

Board Meeting Minutes
Connect for Health Colorado
May 11, 2026
12:00 PM to 3:00 PM

Board Members Present: Mike Conway, Chris duGruy Kennedy, Adam Fox, Patrick Gordon, Kristin Harding, Dick Thompson and Toni Sarge.

Board Members Absent: Jennifer Brooks, Annie Lee and Rob Moss-Ruiz

Staff Present: Justin Brandon, Brian Braun, Kelly Davies, Brian Lidiak, Kevin Patterson, Ilana Rivera, Dr. Renata Robinson, Geraldine Ruiz, Alan Schmitz, Anneliese Steel and Nina Schwartz.

Video conference and phone conference lines were available for members of the public to join.

I. Business Agenda

- Dick Thompson called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. and welcomed those in attendance.
- Changes to the agenda: None.
- Disclosure of conflicts of interest: None.
- The minutes from the May Board meeting were reviewed and approved.

II. Board Report

Board chair requested the board to elect a secretary-treasurer before the next meeting in June, as this role is needed to approve payments when the chair is unavailable.

III. CEO Report

Kevin Patterson provided an update on the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise (HIAE) Bill, which has passed the Senate and is currently in the House. He explained that they are supporting the state's efforts to secure a revenue bond, which would be partially funded through tax credits from Senate Bill 81 and ongoing tax credits for operating costs. Kevin also shared insights from recent meetings in DC with congressional delegates, discussing the impact of enhanced premium tax credits and the need for continued advocacy. He provided upcoming travel update to California and meeting with other state exchange directors to discuss federal policy and implementation plans for the coming year.

HCPF Update

The Department of Healthcare Policy and Financing (HCPF) introduced Gretchen Hammer, the new Executive Director of the Colorado HCPF, and outlined her focus on implementing provider rate reductions and completing year-end obligations.

DOI Update

Department of Insurance (DOI) provided an update on the HIAE bill, noting that it was on second reading in the House and expected to proceed to third reading the following day, with no need for further Senate concurrence.

Federal & State Updates

State Update

Staff provided federal policy updates, including monitoring potential budget bill language regarding cost-sharing reductions.

Board Advisory Group

Staff provided an update on the Board Advisory Group's activities including discussions on the Buy the Numbers report, consumer privacy documents, and support for SB178. The consumer privacy documents in particular focused on our immigrant customers who are concerned about data sharing.

IV. Executive & Finance Committee

Staff presented the budget for fiscal year 2027, highlighting key challenges including a \$5 million donation loss and expected enrollment declines due to shortened enrollment periods and immigration-related eligibility changes. Despite these challenges, the organization is projected to be operationally profitable before depreciation, with substantial cash reserves being invested in technology, broker tools, and marketing initiatives. The budget includes increased expenditures for technology, customer operations, and marketing, with a focus on expanding in rural areas and the individual market, while maintaining profitability and cash reserves above \$30M. Staff addressed concerns about rising per-member per-month costs, explaining that while enrollment is declining and expenses are increasing, the current projections show a significant increase due to both factors. He noted that costs would become more manageable once enrollment reaches around 225,000 members and emphasized that the organization's focus would be on growing enrollments and managing expenses.

The Executive & Finance Committee motioned to recommend budget for fiscal year 27.

Toni Sarge seconded the motion.

Mr. Thompson called for public comment. Public comment provided by Melanie Herrman.

The recommendation passes unanimously.

V. Policy & Operations Committee

Open Enrollment Overview

Staff presented the 2026 Open Enrollment Report, highlighting key statistics including 286,000 enrollments across C4 and Colorado Connect, average net premiums, and outreach efforts.

Operations Update

The Operational statistics for April were presented, April's customer operations statistics, noting increased call volumes related to Tier 2 issues but maintaining service levels, and reported customer satisfaction scores above industry standards.

VI. Public Comment

No public comment provided.

Respectfully submitted,

Dick Thompson
Board Chair

Next Board Meeting

June 8, 2026, from 12:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.