

1) **The Regular Board Meeting was called to order on Tuesday August 25, 2026, at 5:17 p.m.**

2) **Roll Call**

Board Members Present

Liz Dahl – Linden Grove

Karis Antikainen – City of Orr

Judy Pearson – Beatty

Theresa Martinson – Alango

Heather Brandon – Unorganized St. Louis County

Denise Parson – Willow Valley

Marge Hyppa – Owens

Mike Enzmann – Field

Eric Pederson - City of Cook

John Stegmeir – Kabetogama

Lisa Tosel – Camp 5

Don Potter – Town of Goodwill

Wendy Long – Leiding

Cathy Burriss – Portage

Board Members Excused

Jodell Driggs – Crane Lake

Staff Members Present

Teresa Debevec – CEO

Stephanie Maki – CHRO

Kaylee Hoard - CFO

3) **Pledge of Allegiance**

4) **Introduce Portage Township Board Representative – Cathy Burriss**

- a) A warm welcome was presented to Cathy.

5) **Approval of Minutes – 08/25/2026**

- a) A motion was made by Wendy Long, seconded by Lisa Tosel, to approve July 25, 2026, regular board meeting minutes as presented.
- The motion was approved unanimously.

6) **CEO Report – Teresa Debevec.**

a) **Facility Staffing**

- Active recruitment efforts are ongoing for multiple positions throughout the facility.

b) **Boiler Project**

- The boiler project remains on schedule and is anticipated to be completed by October 2026.

c) **Rural Health Transformation Program**

- Debevec reported that the Minnesota Department of Health has submitted our Rural Health Transformation Program application to CMS for approval. We are hopeful to receive approval in September, which will allow us to move forward with the implementation of EPIC.

- Debevec also reported that EPIC has approved OCHIN to continue working with the Hospital.

d) Minnesota Nursing Facility Surcharge Increase

- Due to a 2025 legislative change approved by CMS, the surcharge has increased from \$8.86 per resident per day to \$19.02 per resident per day. The increase is retroactive to January 1, 2026, and is currently effective through September 30, 2026, after which the surcharge is scheduled to return to the previous rate of \$8.86 per resident per day.

e) Strategic Planning

- Senior Leadership will be off-site on September 10, 2026, for strategic planning.

f) Board Evaluations

- Debevec had questions on the last board meeting evaluations.
 - Readmissions – A question was raised regarding whether the facility is penalized for readmissions of inpatients. The board was advised that the facility is not penalized for readmissions; however, readmissions are monitored and tracked to identify opportunities for prevention and improved patient outcomes.
 - Medicaid Education – A board member requested additional education regarding Medicaid. Debevec will provide an educational presentation at the September board meeting.

g) Heiam Event

- The Heiam event was a success, the event raised over \$100,000.00.

7) Committee Reports

a) Executive Committee – 08/25/2026 – Liz Dahl

- A recommendation was made by the executive committee to change the board official title of Chair-Elect to Vice Chair. This change will require an update of our bylaws.
 - Motion carried unanimously
- The Board discussed the recent petition by a portion of Greenwood Township property owners to join the Cook-Orr Healthcare District and be annexed to Goodwill Township. Recent newspaper article in the Timberjay have raised concerns regarding the potential impact of the annexation on property taxes for affected property owners. The Board clarified that the Cook-Orr Healthcare District did not initiate or propose this annexation. The request originated from property owners within the affected portion of Greenwood Township who have petitioned to join the Cook-Orr Hospital District and be annexed to Goodwill Township. The Board further clarified that the annexation does not result in additional revenue or financial gain to the Cook-Orr Healthcare District. Rather, the existing hospital levy would be spread across a larger number of taxpayers within the expanded district.

b) Legislative Committee – No report

c) Finance Committee – 08/25/2026

- Financials – Kaylee Hoard
 - Hoard reviewed the July 2026 Financials
- Financial Education
 - Hoard provided financial education to board members.
- Levy – Mike Enzmann
 - The Finance Committee made a recommendation to the Board regarding Option 3 for the levy, which includes an increase of \$200,000.00. The Board discussed the recommendation and its potential impact.
Following discussion, a roll call vote was conducted regarding the proposed levy increase.
 - Liz Dahl – Aye
 - Don Potter – Aye
 - Judy Pearson – Aye
 - Denise Parson – Aye
 - Marge Hyppa – Aye
 - Wendy Long – Aye
 - Karis Antikainen – Aye
 - Mike Enzmann – Aye
 - Cathy Burriss – Aye
 - Lisa Tosel – Aye
 - Theresa Martinson – Aye
 - John Stegmeir – Aye
 - Heather Brandon – Aye
 - Eric Pederson – Absent
 - Jodell Driggs - Absent

8) Credentialing – No meeting

9) New Business & Correspondence

- a) Resident Trust Accounts – Teresa Debevec – Action Needed
 - A recommendation was made by Marge Hyppa, seconded by Theresa Martinson to remove Brittany Bradford, and add Lori Johansen effective September 09, 2026 to the resident trust accounts.
 - Motion Carried Unanimously (MCU)
- b) MHA Trustee Conference – Liz Dahl

- Board members who attended the MHA Trustee Conference provided feedback regarding sessions they attended.
- c) MHA Trustee Council – Liz Dahl
 - Dahl asked board members for ideas on topics they would like to see at the Trustee Conference.
- 10) **Next Board Meeting – 09/22/2026**
- 11) **Questions or comments**
- 12) **Board Meeting Evaluations**
 - a) Provide meeting feedback to Debevec or Dahl
- 13) **Adjourn – Liz Dahl**
 - At 6:24 pm, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John Stegmeir, seconded by Don Potter. Motion carried.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Stephanie Maki, Chief Human Resources Officer – Approved by Teresa Debevec.