

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 30, 2026

Trustees Present: Brooke Hambrick, Dianne Hickey, Isabel Hernandez, Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., Doug Lee, Ron Marchant, Kelly Sayre, Paul Slough, Dawn Waye

Trustees Excused Absence: Linda Holloway, Ph.D. (Excused)

Staff Present: Keelah Adelegan, Veronica Armendariz, Michelle Conrad, Pam Gutierrez, Dallas Hamilton, Cole Hoard, Ciara Hurt, Kayla Lusk, Jess Pham, Erin Posey, Morgan Quinnelly, Taylor Warren, Ritch Wright

Guests Present: Pam Beach

I. Call to Order

A. Roll Call – a quorum was present for the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees meeting. Linda Holloway, 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's, My Health, My Resources, Board of Trustees to order at 12:58 p.m. in the Boardroom of Denton County MHMR Center's, My Health, My Resources, Administrative Building, 1614 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 June 25, 2026.

The Board of Trustees reviewed the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees meeting, June 25, 2026.

Board Action: Isabel Hernandez made a motion for the Board of Trustees to accept the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board of Trustees meeting, June 25, 2026, as presented. Paul Slough seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., Doug Lee, and Dawn Waye abstained due to not being present at the June 25, 2026, Board of Trustees meeting.

E. Board Training/Presentation – Annual Board Training. – *Pamela Beach, Attorney, Texas Council Risk Management Fund*

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 2026 Period 10 (June) Financial Statements. – Dianne Hickey, Finance Committee Chair

In June 2026, the Denton County MHMR Center reported a net profit of **\$205,569**, which was more than the board-approved budgeted profit of **\$1,254** for the month and reflecting continued financial stability.

For the fiscal year-to-date period of September 2025 through June 2026, the Center generated a cumulative net profit of **\$1,348,559**, compared to a board-approved budgeted profit of **\$279,018** for the same period. This represents a favorable variance to budget and stronger-than-anticipated financial performance.

Board Action: Dianne Hickey made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the Financial Statements for the period ending in June 2026, which passed unanimously. A “second” was not required since the primary motion was made by the Finance Committee.

B. Approval of Interfund Transfer in the amount of \$1,000,000 from General Fund to Internal Service Fund. – Dianne Hickey, Finance Committee Chair

Board Action: Kelly Sayre made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the interfund transfer in the amount of \$1,000,000 from General Fund to Internal Service Fund. Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Personnel Committee Meeting

C. Review and Approval of FY 2027 Annual Employee Benefits. – Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., Personnel Committee

Board Action: Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the FY 2027 Annual Employee Benefits, which passed unanimously. A “second” was not required since the primary motion was made by the Personnel Committee.

D. Review and Approval of Policy 7.900 – Reduction in Force. – Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., Personnel Committee

Board Action: Cynthia Jones, Ph.D. made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve Policy 7.900 – Reduction in Force, which passed unanimously. A “second” was not required since the primary motion was made by the Personnel Committee.

III. Other Agenda Items

A. Abuse & Neglect/Critical Incidents Report. Discussion Item Only. – Kayla Lusk, Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Rights Protection Officer

Board Action: Discussion Item Only.

B. Behavioral Health (BH) and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) Satisfaction Survey Report. – Veronica Armendariz, Senior Director of Quality Management (QM)/Utilization Management (UM)

Board Action: Discussion Item Only.

C. Board review and approval for the Center to contribute financially to the Partnership opportunity to explore and expand behavioral health services in Denton County. The request is from Denton County Judge Eads and the Denton County Commissioners Court, based on the agreement with the Behavioral Health Leadership Team to seek expert consultative strategic planning for the Denton County Deflection & Diversion project. The Denton County Judge & Commissioners have agreed to the recommendation made by the Behavioral Health Leadership Team to seek expert consultative strategic planning assistance from the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute for the potential Diversion Center project. The Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute Texas State Legislature opens in January 2027 and state funding for the project will be a pre-requisite to the Diversion Center’s success.

Consideration for the board to approve a \$500 to \$5,000 contribution from the Center to be a partner in the project. – Pam Gutierrez, Executive Director

Board Action: Cynthia Jones, Ph.D., made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the contribution of \$100 and a resolution for the project. Dawn Waye seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

D. Board review and approval of Letter of Commitment from the Board of Trustees for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT) Grant. Letter enclosed for review. Board action needed. – Pam Gutierrez, Executive Director

Board Action: Brooke Hambrick made a motion for the Board of Trustees to approve the Letter of Commitment for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Mental Health Awareness Training (MHAT) Grant. Ron Marchant seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

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

- Sadly, I wanted to let you all know that our previous Chief Operating Officer, Fonny Wright, passed away after a significant battle with brain cancer.
- The HCS Wait list currently has 3484 individuals waiting for services.
- The IDD General Revenue Wait list currently has 296 waiting services.
- Mental Health Adult Services has a waitlist of 187. (The waitlist is down 26 individuals from the board meeting in June of 2026.)
- Mental Health Child and Adolescent Services has a waitlist of 5. (The waitlist is down 2 individuals from the board meeting in June of 2026.)
- Service Target - Adults: 101%
- Service Target - Child and Adolescent - 119%
- Crisis Residential Unit – I wanted to bring the Crisis Residential Unit (CRU) monthly total admissions and the average weekly admissions to the Boards attention.
 - Please note that the census at CRU continues to be low, an average of 7 to 8 individuals per month.
 - These average equals 2-3 individuals receiving CRU services a week.
 - June was the highest month for individuals served this year, with 11 admissions.
 - Because of the low number of individuals admitted to CRU, the requirement for the SB 292 grant, which partially pays for the CRU facility, is 100, with an allowable 10% variance for admissions, providing a number of 90 required admissions.
 - For the Center to be able to meet the metrics for the SB 292 grant, an additional 4-14 individuals will be required to be served in August of 2026.

- As we have previously discussed, the reason for the low admissions is as outlined in our CRU meeting minutes for the previous 11 months, the reason for the low admissions continues to be that the individuals requiring CRU are experiencing high acuity medical issues that require nursing 24 hours a day.
- In addition, the referrals are also for high intensity behavioral health needs that also require additional staff to ensure the safety of all individuals receiving services.
- As we have discussed I was requested in May of 2026, I was asked to provide a proposal to Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Falkner which outlines the staff needed to provide services to individuals at CRU with increased behavioral health needs, (individuals exhibiting violence) and a proposal that included the required budget necessary to provide services to individuals with co-morbid diseases, (for example, schizophrenia and wound care, because of the high acuity nursing needs, nursing is required 24 hour a day. (Brittle, insulin dependent diabetic.) I provided the proposal to the remainder of the Commissioners court and to Judge Eads.
- I recommend that the board consider closing the Crisis Residential Unit on a temporary basis, re-utilize the home for other services. Then as part of the Meadows Foundation needs assessment, recommend that as a step-down the Crisis Residential Unit is included that would co-locate with the Diversion Center. Another important recommendation that would be included in the Diversion Center would be the utilization of Private Psychiatric Beds, providing a step-up.
- Monthly CRU Admissions

Month	Total Admits
September 2025	9
October 2025	9
November 2025	7
December 2025	5
January 2026	7
February 2026	6
March 2026	8
April 2026	10
May 2026	6
June 2026	11
July 2026	8

- CRU Annual Grant Target is: 100 unique individuals served
 - The program does have a 10% variance allowed for admissions, so the actual minimum number of individuals served is 90.
 - Number of unique individuals served by the end of July 2026: 87
 - Number of unique individuals needed to serve in August 2026: 4-14 individuals

- As of 7/30/2026, we need to admit between 4-14 individuals by the end of August to remain in compliance with the SB292 grant requirements.
- The HHSC Substance Use grant has admitted and approved 248 individuals for Nexus; the Center has admitted 53 individuals to Cenikor for detox. There have been some issues that the Center is addressing with the respective facility, and notification has been provided to HHSC.
- The Annual Flower Mound Rotary Club Duck Derby is scheduled for September 19, 2026. This will be held at the Flower Mound River Walk.
- North Texas Giving Day will be September 17, 2026, benefitting the Local Outreach to Suicide Survivors (LOSS) Team.
- The 5th Annual Mental Health & Judicial/Law Enforcement Summit will be held September 18, 2026.
- Please mark your schedule for the Center's Holiday Luncheon, on December 4, 2026.
- The new state hospital in Dallas is open for forensic beds only on an emergency detention order. The C & A unit is not scheduled to open for at least a year to a year in a half.
- The Sunset Advisory Committee has all members assigned and the first hearing is August 12, 2026.
- Thank you to Taylor for always helping me!
- Thank you to the staff, Leadership, and chiefs for all your hard work.
- Thank you to the Board for all your support and leadership.

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Convened in Executive Session at 3:40 p.m.

V. Executive Session – Personnel (g) – Discussion – Executive Director's Contract Renewal.

Convened back in Open Session following Executive Session at 3:57 p.m.

VI. Board Action - Executive Session – Personnel (g) – Discussion – Executive Director's Contract Renewal.

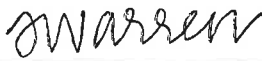
Board Action: The Executive Director's Contract Renewal will be finalized and presented to the Board of Trustees for approval at the August 27, 2026 Board of Trustees meeting. No action taken.

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

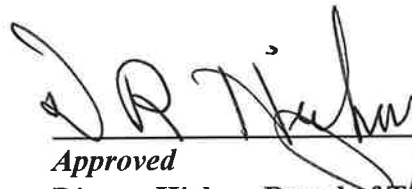
- Thank you all for coming to the meeting. Have a great week.

VIII. New Business – The next Board meeting will be held at the Administrative Building, 1614 Scripture Street, Denton, Texas 76201 on Thursday, August 27, 2026.

IX. Adjourned – The Board of Trustees adjourned at 3:58 p.m.



Respectfully Submitted
Taylor Warren, Executive Assistant
Denton County MHMR Center
My Health, My Resources



Approved
Dianne Hickey, Board of Trustees Chair
Denton County MHMR Center
My Health, My Resources