



Meeting Minutes: Prescription Drug Affordability Board

Date: 1/13/2026
Minutes Prepared by: Vernon Rowen
Location: Summit University Conference Room, The Wilder Center, 451 Lexington Pkwy N
St. Paul, MN 55104

Note: the January 13, 2026 meeting agenda and presented materials are available on the [PDAB webpage](#).

Attendance

Members present:

1. Craig Acomb (online)
2. Erica Barnes (online until 11:00 AM)
3. Anthony Lourey - chair
4. Sayeh Nikpay - vice chair
5. Stephen Schondelmeyer
6. Matthew Anderson
7. Matt Toburen

Attorney General's Office and Commerce staff present:

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

Agenda Items

The Minnesota Prescription Drug Affordability Board (Board) convened Tuesday, January 13, 2026. Chair Lourey called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM and announced that a quorum was present.

1. Welcome

2. Approve meeting agenda

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

3. Approve minutes for the December 9, 2025, meeting

The December 9, 2025, meeting minutes were approved and will be published on the website.

4. Executive Directors Report

Rowen updated the Board on activities to design the PDAB drug review process and put in place the infrastructure to support it. Rowen reported the PDAB has received list of drugs meeting the statutory requirements for review by the PDAB from MDH. Rowen indicated he has heard from some drug manufacturers concerned that their drug(s) were incorrectly included on the list. Rowen is working with MDH to research these issues and report back to the affected manufacturers.

Rowen also reported he has received the necessary cost code from MNIT to establish email accounts and PDAB SharePoint site access for PDAB Board members. He is in the process of working with MNIT to establish email addresses and system access for each Board member,

5. Presentation by the Minnesota Pharmacy Alliance (MPA)

The Board received a presentation from members of the MPA including Jeremy Faulks, PharmD VP Pharmacy Operations at Thrifty White Pharmacy, representing regional chain pharmacies; Scott Soefje, Director, Pharmacy Cancer Care Services at Mayo Clinic, representing health system pharmacies; and Andrew Russell, PharmD New Market Family Pharmacy, representing independent pharmacies. Each presenter explained how the prescription drug delivery chain works from their perspective

6. Governance Project Presentation

Rowen and MMB consultant Stacy Sjogren reviewed the draft Governance Process policy with the Board. Rowen explained that this is one of four governance quadrants the Board will develop. Several changes were recommended by the Board regarding this policy, and no official action was taken on this quadrant. Revision to this policy will be reviewed at the February 10 Board meeting. Rowen explained that all four quadrants will be adopted as a package at the June 2026 Board meeting.

7. Public comments

Angie Grove representing Sanofi asked the Board about opportunities for drug manufacturers to meet or speak with the Board. Rowen indicated that the Board will be receiving presentations by trade associations representing drug companies at its March meeting. He also indicated that upon request he and some Board members are willing to take individual meetings with drug manufacturers.

Adjournment

The Board moved to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.