



Meeting Minutes: Prescription Drug Affordability Board

Date: 9/9/2025
Minutes prepared by: Julie Olson
Location: Summit Conference Room, Minnesota Department of Commerce, 85 7th Place East,
St Paul, MN, 55101

Note: the September 9, 2025 meeting agenda and presented materials are available on the [PDAB webpage](#).

Attendance

Members present:

1. Craig Acomb (online)
2. Erica Barnes
3. Anthony Lourey - chair
4. Sayeh Nikpay - vice chair
5. Stephen Schondelmeyer
6. Matthew Anderson (11:04am online)
7. Matt Toburen
8. Representative Micheal Howard

Attorney General's Office and Commerce staff present:

1. James Canaday (AGO)
2. Vernon Rowen (PDAB executive director)
3. Lisa Creger (COMM)

Agenda Items

The Minnesota Prescription Drug Affordability Board (Board) convened Tuesday, September 9, 2025. Chair Lourey called the meeting to order at 10:36 AM and announced that a quorum was present.

1. Approve meeting agenda

The agenda for the meeting was approved without objections or amendments.

2. Approve minutes for the August 12th meeting

Minutes from the August 12th, 2025, meeting were approved as written and will be published on the website.

3. Review, receive comments, and approve draft Mission, Vision, Values Statement

Executive Director Vernon Rowen provided a summary of the month-and-a-half-long process of drafting these statements, including public and board member feedback. Discussion included potentially adding language regarding the accountability of stakeholders in the prescription drug supply chain, but the Board decided to retain the language as drafted consistent with the PDAB governing statutes. The board also discussed use of the term “data driven” and it was suggested more detailed language should be used to clearly define data with terms like “quality” or “evidence based.” Chair Lourey pointed out that further defining the term “data” is more appropriately addressed in operating policies and procedures as the PDAB moves forward with its work.

The Mission, Vision, Values Statement was approved by board (6-0) with a minor grammatical amendment.

4. Board Meeting Location

Julie Olson reported that the Amherst Wilder Foundation is available for the October, November and December PDAB Board meetings. Meetings would occur 10:30am to 12:30 pm on October 14th, November 18th, and December 9th, 2025. Meeting dates for 2026 will be determined at the December meeting.

The board approved (7-0) the location change for future meetings. Calendar invites and the PDAB webpage will be updated to reflect the new meeting location.

5. Executive Director's update

Executive Director Rowen reported on several staff and Board activities that have taken place since the last meeting including:

- Preparations continue for the board training retreat on September 22nd, including finalizing agendas, presentations, and reviewing governance vs. administration roles.
- PDAB staff efforts include initiation of a data project to determine the infrastructure and data inputs needed to support PDAB drug reviews.
- Staff is also identifying opportunities for listening sessions where the PDAB would seek input on prescription drug affordability and access issues impacting the public.

- Newly appointed board member Senator Boldon introduced; orientation meeting to be scheduled. She is a nurse from Rochester, replacing Senator Mann.

6. Department of Commerce and MNsure Presentation

Deputy Commissioner Julia Dreyer discussed regulatory changes affecting health insurance, especially individual market plans, stemming from recent enactment of the federal BBB Act. Key changes for 2026 plan year include added restrictions on eligibility, benefits, extra paperwork, and evolving federal guidance, all with a tight operational timeline.

7. Public comments

No comments were offered.

Adjournment

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting. All members present voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:21PM.