

Minutes: NHWSB Certification/Training Workgroup

Date: Thursday, Aug. 28, 2025

Minutes prepared by: Linnea Pignatello

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

Attendance

Members present	Visitors present	DLI staff members present
Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach	Brian Elliott	Linnea Becerra
Jamie Gulley	Amanda Johnson (remotely)	Ken McGurran
Katie Lundmark		Leah Solo

Agenda items

- Call to order** – the meeting was called to order by Executive Director Leah Solo at 10:02 a.m. Roll call was taken; all members were present in person. A quorum was declared.
- Approval of agenda** – a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Jamie Gulley and seconded by Katie Lundmark. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- Approval of drafted meeting minutes** – a motion to approve the Dec. 12, 2024, drafted meeting minutes as presented was made by Gulley and seconded by Lundmark. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- Board updates** –
 - Solo went over the items on the agenda to begin the meeting.
 - Commissioner Nicole Blissenbach asked if there have been any training sessions so far; Gulley responded anecdotally that worker organizations seem to be working on getting trainers. It was discussed to monitor capacity for worker training and to reach out to organizations for an update about their work.
 - There was discussion about how to do outreach to nursing facilities about certified worker organizations (CWOs). One idea was to send a physical mailer, including a letter with CWO contact information from the board. CWOs could be highlighted in newsletters from provider networks to facilities. Another idea was to have a booth at the provider conferences staffed by board members in November and February and to invite CWOs to join at those booths. A staff member from Care Providers will reach out to Executive Director Solo to coordinate.
 - The workgroup discussed the deadline for employers to have workers have been trained. It was decided Oct. 1, 2027, will be the date by which all employers must have all employees trained about their rights under the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board rules. Lundmark made a motion to recommend the board to establish Sept. 30, 2027, as the date by which all training sessions must be completed and submitted to the board. And, Oct. 1, 2027, will be the start of the next reporting

period, because this aligns with the fiscal year for the Minnesota Department of Health. Gulley seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

- There was discussion about the timeline to establish curriculum and have a public hearing. The workgroup decided to have the public hearing as a part of the January or February full board meeting.
- Blissenbach made a motion to do the annual review of the curriculum within 60 days of the first of the year. Lundmark seconded this motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

5. **New business –**
6. **Next meeting** – the next meeting is Jan. 14, 2026, in the Isanti Room at the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Gulley to adjourn the meeting at 10:33 a.m. and seconded by Commissioner Blissenbach. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.