

MINUTES OF THE OCEANA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

March 23, 2026

Regular meeting- open to the public

Meeting Minutes

City Hall of Hart
407 S. State St. #1 Hart, MI, 49420
Oceana, Michigan
March 23, 2026
Start time: 10:30am (EST)

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. EST by Chair, Linda East.

Roll Call - Members Present:

Linda East (Chair)	Sally Chophonis (OCMCF Administrator)
Dale Danes (Vice Chair)	Cynthia Leone (Finance Manager)
Larry Vansickle (Member)	Lyndie Stokes (Director of Nursing)
Paul Erickson (Commissioner)	Grace Eppard (Administrative Assistant)

Roll Call – Visitors Present:

Lorri Busick
Nancy Klepper
Mrs. & Mr. Golden

Members Absent

None

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Dale Danes, seconded by Larry Vansickle, to approve the agenda as presented.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes – February 23, 2026

Motion by Dale Danes, seconded by Larry Vansickle, to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2026, meeting as presented.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

General information

New Interim Director of Nursing:

OCMCF is welcoming our new Interim Director of Nursing, Kristina Wilson-Rapson, who joined our leadership team on February 23rd, 2026.

New Director of Nursing:

OCMCF is welcoming our new Director of Nursing Lyndie Stokes, who was previously employed by the facility and joined our leadership team again on March 16th, 2026.

Nursing Department:

- Open FRI in March has been reviewed and closed.
- Quality indicators remain stable overall with areas of focused improvement through Quality Assurance and Performance Improvement (QAPI) program.
- Staffing levels are adequate overall, with targeted recruitment efforts underway in key areas.
- We are introducing “Spotlight of Excellence” this is to recognize those whose actions reflect our standards and values. Sally Choponis is recognizing Tara Bateson, RN. For her “Outstanding nursing care and clinical excellence. She demonstrated exceptional assessment skills, sound clinical judgment, and timely intervention while caring for a acutely ill resident. Tara’s actions reflect a deep commitment to resident safety, advocacy, and excellence in nursing practice”.

Outpatient Therapy:

- Gym Membership numbers remain consistent with last month. Our current members for March; 31 members: 14 yearly members
- Rehab Referrals from January 1st, 2026 - February 19th, 2026
Total of 15 referrals;
Current patients: PT = 17, OT = 17, 3 pool patients, 7 pediatric patients.

Corporate Compliance:

- No current concerns.
- The corporate compliance quarterly report (quarter 1) will be provided at April’s board meeting.

Social Work:

- No new developments.

Activities Department:

- 3 Residents families hosted a birthday party for a loved one.
- On March 8th, 2026, four residents participated in mass at St. Gregorys.

- On March 22nd, 2026, residents went to watch the Hart Drama Club perform Cinderella at Hart Middle School.
- The local 4-H Dog Club continues to meet at our facility twice a month giving the residents opportunity to watch how the group runs their meetings and then interact with the kids and dogs at the end.
- Our volunteers continue to provide their time and support with our residents this helps to allow us to be able to plan more events.

Operational Report:

- State was in the facility on March 17th, 2026, and the boiler passed inspection.
- The water softener system is currently working to full capacity, which has not occurred in 5 years.
- We have had two power outages. Our backup generators have successfully worked.
- Service Hall intercom is not working at its full capacity. This has been scheduled to be worked on.
- Dune Hall is having a control issue with the lights.
- The HVAC system updates: Daron is currently seeking bids from engineering firms.

No old business concerns were reported

Business

Denial Report

- In February 2026, OCMCF recorded 43 total denied admission referrals. Approximately 14 denials were due to unaccepted insurance plans.

Approval of Denial Report

Motion by Larry Vansickle, seconded by Dale Danes, to approve the denial report as presented.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Board Members Discussion

- Board members discussed the deadline and process for recertifying offline beds. The Administrator, Sally Choponis, responded that this is something she will be looking into.

Financial Report – Cynthia Leone

- Average Census for February 2026 was 96 residents (budgeted at 95)
- Gross resident revenue totaled \$1,397,852, resulting in a negative budget variance of \$24,845 for February 2026.
- Interest Income for February 2026 was \$29,199.
- Total expenditure for February 2026 was \$1,562,573 with a positive budget variance of \$233,084.

Approval of Financial Report

Motion by Larry Vansickle, seconded by Dale Danes, to approve the financial report as presented.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Policies to approve

Nursing at a Total of (91)

Public comment

Nancy Klepper provided comment regarding options for additional private rooms. The Administrator, Sally Choponis, responded that it will be considered when appropriate timing occurs.

Rhonda Golden expressed congratulations to Sally Choponis in her new role as Administrator. Additionally, she expressed concerns about staffing and care for her mother. Ms. Choponis indicated the concern would be reviewed with the Director of Nursing.

Adjournment

Motion by Linda East, seconded by Larry Vansickle, to adjourn the meeting.

End Time: 11:10 a.m. (EST)

Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes prepared by: Grace Eppard, Administrative Assistant

Minutes approved by: 
Linda East, Chair

Approval Date: 04/24/2026