



**Board of Health Meeting Minutes – End-of-Year
December 31, 2025**

The December 31, 2025, regular Board of Health meeting was held in person in the large meeting room at the county office building, 639 South Dunbridge Road.

Board Members Present: DJ Mears, Sonja Apple-Chamberlain, Nilgun Sezginis, Chris Sorensen, Richard Strow and Kim Hertzfeld.

Staff Present: Tina Cox, Chrissy Downs, Benjamin Robison, Lindsey Ruivivar, Dan Powell and Rachel Aeschliman. **Guests Present:** Jan McLaughlin – BG Independent News

Nilgun Sezginis, president of the Board of Health, called the meeting to order at 9:00 am, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session:

At 9:02 am Richard Strow motioned for executive session for the purpose of discussing and considering the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or official and to discuss details of security arrangements and emergency response protocols where disclosure could be expected to jeopardize the security of the public body or public office. Ben Robison, Rachel Aeschliman, Chrissy Downs and Dan Powell were invited into the executive session. Sonja Apple-Chamberlain seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. *Motion passed*
Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

At 9:28 am DJ Mears motioned to end executive session and return to regular session seconded by Richard Strow. A voice vote was taken. All were in favor. *Motion passed*

Consent Agenda

DJ Mears motioned to approve the reappointment of the following intermittent staff for calendar year 2026: Gloria Stacy, Intermittent Pharmacist, Jochebed Boakye Ansah, Intermittent Certifying Health Professional, and Dr. Jeffery Swartz, Intermittent Medical Director. Intermittent employees are limited to 1000 work hours or 120 work days per calendar year, and must be reappointed on an annual basis. Sonja Apple-Chamberlain seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. *Motion passed*
Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

FIN 01-12-2025 EOY Review and approval of the 2026 budget

Richard Strow motion to approve the 2026 budget as presented, seconded by DJ Mears. Following board discussions motions for the following amendments were made:

- 1st amendment: DJ Mears motioned to amend this resolution to include suspending COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) and step increases for 2026. Sonja Apple-Chamberlain seconded the motion.

- 2nd amendment: Richard motioned to amend to reduce the expense allocation side of the health department from 4.6 to 4.3 to bring the budget fund 13 back in line. Sonja Apple-Chamberlain seconded the motion.
- 3rd amendment: Chris motioned to move 300k from levy fund balance to line fund 13 for the health center budget. DJ seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken for 1st amendment *Motion passed*
 Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

A roll call vote was taken for 2nd amendment *Motion failed*
 Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears N Sezginis N Sorensen N Strow Y

Chris motioned to withdraw the 3rd amendment motion seconded by DJ Mears.

A roll call vote was taken withdrawing the 3rd amendment *Motion passed to withdraw the 3rd amendment*
 Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

A roll call vote was taken on the original motion as amended. *Motion passed*
 Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

FIN-02-12-2025 EOY Motion to enter into an agreement with Forvis-Mazars for health center financial services pending prosecutor approval

Richard Strow motioned to approve the agreement with Forvis-Mazars' which specializes in health center finance, accounting, revenue cycle management, and compliance and will complete the following scope of services for Wood County Community Health Center: fee schedule assessment; sliding fee discount program review; commercial payer contract analysis; 2025 Medicare cost report; 2025 Medicaid cost report and PVPA adjustment; revenue cycle assessment; financial assessment. At the conclusion of the assessments, Forvis-Mazars will present audit findings to the Health Center Leadership Team, Health Center Board, and Board of Health. The contract consists of a Master Services Agreement and Statement of Work at a not-to-exceed rate of \$95,000 for the scope of services, plus travel costs and an administrative fee of 5% to cover technology and administrative costs associated with these services.

Lindsey stated this firm felt confident they could begin as early as the start of January and be completed by February. Chris Sorensen seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was taken. *Motion passed*
 Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

Board of Health questions/comments/discussion

Discussion: Currently the health center board has approved a 4.7-million-dollar budget, the board of health approved a health center budget at 4.6-million-dollar at the November meeting.

FIN-03-12-2025 EOY Chris motioned to approve the 4.7-million-dollar budget for the community health center as presented in order for operations to continue providing the community health center board bring their budget line items down at their January 7th meeting to 4.6-million-dollar budget as proposed in order for the board of health to vote on a complete budget for 2026 at the January 15th board of health meeting. Motion seconded by Sonja Apple-Chamberlain.

A roll call vote was taken. *Motion passed*
 Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

FIN-04-12-2025 EOY Discussion to authorize to expend the donations to FCFC and NetPlus Medical Transportation which were included in the budget approved by the board. DJ Mears motioned, seconded by Chris Sorensen.

A roll call vote was taken.

Motion passed

Apple-Chamberlain Y Hertzfeld Y Mears Y Sezginis Y Sorensen Y Strow Y

Nilgun Sezginis thanked the board for their support the past 2 years as she turns over the president seat to DJ Mears adding Bob Midden will assume the role as Vice Present.

Adjournment Motion:

At 10:29 am, being no further business DJ Mears motioned to adjourn seconded by Chris Sorensen. A voice vote was taken. Ayes – 6; Opposed – 0; Abstention – 0
Motion passed and meeting adjourned



Benjamin Robison, Health Commissioner
Secretary to the Board of Health

1/15/26
Date

