Needed)</b> <b>C. HR/Personnel Matters</b> <b>D. Board Only Deliberation</b>		Ms. Klinge made a motion at 4:05 p.m. to enter into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. section 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). Mr. Tom Kim seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously. The board came out of executive session at 4:55 p.m.
<b>VIII. Adjournment</b>	Pia Dean	The meeting adjourned at approximately 4:55 p.m. Katherine Marinelli transcribed the meeting. Enid A. Wade and Pia Dean reviewed the minutes.   Enid A. Wade Secretary
		I, Enid A. Wade, General Counsel 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 Secretary