

Meeting Minutes: Prescription Drug Affordability Board

Date: 7/2/2026

Minutes Prepared by: Vernon Rowen

Location: Auditorium A, The Wilder Center, 451 Lexington Pkwy N
St. Paul, MN 55104

Note: The July 2, 2026, meeting agenda and presented materials are available on the [PDAB webpage](#).

Attendance

Members present:

1. Craig Acomb (online)
2. Matt Anderson
3. Erica Barnes
4. Anthony Lourey – chair
5. Sayeh Nikpay - vice chair
6. Stephen Schondelmeyer
7. Matt Toburen

Attorney General's Office and PDAB staff present:

1. James Canaday (AGO)
2. Vernon Rowen (PDAB executive director)

Agenda Items

The Minnesota Prescription Drug Affordability Board (Board) convened Thursday, July 2, 2026. Chair Lourey called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and announced a quorum was present.

1. Welcome

2. Approve meeting agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved unanimously with no amendments.

3. Approve minutes for the April 14, 2026, meeting minutes

May 12, 2026, meeting minutes were approved with technical revisions and will be published on the website.

4. Designation of Annual Board Meeting, July 31, 2026

James Canaday, Deputy Attorney General, read a Board resolution that called for the Board's July 31st meeting to be designated as the Board's Annual Meeting. The Board approved that resolution unanimously.

5. Presentation by Amy McNally, MD, PDAAC member

Dr. McNally, a gynecologic oncologist and PDAAC member, spoke to the Board about her work with cancer patients. She highlighted the potential impact setting a UPL for the prescription drugs commonly used in her practice might have on the availability of those drugs. She indicated her support for the work of the PDAB but asked the PDAB to proceed with caution if it does consider setting a UPL for certain cancer medications to ensure the UPL does not result in those drugs being unavailable for the patients who need them.

6. Presentations by Annelisa Steeber and Pam Mink, Health Economics Program, MDH

Annelisa Steeber and Pam Mink from the Health Economics Program at MDH provided an overview of the Minnesota All Payers Claims Data Base (APCD) and other MDH prescription drug data resources. Ms. Steeber reviewed MDH's obligations under the Prescription Drug Affordability Act as well as the various reporting streams MDH is required to provide under the Prescription Drug Pricing Transparency Act. Ms. Mink provided details of the APCD including the types of data it includes, how that data is collected, and the entities from which the data is received.

7. Data Project Discussion and Update

Executive Director Rowen provided an update on the work of the Data Project. He reviewed slides which detail the proposed Drug Cost Review, Affordability Determination, and UPL Cycle and discussed how that cycle translates to the proposed timeline for conducting cost reviews in 2026.

Rowen also highlighted that extensive discussions with the Data Project and the Leadership Team have taken place since the last Board meeting about proposed Selection Criteria and how that criteria would be used. Chair Lourey explained it was initially thought the criteria would be used to develop a limited list of drugs the Board would consider as candidate drugs for review. After extensive discussion, however, it was felt this approach might be too limiting and that Board members may

want to have the ability to consider the entire Master List of drugs populated with the data elements associated with the Selection Criteria.

Based on Chair Lourey's discussion, Dr. Stephen Shondelmeyer offered the following motion:

"Move that the Master Drug List be populated with the data elements representing the Selection Criteria and be forwarded to all Board Members along with the technical support necessary for their independent advice about selecting drugs for cost reviews and that the list and data be published for public review with the exception of trade secret or non-public information."

That motion passed unanimously.

Dr. Joel Farley, in his capacity as a member of the PDAAC, presented the results of a survey he conducted to get feedback from PDAAC members on the drug lists the PDAB should rely on for choosing drugs for cost reviews and how PDAAC members rank the draft Selection Criteria.

8. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Rowen provided the Board with an overview of current and upcoming patient engagement activities including the PDAB's participation at Minnesota Farmfest August 4-6, an evening in-person patient listening session in the first week of October, and a virtual patient listening session the second week of October. He also informed the Board that he has spoken with a consultant to help the PDAB engage in more effective patient outreach.

Rowen also discussed ongoing efforts to establish PDAB email accounts and access to the PDAB SharePoint site for Board members. He noted this has been a difficult process and suggested the process would move more quickly if Board members had state issued computers and phones. Rowen also informed that Board that it would need to establish its fall meeting schedule during its July 31st, 2026, Annual Meeting.

Deputy Attorney General, James Canaday, informed that Board that PDAB officers will be elected at the Annual Meeting and reviewed the election process with the Board.

9. Public comments

No public comments were offered.

Adjournment

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 PM.