

**Denton County MHMR Center
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 20, 2025**

Trustees Present: Isabel Hernandez, Dianne Hickey, Linda Holloway, Ph.D., Doug Lee, Ron Marchant, Kelly Sayre, Judi Swayne

Trustees Absent: Patti Dunn, Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., Jack Phillips, Leah Strittmatter

Staff Present: Jennifer Akcali, Kandace Boykin-Johnson, Terica Chappell, Michelle Conrad, Pam Gutierrez, Dallas Hamilton, Precious Holmes, Ciara Hurt, Kayla Lusk, Delinda Reese, Dr. Meena Vyas, Taylor Warren, Ritch Wright

Guests Present: D.R. Rockwell

I. Call to Order

- A. Roll Call** – a quorum was present for the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. Patti Dunn, Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., Jack Phillips, and Leah Strittmatter had an excused absence.

B. Welcome to Guests and Staff

Dianne Hickey, Board of Trustees Chair, called the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Denton County MHMR Center Board of Trustees to order at 1:00 p.m. in the boardroom of Denton County MHMR Center, 2519 Scripture Street, Denton, Texas. Dianne Hickey welcomed guests and staff.

C. Public Comments

D. Approval of the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes from April 28, 2025.

The Board of Trustees reviewed the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees meeting, April 28, 2025.

Board Action: Linda Holloway, Ph.D., made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting, April 28, 2025, as presented. Judi Swayne seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

E. Staff Presentation – Peer Support Program– *Kandace Boykin-Johnson, Program Manager of Special Projects*

The Board reserves the right to convene in Executive Session(s) from time to time as deemed necessary during this meeting - Executive Session(s) pursuant to Article 6252-17, Sec. 2, V.T.C.S., regarding Litigation (e), Real Estate (f), Personnel (g) and Security (j).

II. Committee Reports

Finance Committee Meeting

A. FY 2025 Period 8 (April) Financial Statements. – Dianne Hickey, Finance Committee Chair

In April 2025, expenditures exceeded revenues by \$14,789. The budget for April 2025 is an excess of \$16,369. Year-to-date (YTD) through April 2025, expenditures exceeded revenues by \$747,322. The budget YTD through April 2025 is a loss of \$21,779.

Board Action: Dianne Hickey made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the Financial Statements for the period ending in April 2025, which passed unanimously. A “second” was not required since the primary motion was made by the Finance Committee.

Personnel Committee Meeting

B. Review and Approval of New Position – Transition Support Liaison – FTE 1.0 – Budgeted Max: \$42/hr. – Linda Holloway, Ph.D., Personnel Committee Chair

Board Action: Linda Holloway, Ph.D., made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the New Position – Transition Support Liaison, which passed unanimously. A “second” was not required since the primary motion was made by the Personnel Committee.

III. Other Agenda Items

A. Planning Network and Advisory Committee (PNAC) Report and Discussion. – Ciara Hurt, Program Manager of QM

Board Action: Ron Marchant made a motion for the Board of Trustees to accept the Planning Network and Advisory Committee (PNAC) Report and Recommendations. Isabel Hernandez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. HR Quarterly Report. – Jennifer Akcali, HR Director

Board Action: Discussion Item Only

C. Zero Suicide Task Force Update. – Dallas Hamilton, Chief Operations Officer

Board Action: Discussion Item Only

D. Abuse & Neglect/Critical Incidents Report. – Kayla Lusk, IDD Rights Protection Officer

Board Action: Discussion Item Only

IV. Executive Director Report. – Pam Gutierrez, Executive Director

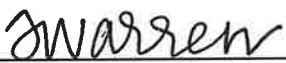
- The HCS Wait list currently has 3,279 individuals waiting for services.
- The IDD General Revenue Wait list currently has 312 waiting for services.
- Mental Health Adult Services continues not to have a wait list.
- Mental Health Child and Adolescent Services continues not to have a wait list.
- We are anxiously waiting for Legislature's decision on State Representative Ben Bumgarner's amendment, which has passed the House and the Senate. It is currently in Committee.
- The Center continues to look for funding opportunities, in particular due to all of the funding losses it is important to remember as discussed at the last meeting, that the Center is freezing positions, reviewing every program, including the Crisis Residential Unit (CRU) to determine effectiveness and efficiency. The Integrated Health program will be closing towards the first of July 2025. In addition, the Center continues to eliminate positions if the position is not needed at this time.
- We continue to meet with Mayors from local municipalities to discuss Center services and funding opportunities. We have not received any funding yet, but we continue to work on this.
- May is Mental Health Month, and the Mental Health Proclamation was on May 6th at the Denton County Courthouse, with many of you in attendance and so many staff. Thank you for your support!
- Our Child and Adolescent program continues to look for donations for their new area. Crayons, boardgames, coloring books, markers, sensory items, building blocks. The Amazon link is included on your flyer.
- The Annual LOSS Team Music & Arts Fest will be held on June 14, 2025, at Anderson's Distillery, N Bell Ave, Denton, Texas, 12:00pm to 8:00pm. Please come out and support the incredible LOSS Team! If you know of anyone wanting to be a sponsor or donate to our LOSS Event for the Silent Auction, please have them contact Ronnie Randles at events@dentonmhmr.org to make a donation. We would be so grateful!
- Thank you to Taylor for always helping me!
- Thank you to the staff, Leadership, and Chief Officers for all your hard work.
- Thank you to the Board for all your support and leadership.

V. Chair Comments. – Dianne Hickey, Board of Trustees Chair


- Dianne Hickey discussed the upcoming Back-to-School Drive that is sponsored by the Center and encouraged the Board of Trustees to participate and donate the items needed.
- The Center's Back-to-School Drive will be led by Delinda Reese, Family Partner, and Ronnie Randles, Center's Marketing Communication Specialist. This year's goal is 400 filled backpacks for individuals served and for children in the community to be distributed by mid-July.
- Dianne Hickey graciously agreed to donate backpacks for the Back-to School Drive.

VI. New Business – Next Board meeting will be held at the Denton Outpatient Clinic (DOPC) on Monday, June 30, 2025.

VII. Adjourned – The Board of Trustees adjourned at 2:27 p.m.



Respectfully Submitted
Taylor Warren, Executive Assistant
Denton County MHMR



Approved
Dianne Hickey, Chair
Denton County MHMR Board of Trustees