

**NORTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT (NCDHD)
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, June 4th, 2026, at 10:30am

NCDHD

422 E. Douglas St., O'Neill, NE 68763

Call to Order

1. Notice of Publication
2. Notification of Open Meetings Act
3. Roll Call (introductions of non-Board Members in attendance) at 10:31 a.m.
4. Comments or additions to the agenda

The Board of Health reserves the right to add items to this agenda that are emergency in nature as described in NE Revised Statute § 84-1411.

5. Approval of the agenda
 - a. Motion #1 by Dustin Breiner and seconded by Carol Plate to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of previous meeting minutes

1. Discuss/act March 2026 meeting minutes
 - a. Motion #2 by Doug Fox and seconded by Steven Bremer to approve the agenda as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Financial Report

1. Discuss/act on March & April finances
 - a. Motion #3 by Dennis Bauer and seconded by Dustin Breiner to approve March and April 2026 finances as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

Fee Schedule

1. Discuss/act on NCDHD Fee Schedule
 - a. Presentation of proposed fee schedule provided with feedback from Jennifer Booker on the strategy for vaccine pricing. Board concerned that the current margin of \$20/shot is no longer enough. Discussion on re-evaluation of the formula for determining cost/ vaccine to make programming more sustainable.
 - b. Motion #4 by Tammy Cheatum and seconded by Dustin Breiner to increase vaccine fee to use the formula of \$50 + vaccine cost to the nearest whole

dollar, and to approve the remainder of fee schedule as presented. All in favor. Motion carried.

COVID Vaccine Pre-Order

1. Discuss/act COVID Vaccine Pre-Order Fall 2026
 - c. Presentation by Jennifer Booker comparing previous 2 seasons of COVID vaccinations provided and recommended pre-order purchase of 250 doses for Fall 2026. Explanation that more doses can be acquired during the season, as needed.
 - d. Motion #5 by Dr. Tusha and seconded by Kelly Kalkowski to approve the COVID vaccine pre-order of 250 doses for Fall 2026. All in favor. Motion carried.

Program Reports

1. Discussion of bi-Monthly staff report presented by Heidi Kuklis
2. Discussion of the new Pool Cool Program presented by Jennifer Booker.

Rural Healthcare Transformation Funding

1. Discussion of funding and progress update. NCDHD has received all funds the department applied for. Info provided by funding stream on key next steps.
2. Discussion on Community Health Manager and Epi & Wellness CHW starting next week. Cherry Co CHW posted. Posting Registered Dental Hygienist role soon.
3. Discussion on satellite locations in west and east.

WIC Launch

1. Discuss/act on implementation timeline and key updates, launching 7/9.
2. Discuss/act clinic schedule, Tuesday travel clinics (Valentine/Ainsworth). Thursdays at the NCDHD office.
3. Discuss/act vehicle transfer. NCDHD acquiring a Chrysler Pacifica from the previous WIC provider at \$0. Will need to license, title and insure. The vehicle can be used by all programs as long as priority is given to the WIC program.

NCDHD offering Environmental Inspections- LB760

1. Discussion on pool inspections led by Amy Latzel and Heidi Kuklis. Discussion that LB760 requires that city, county, or health department must inspect pools. Limited to no local interest. Forecast on what it would cost to start a program to offer this service to the 32 current permit holders.

2. Board conversation on if NCDHD inspecting is best for local pools. Wanting to ensure local pools stay open and safe. Concern from several board members that we have positioned as an educational entity and this puts us in a new space as an enforcement agency. Important to the board that we build an education-based inspection program if we enter the space. Several board members feel we should not lose money to offer the unfunded mandate. Discussion on style for creating fees included conversation on if we should charge mileage (arguments for and against) and consideration for a potential price break for public entities as they are not generating a profit and seasonal. Possibly cheaper if cities are the inspectors (less miles). Concerns that cities doing the inspections at a lower frequency will have less expertise.
3. NCDHD will host a meeting on 6/9 at 3p to present an update to all pool operators (public and private), present draft fees based on cost forecast, and have discussion on if local entities would still like to see NCDHD offer this program. Board of health members encouraged to attend.
4. Further discussion at the next meeting. An additional meeting can be scheduled to convene the board prior to the July 18th end of state inspection authority if warranted.

Legislative Session

1. Update on LB203 changes in the power and duties of health directors in certain local public health departments- pending DHHS legal review
2. Update on LB 912- Community Health Worker (CHW) Training Bill. Passed; will open the door for consistent training requirements, credentialing, and future billing opportunities.
3. Update on LB898- Nebraska Open Meetings Act: Virtual Conference Provisions – moved to LB596—this will apply to NCDHD. Following it going into effect 7/18/26, we can leverage more virtual meeting options; 1 meeting per year must be in person.

Director's Report- Discussion/action on:

1. Staffing-
 - a. Pam Taylor- started running WIC currently
 - b. Autumn Hilker- summer intern
 - c. Presley Heiss- summer intern
 - d. Austin Hamm- community health manager (starts Monday)
 - e. Stephanie Prouty- Epi & Wellness CHW (starts Tuesday)
 - f. Open role for a Cherry County CHW

- g. Posting new position for a FT or PT Registered Dental Hygienist next week
 - h. Upcoming new positions- marketing, and 3 other CHW roles including one that is bilingual
- 2. New Funding
 - a. Rural Health Transformation
 - b. Pending with UHC for targeted work based on UHC client data in our area
- 3. Office Renovations
 - a. Sterilizer Room- required for RHT oral health work
 - b. Clinic room minimal modifications to accommodate oral health and WIC services
 - c. Potential upstairs window project, pending more formal bids. We will need more office spaces with our expanding workforce.
 - d. Basement Water/ building leaking- discussion with neighbors and their property contributes to this major issue. Board is supportive of working with the neighbor if our problem can be mitigated.
- 4. Trailer Renovations
 - a. Updated to "Hidden in Plain Sight" - mock kids' bedroom interactive activity
- 5. Accreditation Annual Report
 - a. Final submission due in Q1 of 2027
 - b. Readiness assessment= 51 measures, ready or mostly ready in 46, partially ready in 4, and not ready in 1.
- 6. Collaborative Expansion West
 - a. Board Members needed for the collaborative
 - b. Name change to North Central Collaborative from Holt-Boyd Community Collaborative
 - c. Priorities are aligning with current work

Executive Session

No executive session

The Board of Health reserves the right to enter Executive Session in order to protect the public interest with respect to discussion regarding litigation, personnel, and other matters listed in the Nebraska Revised Statute 84-1410.

Public Comment-

No public comment.

This is an opportunity for members of the audience to be heard for a maximum of 3 minutes regarding any topic not on the agenda as it relates to the Board of Health.

Next Board Meeting- Thursday, July 30th at 10:30 a.m. Anticipated public hearing for the pool inspections at this meeting. An earlier meeting may be scheduled if the board needs to meet sooner for pool inspection conversation.

Approval to Adjourn by President Kalkowski at 12:51 p.m.

Carol J. Plato

NCDHD Board of Health Secretary

