

## Meeting Minutes: Prescription Drug Affordability Board

Date: 7/31/2026

Minutes Prepared by: Vernon Rowen

Location: Frogtown Room, The Wilder Center, 451 Lexington Pkwy N  
St. Paul, MN 55104

Note: The July 31, 2026, meeting agenda and presented materials are available on the [PDAB webpage](#).

## Attendance

### Members present:

1. Craig Acomb
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 the July 2, 2026, meeting minutes**

The July 2, 2026, meeting minutes were approved with technical revisions and will be published on the website.

### **4. Presentation by Annelisa Steeber, Health Economics Program, MDH**

Annelisa Steeber from the Health Economics Program at MDH provided an overview of the drug manufacturer information the MDH is required to provide to the PDAB under Minnesota Statutes Section 62J.90, subdivision 1. After brief discussion, the Board went into closed session to review specific examples of proprietary, trade secret data provided by drug manufacturers to MDH under this section of the law.

### **5. Election of PDAB Officers**

After the closed session the Board proceeded to elect new officers. Dr. Sayeh Nickpay was elected Board Chair and Matt Toburen was elected Vice Chair. Both were elected unanimously to serve a one-year term.

### **6. Data Project Discussion and Update**

Executive Director Rowen provided an update on the work of the Data Project. Rowen provided an overview of Board discussions during previous Board meetings regarding the Candidate Drug List (CDL) and the size of that list. At its July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting the Board approved moving forward with a CDL consisting of over 20,000 National Drug Codes (NDCs). Rowen explained that, after further review by the Data Project team, it became apparent it would not be possible to obtain the necessary data to review this number of NDCs.

Rowen presented a proposal from the Data Project team for the CDL to be comprised of NDCs for a more limited number of drugs, including drugs meeting the criteria established under Minnesota Statutes Section 62J.90, subdivision 2., Medicare Maximum Fair Price drugs, and drugs brought to the PDAB by patients for review. Rowen also presented to the Board a list of six ranking elements that would be incorporated into the CDL. After discussion a motion was made to approve using the six ranking elements as well as using the smaller list of NDCs for the CDL. The motion passed unanimously. An additional motion was made to strike the motion adopted at the July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting that called for using the larger CDL. That motion passed unanimously.

### **7. 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 he has spoken with a consultant to help the PDAB engage in more effective patient outreach.

Rowen also provided an update on the PDAB's efforts to acquire data subscriptions for Medi-Span and IQVIA as well as acquiring APCD data from MDH.

Rowen also indicated that September 29<sup>th</sup> is a date that works for all Board members to attend and that he will reserve meeting space for that date at the Wilder Center.

#### **8. Public comments**

No public comments were offered.

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. All members voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.