

Health Facility Committee

Minutes: February 11, 2026

The audio recording of this meeting can be found on dlbc.utah.gov and on the [Utah Public Notice website](#).

Members present: Chris Etherington, Jesse Buntjer, Debora Escalante, Jennifer Webb, Michael Dolan, Lori Speir, Seraphine Kapsandoy Jones, Jonathan Bangerter, Greg Atwood

Members excused:

Staff present: Heather Flint, Florencia Shapira de Grout, Kamille Sheikh, Jada Stelmach

Special Guests:

Executive secretary: Jared Brown

Welcome – Chris Etherington

- Committee roll call was conducted. Chris Etherington noted he is facilitating this meeting to assist with the transition to a new chair and vice chair.

Minutes

- Review and Approval of September 10, 2025 minutes. Seraphine Kapsandoy Jones motioned to approve the minutes, Jesse Buntjer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
- The November 12, 2025 meeting items were discussed but minutes could not be ratified at that time due to a previous lack of quorum.

Committee vacancies

- Physician, licensed to practice medicine (DNP may qualify)
- Representative of Freestanding Ambulatory Surgical Facilities

Old Business:

- Satellite Emergency Departments Update – Jared Brown
 - The department found a way to license satellite EDs under the general acute hospital license rather than individually. This allows fees to be collected on the same cadence as the hospital license. Prorated fees have been issued to get facilities on schedule. A resource manual/FAQ fact sheet is in final review and will be released soon.
- Medical Cannabis Survey – Jared Brown
 - The department received feedback from the survey. A resource manual for long-term care facilities regarding medical cannabis is currently in development and nearing completion.

New Business:

- **Administrative Rules for Review and Approval - Kamille Sheikh**

- R432-31 Order for Life-Sustaining Treatment
 - Updated to reflect statute renumbering from the 2025 legislative session and to simplify formatting.
- R432-100 General Hospital Standards (Change in Proposed Rule)
 - Adjusted to provide clarity regarding the specific clinical laboratory tests and analysis that must be available on-site at satellite emergency departments.
- R432-101 Specialty Hospital - Psychiatric
 - Reorganized sections for clarity and added requirements for facilities to both "develop and implement" policies, specifically regarding infection control.
- R432-150 Nursing Care Facility
 - Added a specific section for incident reporting. Clarified discharge disclosure requirements, noting an exception for Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID).
- R432-201 Assisted Living Facilities
 - Formatting updates to improve clarity for providers and the public. Section titles from R432-150 were added back in for easier referencing.
- R432-950 Mammography Quality Assurance (Change in Proposed Rule)
 - Updated to support the Rural Transformation Program grant. The rule change removes the requirement for a licensed physician to be on-site for screening mammography.

- **Other Business:**

- Administrative Rule Updates for Legislative Compliance:
 - R432-4 General Construction Rule
 - This rule is nearing publication in the Rules Bulletin for public comment. Once finalized, the department will begin updating specialty construction rules for specific facility types.

- **Committee Leadership Updates**

- The division is currently refining bylaws across all committees to ensure correct formatting and statute references. A draft will be presented at the next meeting for committee input and approval.
- Nominations were previously received for Jesse Buntjer and Jennifer Webb.
 - Chair: Jesse Buntjer was nominated for Committee Chair. All in favor; motion passed.
 - Vice Chair: Jennifer Webb was nominated for Committee Vice Chair. All in favor; motion passed. The new leadership terms will officially begin in 2026.
- The committee expressed gratitude to Chris Etherington for his years of service and for continuing to lead meetings during the vacancy period.

Action Items:

- Committee members to suggest candidates for the two remaining vacancies (Physician and Freestanding Surgical Facilities).
- Staff to share information regarding the Rural Transformation Program grant and funding opportunities.
- New leadership (Jesse and Jennifer) to coordinate with Jared Brown for upcoming transition tasks.

Upcoming meetings

- September 9, 2026

Reminders

- Committee meetings are conducted virtually, but members of the public are able to attend at a physical location upon request. To attend a future committee meeting in-person, please contact Jared Brown (jaredbrown@utah.gov) no later than 48 hours prior to the start of the committee meeting.

Documentation

- [Committee by-laws](#)
- [Committee members](#)