

**Board of Trustees  
May 28, 2025, 1:30 pm**

**Community Health Endowment  
250 N. 21<sup>st</sup> Street, Lincoln, NE 68503  
Minutes**

**Trustees Present:** (12) Yinka Akinyemi, Blake Anderson, Quentin Brown, Tyler DeJong, John Goldrich, Russ Gronewold, Kerry Kernan, Dan Marvin, Greer McCurley, Michelle Petersen M.D., Michelle Suarez, John Thompson

**Trustees Absent:** (3) John Reinhardt D.D.S., Scott Young, Michael Ferris M.D.

**Staff Present:** (3) Kate Bolz, Emily Kluver, Kyra Nilson

**Special Guest:** (2) LCMS Joan Anderson, Kelly Braswell-Burbach

**Welcome:** R. Gronewold called the meeting to order at 1:31pm

**Approval of the Agenda**

Motion: **R. Gronewold called for a motion** to approve the agenda. **J. Goldrich moved and D. Marvin seconded.** No further discussion. **All voting members (12) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernan, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

**Approval of the Minutes for April 23, 2025.**

Motion: **R. Gronewold called for a motion** to approve the minutes with correction for the month of March to April. **M. Suarez moved, and T. Dejong seconded.** No further discussion. **All voting members (12) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernan, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

**Public Comment**

The Community Health Endowment is subject to and abides by the Open Meetings Act. Members of the public have a right to attend and the right to speak at meetings. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted on the wall of the Lori Vrtiska Seibel Community Meeting Room.

**1. Chair's Report.**

- a. Presentation from Lancaster County Medical Society: A legacy Project Example. \* J. Anderson informed staff of the general history of Lancaster County Medical Society's (LCMS) Medical Assistance Program (MAP). She told the Board how they have been able to use and stretch out the money given by Community Health Endowment. Kelly Braswell-Burbach touched on changes in Medicaid expansion and how they have been able to stretch CHE's money because of that as well.

Following the presentation, it was recommended that the Funding Committee complete a comprehensive review of Legacy Projects.

Motion: **R. Gronewold called for a motion** to approve having the Funding committee do a comprehensive review of legacy projects. **M. Petersen moved and J. Goldrich seconded.** No further discussion. **All voting members (12) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernan, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

## **2. President's Report.**

- a. President's Report. K. Bolz provided an overview of the President's Report (page 7 of the board packet). K. Bolz noted a correction in the time of CHE's annual meeting. It will begin at 5:00pm. Additionally, K. Bolz updated the board about the Infrastructure Legacy Project and how it has evolved over time.
- b. Upcoming Meetings and Events. Upcoming meetings and events are on page 12 of the board packet.
- c. Youth Fitness Sports and Opportunity Task Force Update. K. Bolz shared that there will be a press conference held on Wednesday, June 4, 2025 at the Lincoln Bike Kitchen where the Youth Fitness, Sports, and Opportunity Task Force Recommendations will be released to the public. Several media outlets have been confirmed to attend.

## **3. Investment & Finance Committee.**

- a. Treasurer's Report for April 2025. B. Anderson noted that the budget statement represents April 2025, or 67% of the budget year. The personnel expenses are under budget due to the full-time position not being hired. B. Anderson also reviewed the grants spreadsheet, and stated that the Cultural Centers of Lincoln Collaborative will not be requesting the \$2 million from CHE this fiscal year.

## **R. Gronewold acknowledged the Treasurer's Report.**

- b. Fiducient Monthly Performance Report for April 2025. B. Anderson discussed Fiducient's performance report. CHE's portfolio experienced a 0.3% return in April. CHE's total ending market value on April 30, 2025, was approximately \$72.75 million.
- c. Fund Balance Management Policy Revisions. \* B. Anderson provided a summary and the purpose of the Fund Balance Management Policy. The two revisions recommended by the Investment/Finance Committee are changing the date used to determine CHE's grant-making allocation to August 31 to align with CHE's fiscal year end, and changing the language of "annually" to "biennially", since CHE now operates under the city's biennial budget calendar.

Motion: **Investment & Finance Committee motioned** to update the Fund Balance Management Policy to reflect the biennial budget and fiscal year. **All voting members (12) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernan, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

#### 4. Funding Committee.

- a. Spring 2025 Grant Recommendations.\* M. Petersen reviewed the Funding Committee's recommendations for the Spring 2025 grant awards. She noted that the Funding committee recommended nine projects for funding, for a total of \$424,032 over three years. Information about each project and the recommended award amount was provided under separate cover prior to the meeting.

#### K. Kernan exited the meeting at 2:37pm

E. Kluver provided a presentation to the Trustees that outlined CHE's funding priorities, summary of applications, and information about recommended grants.

##### **CHE PRIORITY AREA: Early and Adequate Prenatal Care**

1. **Strengthening Prenatal Care for Immigrants, Refugees, & Native Americans** (Asian Community and Cultural Center) - \$128,871 (over 2 years)
2. **Early Connections: Breaking Barriers to Prenatal Care** (Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department - City of Lincoln) - \$15,000 (over 3 years)
3. **Reducing Disparities in Prenatal Care Access** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln) - \$100,000 (over 2 years)

##### **CHE PRIORITY AREA: Healthy Food Access**

4. **DIY Home Gardening** (Hawley Hamlet Neighborhood Garden, Inc.) - \$7,155 (1 year)

##### **CHE PRIORITY AREA: Mental Wellness and Human Connection**

5. **Not Just Skating By: Health and Well-Being for Lincoln Youth at The Bay** (The BAY Lincoln) - \$75,000 (over 3 years)
6. **CE-CERT for Resilient Advocacy: Joint Training for BraveBe, Friendship Home, and Voices of Hope** (Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln) - \$30,662 (1 year)
7. **Using the Power of the Law to Influence and Foster Transformation (UPLIFT)** (Legal Aid of Nebraska) - \$20,000 (1 year)
8. **Community Breastfeeding Educators Supporting Maternal Mental Health and Human Connection** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln) - \$22,344 (over 3 years)
9. **Aging Forward: Community Care Initiative** (Willard Community Center) - \$25,000 (1 year)

**First Motion:** The Funding Committee made a motion to approve the remaining grants as presented excluding **CE-CERT for Resilient Advocacy: Joint Training for BraveBe, Friendship Home, and Voices of Hope** (Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln), **Early Connections: Breaking Barriers to Prenatal Care** (Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department - City of Lincoln), **Reducing Disparities in Prenatal Care Access** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln), **Community Breastfeeding Educators Supporting Maternal Mental Health and Human Connection** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln). **All voting members (11) were in favor**

(Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

**Second Motion:** The Funding Committee made the motion to approve the grant, **CE-CERT for Resilient Advocacy: Joint Training for BraveBe, Friendship Home, and Voices of Hope** (Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln) for \$30,662 for 1 year. **All voting members (10) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Gronewold, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions: (1)** Goldrich. **Motion passed.**

**Third Motion:** The Funding Committee made the motion to approve the grant, **Early Connections: Breaking Barriers to Prenatal Care** (Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department - City of Lincoln) for \$15,000 over 3 years. **All voting members (10) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, Brown, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions: (1)** Marvin. **Motion passed.**

**Fourth Motion:** The Funding Committee made the motion to approve two grants, **Reducing Disparities in Prenatal Care Access** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln) for \$100,000 over 2 years, and **Community Breastfeeding Educators Supporting Maternal Mental Health and Human Connection** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln) for \$22,344 over 3 years. **All voting members (10) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Goldrich, Gronewold, Marvin, McCurley, Petersen, Suarez, Thompson). **No:** None. **Abstentions: (1)** Brown. **Motion passed.**

- b. Fall 2025 Funding Calendar. M. Peterson noted that staff will be holding Applicant Workshops in June. Grant applications for the next funding cycle are due August 1, with the grant period starting January 1, 2026.
- c. Site Visit Report: Get In The Game (CLCs). On April 29, CHE Trustees and staff visited the “Get in the Game” project at Lincoln Northeast High School. The purpose of the project is to enhance youth fitness and expand access to youth sports. This support includes funding a free K-5 sports league in 20 high-poverty schools, covering costs for equipment, referee and coach contracts, travel, and meeting entry fees.
- d. Quarterly Report Summary. E. Kluver highlighted that CHE will be doing a site visit to Mahoney Park. It is Lincoln’s first all-inclusive, fully enclosed playground so all children can play together in one space.

## **5. Administration Committee**

- a. Committee Report. M. Suarez noted there is a new policy established for employee board service. If an employee wants to serve as a trustee or a director on a board for any organization, it will need to be reviewed by the board. Those requests will be coming to the board at future meetings. Additionally, M. Suarez noted the annual meeting on June 27<sup>th</sup> and notified the board of a new award that will be presented to a CHE grantee, called the “Place Matters Pioneer” award. It is to take the place of what used to be The Closing the Gap award.

**6. Correspondence, Announcements and Other.**

- a. Other. K. Bolz congratulated Dan on his return to the role of Director of Urban Development. Additionally, K. Bolz highlighted the Meadowlane Pool publication.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01pm.

DRAFT