

CHHS Board Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2026

Roll Call: (4:02 PM)

Board Members: Wes Anderson, Barb Lee, Flor Castañeda, Elaine Mansoor, Sara Bauer, Karen Ssebanakitta, Ashley Erickson, David Edwards, Leslie Hope, Maura Lammers, Ali Mogaddasi, Joe Ader, George Dahl

City of Spokane Staff: Arielle Anderson, Kimberly Babb, Keri Cederquist, Lili Navarrete, Jon Klapp, Nicolette Ocheltree, Sebastian Pedinielli

Community Members: Barry Barfield, Eric Robison, Jeffery Head, Elaine Mansoor, Kristin Larson (appointed 2/9/2026), Dante Jester,

1. February 4, 2026, agenda reviewed and adopted:

- David Edwards asked for a motion to approve the February agenda, Leslie Hope moved, Wes Anderson second. Karen Ssebanakitta, moved a motion to amend the action agenda to discuss a member proposal for the Affordable Housing Committee. David Edwards second, all approved.

2. December 3, 2025, minutes reviewed and passed:

- David Edwards asked for a motion to approve the minutes from December 3, 2025, Wes Anderson moved; Leslie Hope second, passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment:

- David Edwards asked guest attendees if there were any public comments – none.

4. Board Education

- Gonzaga University; Institute for Climate, Water, & the Environment– Dante Jester presenter. Data highlighted impacts from the 2021 Northwest Heat Dome, increased heat-related deaths, and a 353% rise in days with moderate or worse air quality. The Spokane Community Resilience Collaborative, formed in 2024 with 17 partners, is advancing a citywide resilience plan focused on education, equitable access to cooling and air filtration, neighborhood-based support, policy improvements, and resilience hubs. Next steps include releasing Resilience Plan 2.0, expanding public education, piloting additional hubs, and pursuing implementation funding.
- Arielle Anderson explained HHS's role and activations for heat related inclement weather; library, splashpads, city-funding for Meals on Wheels to support the elderly, and the day-time navigation center.
- Possible Neighborhood Council involvement as leaders in heat check-in and/or fire evacuation planning discussion followed.

5. Action Items

- Patricia Kleinholz, current Chair of AHC, board application:
David Edwards moved motion to refer her application to the Mayor's office, Leslie Hope second, passed unanimously.

6. Discussion Items

- Updated Funding Schedule: HHS Director Arielle Anderson requested that discussion of the 2026 funding schedule be moved to next month. She noted the challenges experienced in 2025 due to the large number of RFPs released. The next RFP to be issued will be for HEART (1590) Capital funding. The department's internal schedule, which is not yet finalized, was presented to the group for reference.
- Recruitment to Board and Committees: David Edwards reminded the group that Kristin Larson's board application is pending a City Council vote on February 9, 2026. Council Member Sara Dixit has been confirmed as the City Council representative to the board. The CHHS By-Laws were approved by the City Council and there is now an open board position for a non-voting representative from the City of Spokane Valley.
- Conflict of Interest: All board members are current on the 2026 COI form. David Edwards requested committee members/chairs submit COIs before the next RFP.

7. CHHS Director's Report

- HUD NOFO update: the city joined the multi-community litigation against HUD to return to the 2-year CoC cycle awarded in 2023. The current administration pivoted and allowed communities with non-renewals and YHDP funding to rely on those previous applications. HHS is anticipating the next NOFO in June (one-year cycle anticipated).
- The PIT Count has concluded. Eric Robison provided a recap of Homeless Connect, reporting 2,000 attendees and 125 participating service providers. Through legal aid services, 87 bench warrants were recalled. WSU vets services assisted 86 individual pet owners. Pet Savers distributed 165 spay/neuter vouchers and administered 100 pet vaccinations. CHAS Health treated dozens of patients. Final event numbers will be released soon. Strong coordination between Homeless Connect, PIT Count teams, and City staff was noted. PIT data is pending analysis but is expected to be available earlier than last year.
- Newsletter link in agenda.
- HHS staff is currently monitoring 2025 grant subrecipients in partnership with Spokane County.

8. Committee & Partner Update

- Affordable Housing Committee – David Edwards, committee is reviewing CDBG and HOME applications, 13 applications for general CDBG Capital, 4 applications from the Neighborhood set-aside, and 4 HOME applications. Committee scores are due on February 9, 2026.
- Human Services Committee – Karen Ssebanakitta, committee has been on hiatus after a very busy Fall RFP cycle. The committee could use more members, but they have not been successful in recruitment. David asked the group to help network for potential members for both committees.
- Continuum of Care – Joe Ader, NOFO updates and the PIT were the focus of the last board meeting.
- Spokane Valley – Eric Robison, conversations with the Spokane Valley Advisory Board on how to use 1406 funding, approximately 1.5 million dollars available.
- Veterans – Wes Anderson – no update until the PIT Count numbers are available.
- City Council - Sebastian Pedinielli, Legislative Assistant to Sara Dixit, introduced CM Dixit as the CHHS representative and provided an update on her campaign goals and priorities. The Spokane City Council recently passed an Eviction Diversion Ordinance. Additional housing policies under consideration include a winter eviction moratorium and right to

repair/right to cooling measures. The Council is also considering changing its regular meeting day to Wednesday. She is meeting with the Governor to discuss a potential immigrant protection zone ordinance that would prohibit federal immigration agents from operating on City-owned or City-managed properties. Nicolette Ocheltree reviewed the upcoming City Council resolution outlining 2026 HEART (1590) funding priorities.

- Spokane County – George Dahl, no updates.
- Regional Homeless Collaborative – Leslie Hope, Collaborative did not meet.

9. Closing Announcements

- Next meeting: **March 4, 2025.**

Adjourn 5:25 PM