

Minutes: NHWSB Data Workgroup

Date: Monday, March 31, 2025

Minutes prepared by: Linnea Becerra

Location: Hybrid – Koochiching Room at the Department of Labor and Industry and via Webex

Attendance

Members present

Kim Brenne

Michele Fredrickson

Paula Rocheleau (remotely)

Visitors present

Todd Bergstrom

Jeff Bostic (remotely)

DLI staff members present

Linnea Becerra

Paul Enger

Ken McGurran (remotely)

Leah Solo

Agenda items

- **Call to order** – the meeting was called to order by Executive Director Leah Solo at 9:31 a.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was declared.
- **Approval of agenda** – a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Paula Rocheleau and seconded by Michele Fredrickson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of drafted meeting minutes** – a motion to approve the Jan. 21, 2025, drafted meeting minutes as presented was made by Rocheleau and seconded by Fredrickson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

1. Board updates –

- Solo reviewed the memo for the Data Workgroup by section. She asked for questions or feedback before moving on. Seeing none, the group moved to Rocheleau.
- Rocheleau walked through the “Measures and Supporting Data Needed by NHWSB for Ongoing Evaluation Notes” compiled by Katie Lundmark, Mary Swanson and Rocheleau for the Data Workgroup.
- The group discussed data measures the board could use for evaluating current standards and shaping future rules. Ideas included closures, resident satisfaction and impact on quality indicators. The group decided it is clearer to focus on retention data, rather than turnover data, in assessing workforce stability. Kim Brenne suggested examining data on pool staff use and occupancy rates. There was discussion about health insurance through the employer and what the workers are looking for. Community access was discussed; the group talked about examining the distance to the closest nursing

home and beds per thousand. It was noted the beds per thousand data is reported on the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) website and is updated regularly, while the distance to the nearest nursing home data would need to be aggregated. Paul Enger reminded the group it should be working under the assumption that all data gathered and discussed by the board will be public.

- Members agreed that using already available data would be the best path forward.
- Solo brought up that wage data is one point the group has not yet discussed. Wage data is not currently collected and reported. Brenne suggested doing a sampling of wage data. Solo wrapped up the meeting restating the data points the group has decided to focus on: beds per thousand; retention; pool data; direct care hours; and compensated hours. It was added that family and resident satisfaction surveys were points of interest.
- Brenne said the themes she saw, fall into some main categories: access; quality; hours and benefits; Medicaid rates; and costs. The group directed Solo to report the Data Workgroup's progress to the full board at the next meeting for its members' feedback and input.

2. New business –

3. Next meeting – the next meeting is Thursday, July 10, 2025, in the Isanti Room.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Brenne to adjourn the meeting at 10:36 a.m. and seconded by Rocheleau. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.