

GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: 04/02/2026

Started: 9:00 AM

Facilitators: Meredith Yuckman, Eileen Rosa

Location: NCWorks Career Center

In Attendance

Amanda Blue (virtual), Erika Brandt, Eric Braun, Mary Lederle, Ashley Lommers-Johnson, Ann Oshel, Imogen Rhodenhiser, Kayla Rosenberg Strampe, Onia Royster, Pat Sturdivant (virtual), Zach Ward, Nicole Wilson, Michele Woodson, Meredith Yuckman

Absent

Wayne Beatty (unexcused), KC Buchanan (unexcused), Doris Bullock (excused), Bonner Gaylord (excused), Felts Lewis (unexcused), Quentin Miles (unexcused), Nicole Stewart (excused), Johnnie Thomas (excused)

March Minutes

Eric Braun motioned to approve the March Governance Board meeting minutes.

Zach Ward seconded the motion.

Approved: Amanda Blue, Erika Brandt, Eric Braun, Mary Lederle, Ashley Lommers-Johnson, Ann Oshel, Imogen Rhodenhiser, Kayla Rosenberg Strampe, Onia Royster, Pat Sturdivant, Zach Ward, Nicole Wilson, Michele Woodson, Meredith Yuckman

Disapproved: None

Abstained: None

HUD CoC NOFO

Eileen Rosa shared an update on the status of (Federal) FY25 HUD CoC NOFO and the related lawsuit. She noted that on March 31st HUD announced \$349M in FY25 CoC Program renewal funding for calendar year 2026 Q1 renewals. Additionally, on April 1st, the First Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the preliminary injunction meaning that HUD cannot move forward with its plan to release the December 19th CoC Program Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO). Rather, HUD will

need to renew all awards expiring this year. Eileen stated that the focus will now shift to preparing for the FY26 NOFO and that the CoC team will be holding a foundational information session for current and interested applicants.

HMIS Software Vendor RFP

Eileen Rosa shared that five vendors will move on to the demo portion of the RFP process. Demos are scheduled for late April, and all CoC Board members are welcome. Eileen also shared that available materials will be posted for CoC review and comment.

Based on experience in similar software systems, Michele Woodson suggested the CoC be diligent in negotiation to ensure that even if additions need to be made in inventory of users and agencies, the terms are set for the duration of the contract, especially in such a fast-growing location as Wake County.

Operational Shifts

Eileen Rosa gave a reminder that Second Street Place Shelter is temporarily closed for County renovations from April 1 through October 2026.

From April 1st-April 13th, temporary shelters will be activated to serve the combined capacity of 98 clients while the interim site is finished being prepared.

Clients will be welcomed to the official interim shelter site for Monday evening, April 13th. Additional CoC communications will be sent in advance of this shift.

White Flag RFP

Eileen Rosa updated that a request for proposals will be posted for a White Flag Shelter Partner, with a timeline of May-August 2026.

In reference to the slide presentation, Eric Braun asked what, “Assumes increase in CoC staff coordination and leadership” means. Eileen Rosa responded to confirm that now that the new CoC Lead Agency and staff have a full cold weather season of experience, there are additional roles and responsibilities that can be centralized to the CoC rather than the shelter operator.

Eileen added that CoC staff are debriefing with White Flag partners to identify ways to adjust the White Flag response plan and shelter operator contract. This includes potential to expansion to meet extreme weather needs outside of the cold weather season.

Strategic Planning Initiative

Eileen Rosa reviewed the strategic initiative, focused on ending unsheltered homelessness, proposed in detail at the March Governance Board meeting.

Fiscal Agent Request for Information (RFI)

Eileen reviewed the proposed Request for Information (RFI) with two potential fiscal agent structures for the initiative:

1. Governance Board pursues nonprofit status with a steering committee to oversee funding in partnership with a fiscal agency (accounting firm).
2. Establish agreement with a community foundation.

CoC staff recommended the following action as a goal for the review and discussion: CoC Board vote to approve moving forward with the proposed RFI [with proposed edits] and process.

Discussion and feedback from CoC Board members included:

- Reflection on similarities and lessons learned from Charlotte/Mecklenburg for the A Way Home initiative which has a broader scope than the proposed Wake CoC plan.
- Specific suggestions to update the RFI included:
 - Updating language to draw in more foundations as the current draft speaks to more accounting/fiscal agencies than foundations.
 - Flag that foundations are already doing so much fundraising, adding more benchmarks outside of the typical expectations could deter a foundation from responding to the opportunity.
 - Kayla Rosenberg Strampe suggested adjusting the opening paragraph to include the options being pursued.
 - Erika Brandt suggested adding a clause to the effect of, “in addition to already committed public dollars” and adding in a summary of the information already done.
 - Kayla Rosenberg Strampe also raised potential that a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) may be more appropriate than a Request for Information (RFI).
 - Erika Brandt suggested adding more substance to the introduction to demonstrate the proven approach, peer city success and components of the initiative.
- Discussion on how engaging health systems are key, and that demonstrated commitment of the County and City will help bolster interest.
- Ann Oshel stated that this community needs more discussion around social impact need and social impact bonds.
- Nicole Wilson asked for clarification that this partner would not be a required fundraiser. Eileen Rosa stated, yes, but global reach and impact could bring in more investors naturally.

Imogen motioned to move forward with the proposed RFI [with proposed edits] and process.

Eric Braun seconded the motion.

Approved: Amanda Blue, Erika Brandt, Eric Braun, Mary Lederle, Ashley Lommers-Johnson, Ann Oshel, Imogen Rhodenhiser, Kayla Rosenberg Strampe, Onia Royster, Pat Sturdivant, Zach Ward, Nicole Wilson, Michele Woodson, Meredith Yuckman

Disapproved: None

Abstained: None

Communications

Eileen Rosa stated that the name and brand for the initiative is being updated, along with an opportunity for an update to the CoC logo.

Eileen also told the Board to keep an eye out for materials on talking points and one pager expected by 04/15.

Eileen reviewed upcoming milestones in socializing the initiative:

- 04/13 Board of Commissioner Work Session
- 04/14 City Council Work Session
- 04/27 Wake CoC Membership Meeting

Eileen Rosa closed out the discussion with a review of projected resources for Phase 1 of the Initiative between January 2026-December 2027 and the funding status as of April 1st. She also stated that the RFI would be available to the board to review before publicly posted.

Lead Agency Updates

FY26 Staffing Update: Eileen Rosa shared that one Coordinated Entry position is currently in the process of being hired with the final two FY26 positions being posted in May.

FY27 Budget Update: Wake County Board of Commissioners will be seeing an overview of the general budget over the next few work sessions until the County manager presents the full proposed FY27 budget in May.

Adjourn: 10:28 AM

Next Meeting

Date and Time: May 7, 2026, from 9-10:30 AM

Location: NCWorks Career Center