



DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH CENTER/COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes for Monday, April 27, 2026

Douglas County Health Center/Community Mental Health Center
4102 Woolworth Avenue, Omaha NE 68105

I. Call to Order

Chair Garcia called the meeting to order at 9:00 am and stated that the meeting was being conducted in compliance with Nebraska's Open Meetings law, a copy of which is located on the east wall.

Chair Garcia called for the roll at 9:00 am. Chair Garcia, Trustees Fahey, Friend, Morgan and Rodgers were present for the call to order. Vice Chair Cavanaugh and Trustee Borgeson were not present at this time.

II. Consent Agenda

Chair Garcia called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda at 9:01 am. Trustee Friend made a motion and Trustee Morgan requested a second. Yeas: Fahey, Friend, Garcia, Morgan and Rodgers. Motion passed.

III. Citizen Comments

Chair Garcia called for members of the audience to be heard regarding any item not on the agenda.

IV. Action

No items on the agenda.

V. Discussion

Speaking is Sara Baker.

a. Recovery Therapeutic Community Intensive Outpatient Program Presentation

Ms. Baker has informed us that the men's program was launched in May 2023, followed by the inauguration of the women's program in December 2024.

Additionally, we reviewed a video presentation featuring personal testimonials from participants in each program, as well as insights provided by two staff members.

VI. DCHC/CMHC Updates

a. DCHC Update

Speaking are Erin Nelson and DeDe Will.

Ms Nelson highlighted Nebraska health transformation initiatives, legislative updates regarding appropriation for NF rates, intergenerational grants, DHHS Medicaid retroactive eligibility policy and practice and guardian/conservatorship requirements. She provided facility updates, on the west side spa rooms, asbestos abatement in rooms, the replacement of the roof over the lobby and a riser on west side. She advised the Board of a much-needed upgrade to the phone and fax service for DCHC and the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to manage fall prevention and Recreational Therapy and HER (Electronic Health Records) integration.

Ms Nelson also provided an update on the current census and payor sources for residents; the current staffing levels and upcoming events and activities including activities for National Skilled Nursing Home Week, resident special Olympics and monthly memorial services held for

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in The Daily Record, a legal newspaper. The notice advised that an agenda kept current was available for public inspection in the Office of the Administrator of Douglas County Health Center.



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9:00 AM

residents. She announced partnerships with the Nebraska Humane Society and Heartland Equine Therapeutic Riding Academy (HERTA) for the residents.

Ms Will provided a financial update through March 31st. She reported on revenues and expenses compared to the same period in 2025. For the upcoming budget year, staff will be focusing on finalizing the Pharmacy RFP and will continue discussions with CMHC on the transition plan.

b. CMHC Update

Speaking is Sherry Driver.

Ms Driver shared that staff is still waiting for service definitions, which will be effective on July 1st. This provides only a 30-day turnaround. The service definitions will significantly affect Detox and Teri is taking steps to prepare. She provided a short update on the move to the new facility with move in anticipated for February 2027.

She also provided March highlights for the psychiatric inpatient unit regarding medical screening, referral sources, legal status including historical data, discharge status, inpatient payor majority sources including breakdown of Medicare and Medicaid and primary and secondary diagnoses. For inpatients, she reviewed the average length of stay, the majority of inpatient discharges are to home/family. The top prevalent diagnosis condition at discharge are serious & persistent mental illness (85%), follow substance use disorder (37%), medical secondary diagnosis (27%). The readmission rates for 30 day was 14%, which included minimum and maximum days, and the legal status at discharge. She also shared that the majority of patients with severe mental health diagnosis are discharged with family and support services.

For the outpatient program, Ms. Driver continued to review occupancy rates, discharges and length of stay. Therapy services in clinic. For the outpatient clinic, she provided data for program admissions, triage, nurse, MD/APRN and therapist appointments, Day Treatment Program, Mental Health Diversion Services in collaboration with the Department of Corrections and Emergency Community Support Services and Familiar Faces Program in collaboration with the Department of Corrections. She reported on the admissions for the Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) criminal justice center and the number of admissions divided by male and female and their annual income.

Regarding the Detoxification program, the average length of stay was reported. Participants in voluntary services report only a 9% incarceration within 30 days. Ms Driver noted that research shows direct transfer from north to south most likely to complete and be successful in the program. There were no significant changes in staffing.

VII. Executive Session

There was no need for an executive session.

VIII. Adjourn

Chair Garcia called for a motion to adjourn. Vice Chair Cavanaugh made a motion to adjourn, Trustee Morgan seconded it. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on Monday, May 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. at the Douglas County Health Center.