



North Carolina Institute of Medicine Board of Directors Meeting

April 22, 2025

12:00 PM to 2:00 PM

In-person at the NCBiotech Center and remote participants over Zoom

MINUTES

Members Present:

Lori Byrd, DNP, RN, CRE
Frank Courts, DDS, PhD
Perrin Jones, MD
Andrew Kaiser
Trish Markus, JD, CIPP/US
Brian McGinnis, FACHE, FACMPE
Richard Montague
John Morrow, MD, MPH
Tim Norris, MBA, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, CHBC
Patty Pfeiffer, EdD, MSN, RN
Carrie Rosario, DrPH, MPH, CHES
Adam Sholar
William Way, Jr., MD

Members Absent:

Anita Bachmann, MHS
Reuben Blackwell, IV
Vickie Bradley, RN, MPH
Goldie Byrd, PhD
Jennifer Jordan, MD
Danny Scalise

NCIOM staff present: Ronny Bell, PhD, MS (NCMJ Editor-in-Chief), Deidre Bishop, Ruby Brinkerhoff, Amanda Dale, Don Gula, Emily Hooks, Brieanne Lyda McDonald, Ivana Muszkiewicz, Michelle Ries, Ayana Simon

Call to Order and Celebrations

Adam Sholar, NCIOM Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 12:07 PM. Dr. Ronny Bell, the Editor-in-Chief of the NCMJ read the organization's mission statement. Michelle celebrated Ayana's appointment to the United Way Board of Directors. Michelle also shared that she was accepted into the executive doctoral program at UNC Gillings School of Global Public Health and will be starting in the fall.



Review and Approval of April 2025 Meeting Minutes

The motion to approve the minutes was made by Tim Norris and seconded by Trish Markus. The motion passed without opposition.

Audit/Finance Committee and Operations Report

Presentation & Approval of the FY 2026 Budget

Board member and Audit/Finance Chair, Brian McGinnis, and Director of Strategic Operations, Emily Hooks, presented the FY 2026 Budget which runs from July 1 to June 30. Emily noted that the revenue is calculated by the accrual method of accounting. The FY26 budget estimates four new projects. Expenditures include a line for a portion of Michelle's PhD program tuition. Dr. John Morrow asked if UNC cuts due to federal changes will impact NCIOM. Michelle shared that the primary impact is hiring for new positions and that the positions that fall under the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research (OVCR) are currently on a hiring pause. Brian noted that the budget came from the audit and finance committee and therefore doesn't require a motion or second. The budget was approved unanimously.

Emily Hooks provided an update on the financial position.

President's Report

Development Update

Michelle shared that late last week NCIOM received notification of an award for the general operating grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Trust. Michelle also shared updates on the grant applications in progress which include the NC Collaboratory, two to the Duke Endowment (communications capacity building and disaster preparedness), Center on the Workforce for Health, and a potential continuation of work with El Futuro.

Annual Meeting Update

Emily shared that NC DPH has tentatively agreed to serve as this year's annual meeting sponsor. Michelle shared that this year's meeting will take place on November 13, 2025, and will focus on Healthy North Carolina 2030. Dr. Umair A. Shah has been invited to serve as the keynote speaker.

Hiring and Personnel Update

Austyn Kobs, a graduate research assistant and Veteran, has been hired to support the work of the Veterans' Health Task Force. NCIOM has one Project Director vacancy due to Khristian Curry resigning from her position in January. The team has completed all interviews, and we are waiting for the university's essential action review on that position. The Communications Director position is posted, and NCIOM is exploring how we can fill this position through UTS in the interim. Dr. Carrie Rosario asked if the structure with UNC continues to raise challenges. Michelle shared that we continue to navigate the hiring



changes coming from OVCR but noted the benefits of being a part of UNC (e.g., health insurance, pension, and IT/HR support).

Membership Update

Ayana Simon provided a demographic summary of current NCIOM members to inform the 2025 member nomination process. She requested that board members contact her if they are interested in joining the membership committee.

NCMJ and Communications Update

Ruby Brinkerhoff shared updates on the NCMJ and NCIOM Communications. The 2025 NCIOM newsletter will be published twice monthly, covering themes such as hurricane recovery, opioid use, child health, maternal health, and workforce issues. The North Carolina Medical Journal (NCMJ) has moved to digital publication and reduced its publication to four issues annually to allow our staff to focus on broader, timely, and integrated communications, such as the newsletter and blog. Michelle shared that the newsletter also allows us to share past NCMJ content and current NCIOM projects.

Program and Project Updates

Review of Task Force on Veterans' Health: Planning and Landscape Analysis

Brienne Lyda McDonald provided updates on the Veterans' Health Taskforce, which is the first to pilot a more efficient planning process, allowing overarching goals to be identified earlier. She shared the focus areas of the task force and that North Carolina has the eighth-largest military population in US. Dr. Frank Courts noted that access to oral health is a significant challenge for veterans' health. Dr. Carrie Rosario asked if NCIOM had considered writing about the change in our processes. Michelle shared that the team has considered this and that funders may be interested as well. Dr. Bill Way noted the connection between the health information exchange and the VA system and that one of the NCIOM members may be a good resource. Tim Norris asked if this task force had been shared with the NC congressional delegation. Brienne replied that NCIOM planned to invite them to the task force kickoff event and that Austyn Kobs was also inviting members of pertinent congressional committees.

Review of Child Health Report Card

Brienne shared data from the Child Health Report Card, a collaboration between NCIOM and NC Child. Adam Sholar asked about the difficulty of accessing mental health treatment. Brienne shared that there are many shortage areas throughout the state and that many providers do not accept insurance, leading to additional barriers for families.

Evolve: Recommendations and Progress

Ayana Simon shared how the team is continuing to track the status of the integration of recommendations that were developed during the Evolve grant from The Duke Endowment.



Adam shared that NC HCFA uses a similar process and shared lessons learned from tracking goals that are in-progress.

Board of Directors Strategic Discussion

Michelle shared that NCIOM is in communication with consulting firms to assist with development, fundraising, and financial forecasting. The board discussed revenue and reserves. There was also discussion about online donations, and Michelle noted that would be part of the scope of the work with any potential consulting firm.

Adjourn

Dr. Lori Byrd adjourned the meeting at 2:04pm.