



**Board of Trustees Minutes-Special Meeting
February 18, 2026**

The Board of Trustees of Kearney County Health Services met in the Functional Health Room of Kearney County Health Services, 727 East First Street, Minden, Nebraska on Wednesday, February 18, 2026. Notice of the meeting was posted at Kearney County Health Services, Hospital, Minden Medical Clinic, Minden Post Office, Minden First Bank and www.kchs.org under Board of Trustees. A Board Packet with an agenda of the meeting, minutes, and other pertinent information was emailed to each board member prior to the meeting.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Dahlgren called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM and called attention to the Public Meeting Laws that are posted in the meeting room.

Present:

Board Members

AJ Dahlgren, Chairman
Stephen Olson, Secretary
Sam Stadler
Jeff Hanson
Andy Grollmes

KCHS Staff

Luke Poore, CEO
Gavin Blum, CFO
Rebecca Cooke, COO
Kendra Brown, Chief Nursing Officer
Janell Shelton, Director of Primary Care
Anita Wragge, Marketing/Outreach Coordinator

Other

Brent Stewart, County Liaison

**II. New Business
Facility Master Planning/Architecture – General Update**

Luke Poore, CEO and Gavin Blum, CFO provided the group with project and strategic updates including:

a. Master Plan Status

Gavin Blum, CFO reported that updated master plan cost models are fully modeled with updated 2025 cost assumptions. He also reported that financing capacity modeling is underway and an architect agreement is continuing to be revised after initial administration and legal reviews.

Luke Poore, CEO spoke to a feasibility study that will be conducted through Eide Bailly will also come alongside current discussions to assist in determining right-sizing and service expansion opportunities.

b. USDA Information

Gavin Blum, CFO informed the group on USDA financing that is specifically designed to fund rural projects for hospitals, clinics, EMS, LTCs, public health infrastructure or other community facilities. He also provided the group with information on the USDA process, including information on the

USDA financing phases, and how they align with HFG Architecture’s proposed agreement for a conceptual design to begin understanding collateral value through the USDA review.

c. Energy Credits and Incentives

Gavin Blum, CFO updated the group on information regarding energy credits and incentives that are still available and relevant to KCHS. Shared with the board with were energy credit windows given current funding windows in the areas of geo-thermal, battery storage, and solar energy, as well as accelerated depreciation opportunities on potential construction.

d. Coordination in Progress

Gavin Blum, CFO updated the group on the progress of coordination with outside entities on this project.

Action Taken: At 12:25 PM, a motion was made by Sam Stadler to enter into Executive Session for Legal and Credentialing. The motion was seconded.

Voting Aye: Dahlgren, Hanson, Grollmes, Olson, Stadler
Motion Carried.

The below applications were submitted for appointment, reappointment or termination to the KCHS Medical Staff by Janell Shelton, Clinic Office Director.

APPLICANT	SPECIALITY	FACILITY	STAFF CATEGORY	FIRST APPOINTMENT	RE-APPOINTMENT
BLESSING NWAOKOLO, APRN	PAIN MANAGEMENT	GRAND ISLAND PAIN RELIEF CENTER	AFFILIATE	2/18/2026	
RANDALL SNYDER, MD	RADIOLOGY	GREAT PLAINS RADIOLOGY	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
LE YU CHIU, MD	RADIOLOGY	KEARNEY RADIOLOGISTS	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
MICHAEL LANDIS, MD	RADIOLOGY	PLAINS RADIOLOGY SERVICES	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
MARCUS KIRKPATRICK, MD	RADIOLOGY	RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
BRIAN ZHU, MD	RADIOLOGY	KEARNEY RADIOLOGISTS	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
SHAHRIZ AZIZ, MD	RADIOLOGY	RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
BENJAMIN WEIGMAN, MD	RADIOLOGY	PLAINS RADIOLOGY SERVICES	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
BUDDY THOMPSON, MD	RADIOLOGY	PLAINS RADIOLOGY SERVICES	CONSULTING	2/18/2026	
DOUGLAS ALTHOUSE, MD	FAMILY MEDICINE	KEARNEY COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES	ACTIVE	5/19/2014	3/1/2026
CHELSEY LEFEVER, APRN	CARDIOLOGY	PIONEER HEART INSTITUTE	AFFILIATE	1/29/2025	4/1/2026
SCOTT LOWE, MD	RADIOLOGY	RADIOLOGY ASSOCIATES	CONSULTING	4/28/2021	4/1/2026

APPLICANT	SPECIALITY	FACILITY			PRIVILEGES TERMED	REASON
DOUGLAS GREEN, MD	RADIOLOGY	REAL RADIOLOGY			2/11/2026	NO LONGER EMPLOYED WITH REAL RADIOLOGY
DANIEL FUERST, MD	RADIOLOGY	PLAINS RADIOLOGY			12/31/2025	NO LONGER EMPLOYED WITH PLAINS RADIOLOGY

Action Taken: A motion was made by Stephen Olson to approve the credential report. The motion was seconded

Voting Aye: Stadler, Dahlgren, Hanson, Grollmes, Olson
Motion Carried.

End of Executive Session: At 1:44 PM, a motion was made by Sam Stadler to end Executive Session.

Voting Aye: Hanson, Grollmes, Olson, Stadler, Dahlgren
Motion Carried.

I. Other Comments/Communications

The next regular meeting will be Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at Noon in the Functional Health Meeting Room.

II. Adjournment

The meeting Adjourned at 1:45 PM.

AJ Dahlgren, Chairman

Stephen Olson, Secretary