

**Denton County MHMR Center
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 24, 2025**

Trustees Present: Dianne Hickey, Isabel Hernandez, Linda Holloway, Ph.D., Doug Lee, Ron Marchant, Kelly Sayre, Paul Slough, Leah Strittmatter

Trustees Absent: Cynthia Jones, Ph.D.

Staff Present: Chinedu Anwasi, Veronica Armendariz, Michelle Conrad, Pam Gutierrez, Dallas Hamilton, Kayla Lusk, Jess Pham, Erin Posey, Morgan Quinnelly, Dr. Meena Vyas, Taylor Warren, Ritch Wright

Guests Present: None

I. Call to Order

- A. Roll Call** – a quorum was present for the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., 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 August 28, 2025.

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

Board Action: Ron Marchant made a motion for the Board of Trustees to accept the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees Meeting, August 28, 2025, as presented. Leah Strittmatter seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Isabel Hernandez and Paul Slough abstained due to not being present at the August 28, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting.

E. Staff Presentation – Public Funds Investment Act Board Training. – *Michelle Conrad, Chief Financial Officer*

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 12 (August) Financial Statements. – Dianne Hickey, Finance Committee Chair

In August 2025, expenditures exceeded revenues by \$666,925. The budget for August 2025 is an excess of \$4,191. Year-to-date (YTD) through August 2025, expenditures exceeded revenues by \$1,468,994. The budget YTD through August 2025 is an excess of \$363,562.

Board Action: Dianne Hickey made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the Financial Statements for the period ending in August 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 Policies. – Linda Holloway, Ph.D., Personnel Committee Chair

- Policy 2.101 - Standards of Care
- Policy 2.103 - Availability & Accessibility
- Policy 2.106 - Public Information
- Policy 3.706 - Mental Health Related Services
- Policy 7.100 - Equal Employment & Affirmative Action

Board Action: Linda Holloway, Ph.D., made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve Policy 2.101 - Standards of Care, Policy 2.103 - Availability & Accessibility, Policy 2.106 - Public Information, Policy 3.706 - Mental Health Related Services, and Policy 7.100 - Equal Employment & Affirmative Action, which passed unanimously. A “second” was not required since the primary motion was made by the Personnel Committee.

III. Other Agenda Items

A. Zero Suicide Task Force Quarterly Report. Discussion Item Only. – Dallas Hamilton, Chief Operations Officer.

Board Action: Discussion Item Only.

B. Abuse & Neglect/Critical Incidents Report. – Kayla Lusk, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Rights Protection Officer; Chinedu Anwasi, Mental Health (MH) Rights Protection Officer.

Board Action: Discussion Item Only

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

- Welcome Paul Slough to our Board of Trustees.
- Thank you to Isabel Hernandez and her husband for the beautiful mural for our Child and Adolescent department.
- The HCS Wait list currently has 3369 individuals waiting for services.
- The IDD General Revenue Wait list currently has 298 waiting for services.
- Mental Health Adult Services continues not to have a wait list.
- Mental Health Children and Adolescence continues not to have a wait list.
- The Center had our 4th Annual Mental Health & Judicial/Law Enforcement Summit on September 19, 2025. Thank you to Dianne Hickey for working tirelessly with the Embassy Suites to coordinate the Summit at a fourth of the cost. Thank you to the Board members that were able to attend. Thank you to our incredible Center presenter's. Thank you to my incredible team for coordinating the event, Taylor Warren, Tien Duong, Jill LeBaron, Randi Silar, Ronnie Randles, Ritch Wright, and Alex Wright. The Center was extremely fortunate to have Judge Eads provide the opening remarks, Paul Bastaich providing the blessing, Kelsey Bernstein, Chief of Government Relations, Texas Council, presenting Legislative information. Alex Reed from the Health Department presented on resources, Landon Dickeson presented on Trafficking for First Responders. The Denton County Probate Judge Jahn and Melissa Hsi, presented on the Center's Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Program. Matt Wiebe, Assistant District Attorney presented on Mental Health Treatment Court Updates. Center staff presented information about all the services the Center provides: Dallas Hamilton, Catherine Pike, Emily Daniel, Michelle Foster, Keela Adelegan, Lilliesha Grandberry, Morgan Quinnelly, Kirk VanHousen, and Jess Pham. Our Military Veterans Peer Navigators Kasey Brown and Becca Hobby also presented on services for Veterans made available by the Texas Health grant. The Colony Police Department, Officer Carlos Henderson presented the new Laws out of the Legislative Session regarding Emergency Detention Orders (EDO's). The Center was honored to have representation at the Summit from Denton County Commissioner Kevin Falconer our Legislator's: Elena Glassmann, Field Representative, Congressman Ronnie Jackson's office, Mitch Kipp, Field Operations Director, Congressman Brandon Gill's office, Melanie Royer, Outreach Representative/Constituent Services Representative, Tayte Ward, District Director, State Representative, Andy Hopper, Deon Starnes, District Director, State Representative Richard Hayes, and Tonya Morris, District Coordinator, Senator Brent Hagenbuch.
- Center staff attended the Touch by Suicide Memorial.
- The Center was honored to receive a Proclamation for Suicide Awareness Month from Judge Eads and the County Commissioners. Thank you to the Board and staff for attending.
- Please be aware that the Center has been advised of approval for Youth Crisis Outreach Teams (YCOT) funding. This funding is a unique opportunity for the Center to meet the unique needs of youth and adolescents with developmentally appropriate interventions by qualified professional. This funding and contract is expected to be received between March-May 2026. The expected funding is \$1,382,248, on a bi-annual basis.
- North Texas Giving Day was on September 18, 2025, and the Center supported the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team. Our incredible community, staff, and Board helped us to raise \$7,779.00. The Center raised \$5,553.42 in FY 2024.
- The Flower Mound Duck Derby was on September 20, 2025. The event was incredibly successful! Thank you to the staff and Board for all the adopted ducks! The Center raised \$747.00 this year and in FY 2024 the Center raised \$146.00.

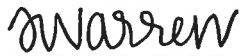
- Thank you to Judge Eads and the County Commissioners for the tremendous support for individuals with mental health, substance use, and services for individuals with developmental disabilities.
- Thank you, Taylor, for always helping me!!
- Thank you to the Chiefs and Leadership staff for all your hard work.
- Thank you to the Board for all your support and leadership.

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

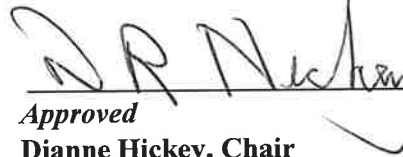
- Thank you to an amazing Board, that is always there to help. We all have our clients and staff in our hearts. They are there for us to help and that is why we are here. Thank you to the staff for always being there.

VI. New Business – Next Board meeting will be held at the Denton Outpatient Clinic (DOPC) on Thursday, October 23, 2025.

VII. Adjourned – The Board of Trustees adjourned at 1:53 p.m.



Respectfully Submitted
Taylor Warren, Executive Assistant
Denton County MHMR



Approved
Dianne Hickey, Chair
Denton County MHMR Board of Trustees