

Minutes: NHWSB Data Workgroup

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025

Minutes prepared by: Linnea Becerra

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

Attendance

Members present	Visitors present	DLI staff members present
Kim Brenne	Todd Bergstrom	Linnea Becerra
Michele Fredrickson (remotely)	Jeff Bostic	Paul Enger
Paula Rocheleau (remotely)	Brian Elliott (remotely)	Ken McGurran
		Leah Solo

Agenda items

- **Call to order** – the meeting was called to order by Executive Director Leah Solo at 3:01 p.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 Kim Brenne. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Approval of drafted meeting minutes** – a motion to approve the March 31, 2025, drafted meeting minutes as presented was made by Rocheleau and seconded by Brenne. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- **Board updates** –
 - Executive Director Solo recapped what the workgroup brought to the board at the most recent board meeting: four main categories of data, including access measurement, quality measurement, hour and benefit measurement, and Medicaid costs measurement.
 - Solo walked through some data readily available from the Department of Human Services. The first graph showed the difference between temporary nursing staff versus direct care staff retention, and another showed direct care staff retention, broken down by occupation.
 - Solo explained her memo regarding the unemployment insurance (UI) reported under the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code 623110, associated with nursing care facilities. Solo looked at the facilities that report under that NAICS code and fall under the Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board Act. She reviewed the results table in the memo and concluded the UI data is not a sufficient data source to use alone.
 - There was sentiment the workgroup, and the larger board, does not want to impose more reporting obligations on nursing homes, but Rocheleau acknowledged the members have to look at what is available and ask if it is what the workgroup needs.

- Todd Bergstrom suggested bringing Oriane Casale from the Department of Economic Development (DEED) to the workgroup to speak about the types of data DEED collects and whether it could be of use to the board.
- Michele Fredrickson asked if the board could solicit data from the Minnesota Department of Health's (MDH's) Nursing Board for registered nurse profession growth. Brenne added MDH might have information about quality or hours. Some other ideas that came forward were payroll-based journal data, inspection reports and survey data. There was discussion about tracking wage growth and looking into the data provided when people apply for state medical coverage. Brenne reported the 2023 cost data will be publicly available in the coming months.
- Brenne suggested having a separate meeting to discuss Medicaid rates and costs. The group agreed that would be helpful and that it is a good strategy to use data that has been collected consistently.
- The next steps for the Data Workgroup include Solo reaching out to MDH, DEED and MNSure. Bergstrom and Jeff Bostic agreed to put together a presentation about how to complete a cost report and cost per diem, and what the board could pull from that information. It was established that more Data Workgroup meetings need to occur to have a fuller picture of the data.
- The workgroup acknowledged that if the board is not planning on collecting additional data, the urgency to make decisions about what data is tracked is not as dire as the board originally envisioned.
- It was also discussed that if the workgroup is inviting people from other agencies, the workgroup may want to invite other board members to the meeting.
- **New business –**
- **Next meeting –**

Adjournment

A motion was made by Brenne to adjourn the meeting at 3:59 p.m. and seconded by Fredrickson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.