

Board of Trustees
October 22, 2025, 1:30 pm

Community Health Endowment
250 N 21st Street, Suite 2
Minutes

Trustees Present: (11) Yinka Akinyemi, Blake Anderson, Tyler DeJong, Michael Ferris M.D., John Goldrich, Russ Gronewold, Kerry Kernen, Dan Marvin, Michelle Petersen M.D., Michelle Suarez, Scott Young

Trustees Absent: (2) Quentin Brown, Greer McCurley

Staff Present: (3) Kate Bolz, Morgan Hermanek, Krist Mettscher

Special Guest: (2) Liz Lange, Tom Randa (Cultural Centers of Lincoln Collaborative)

Welcome: R. Gronewold called the meeting to order at 1:32pm

Approval of the Agenda

Motion: **R. Gronewold called for a motion** to approve the agenda

M. Suarez moved and J. Goldrich seconded. No further discussion. **All voting members (9) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Suarez). **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

Approval of the Minutes for September 24, 2025.

Motion: **R. Gronewold called for a motion** to approve the minutes. **M. Ferris moved, and K. Kernen seconded.** No further discussion. **All voting members (9) were in favor** (Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Suarez). **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.

M. Petersen and S. Young arrived at 1:37pm.

1. **Chair's Report.**
 - a. Welcome Krista Mettscher, Grant & Community Relations Officer. K. Bolz introduced CHE's new employee and offered K. Mettscher an opportunity to introduce herself to the Board of Trustees. She highlighted her previous experience and excitement to be a part of CHE's work and mission.

- b. Cultural Centers of Lincoln Collaborative (CCLC) Presentation. T. Randa and L. Lange provided an update of the CCLC to Trustees, including current fundraising activity (\$600,000 of pending requests, and \$6.15 million of planned requests), a Partnership with CommonSpirit (low-interest, flexible loan with a Community Investment Program), and construction updates.

L. Lange and T. Randa left the meeting at 1:45pm.

- c. Board Committees. R. Gronewold pointed Trustees to the committee appointments on page 8 of the board packet and thanked all for their service to CHE.

2. President's Report.

- a. President's Report. K. Bolz provided an overview of Place Matters 6.0, including the new maps that were included (such as lack of health insurance and serious disabilities). M. Hermanek outlined what the Place Matters storytelling campaign will entail.

Additionally, K. Bolz provided an update regarding the federal response fund that is housed at the Lincoln Community Foundation. Organizations that are interested in applying for a grant due to losing federal funding can contact LCF.

- b. Upcoming Meetings and Events. K. Bolz noted the FY2025/26 schedule of events is included in the board packet. CHE staff penciled in as many meetings as possible to help Trustees with their schedules. This calendar is thorough but not comprehensive.

3. Investment & Finance Committee.

- a. Treasurer's Report for September 2025. B. Anderson provided the Treasurer's Report on behalf of T. DeJong.

September represents approximately 8% of the budget. Administrative and operating expenses are slightly below budget, with no significant variances to report. Grant disbursements are proceeding as expected, with \$37,831 distributed to date from reappropriated funds that were available at the start of the fiscal year.

R. Gronewold acknowledged the Treasurer's Report.

Fiducient Monthly Performance Report for September 2025. B. Anderson discussed Fiducient's performance report and the current state of our individuals' managers/funds. For the first time, the endowment has reached over \$80 million.

- b. CPI and Recovery Plan Update. The CCLC grant is not included in the grant commitments on the CPI report as of now. We are currently on track, but it should be noted that the September CPI has not been released yet due to the federal government shutdown.

4. Funding Committee.

- a. Site Visit Report: BraveBe Child Advocacy Center. There was positive feedback about combining the site visit with the Board of Trustees board meeting. Brave fACEs was positively received and Trustees are impressed by the work being done through the program.
- b. Fall 2025 Grant Recommendations (Under Separate Cover). * M. Petersen reviewed the Funding Committee's recommendations for Fall 2025 grant awards. She noted that the Funding Committee has recommended funding for 6 projects, for a total of \$1,012,630 over three years. Information about each project and the recommended award amount was provided under separate cover prior to the meeting.

Grant	Organization Name	Priority	Project Name	Amount Recommended Year 1	Amount Recommended Year 2	Amount Recommended Year 3
26.F.6	Community Action Partnership	Healthy Food Access	Community Action's Gathering Place Capital Project	\$50,000	\$100,000	\$0
26.F.12	I've Got A Name	Mental Wellness and Human Connection	Street Outreach	\$30,000	\$25,000	\$20,000
26.F.13	Lancaster County Medical Society Foundation	Mental Wellness and Human Connection	LCMS Foundation-Medical Assistance Program	\$89,210	\$89,210	\$89,210
26.F.17	Lincoln Literacy Council	Mental Wellness and Human Connection	Healthcare Careers and Community Connections	\$30,000	\$22,500	\$22,500
26.F.23	Northeast Family Center	Youth Fitness	Northeast Family Center Relocation Project	\$45,000	\$0	\$0
26.F.24	Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln	Youth Fitness	Youth Fitness Taskforce Recommendation Implementation Project	\$200,000	\$200,000	\$0

First Motion: The Funding Committee made the motion to approve one grant, **Community Action's Gathering Place Capital Project** (Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties) for \$150,000 over 2 years. **In favor (10):** Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Young. **No: None. Abstentions (1):** Suarez. **Motion passed.**

Second Motion: The Funding Committee made the motion to approve one grant, **Youth Fitness Taskforce Recommendation Implementation Project** (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln) for \$400,000 over 2 years. **In favor (10):** Akinyemi, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Suarez, Young. **No: None. Abstentions (1):** Anderson. **Motion passed.**

Third Motion: The Funding Committee made the motion to approve the remaining grants as presented **excluding** Youth Fitness Taskforce Recommendation Implementation Project (Partnership for a Healthy Lincoln) and Community Action's Gathering Place Capital Project (Community Action Partnership of Lancaster and Saunders Counties) due to the noted conflicts of interest. **In favor (11):** Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Suarez, Young. **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed.**

The Funding committee reviewed the application submitted by the Cultural Centers of Lincoln Collaborative. The application came in as expected for \$5 million. The funding committee recommends funding the request and moving forward with a formal grant contract.

The Funding Committee made a motion to approve the CCLC Capital Campaign Project. **In favor (10):** Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Young. **No:** None. **Abstentions (1):** Suarez. **Motion passed.**

5. Correspondence, Announcements and Other.

- a. Other. K. Bolz mentioned the news stories at the end of the board packet regarding the Cultural Centers of Lincoln Collaborative groundbreaking event.

6. Executive Session (*Meeting Closed to Staff and Public*)

- a. President & CEO Performance Review and Recommendation. * **Gronewold called for a motion to move the meeting in Executive Session.** Anderson moved, Goldrich seconded. **In favor (11):** Akinyemi, Anderson, DeJong, Ferris, Goldrich, Gronewold, Kernen, Marvin, Petersen, Suarez, Young. **No:** None. **Abstentions:** None. **Motion passed. Meeting moved into Executive Session at 2:44pm to discuss the President/CEO performance review and recommendation.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.