

## Minutes: NHWSB Data Workgroup

Date: Monday, Aug. 25, 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 (remotely)	Todd Bergstrom	Linnea Becerra
Michele Fredrickson	Jeff Bostic	Paul Enger
Paula Rocheleau (remotely)	Brian Elliott (remotely)	Ken McGurran (remotely)
		Leah Solo

### Agenda items

- 1. Call to order** – the meeting was called to order by Executive Director Leah Solo at 1:05 p.m. Roll call was taken. A quorum was declared.
- 2. Approval of agenda** – a motion to approve the agenda as presented was made by Michele Fredrickson and seconded by Paula Rocheleau. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
  - Approval of drafted meeting minutes** – a motion to approve the July 10, 2025, draft meeting minutes as presented was made by Fredrickson and seconded by Rocheleau. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.
- 3. Board updates** –
  - Executive Director Solo reviewed the memo about data. Solo reviewed Minnesota Statutes § 181.213, subdivision 2 (Investigation of market conditions) and then reviewed the categories of measurements the group could narrow in on: access; quality; hours and benefits; and Medicaid rates and costs.
  - Solo commented about unemployment insurance data and how it might not be useful for the board's purposes, but said staff members are looking into more kinds of data and will report back.
  - In the memo, Solo created a table for the workgroup to review. The table identified potential types of data for the board to collect or use and contained cells for workgroup members to fill in to clarify certain properties of that data type: a description of the data; its source; and notes about the data's potential utility to the board.
  - Linnea Pignatello, office administrator, reviewed the maps and data that were requested by both the Waivers and Variances Workgroup and the Data Workgroup. The group saw data about beds per thousand by county in a variety of ways and the nursing home closures from 2000 to present. Solo asked for feedback about the data and the maps and tables presented. Rocheleau said the visuals were helpful. Fredrickson asked if there was a way to tell if the open beds in the west were due to staffing shortages; the data does not include that information, because it shows licensed beds instead of open beds. Rocheleau asked about beds on layaway per county and if that data could be

reflected in the maps. The group decided it was discussed in the table, so it is not needed on the maps.

**4. New business –**

- The group worked on filling in the table Solo brought. The group added notes for the first couple items and decided to not discuss or track hospital discharge anymore as a data point. There was discussion about census and the group agreed they can use the number collected by the cost report once a year. The group will continue to work through filling in the table at the next meeting.

**5. Next meeting –** the next meeting is Monday, Sept. 22, 2025, at 1 p.m.

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Kim Brenne to adjourn the meeting at 2:08 p.m. and seconded by Rocheleau. A roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.