

Minutes of the University Health Care Committee
University of Kentucky Board of Trustees
Thursday, February 19, 2026

The University Health Care Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Kentucky (UK) met on February 19, 2026, in the Gatton Student Center, Harris Ballroom.

A. Meeting Opened

Bob Vance, chair of the University Health Care Committee called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

B. Roll Call

The following members of the University Health Care Committee were in attendance: Skip Berry, Alex Boone, Ron Geoghegan, Brenda Baker Gosney and Bob Vance; Community Advisory members Jennifer Barber, Luther Deaton, Josh Proffitt and Barbara Young.

C. Approval of Minutes

Chair Vance stated that the minutes of the December 1, 2025 meeting had been distributed and asked for a motion to approve. Trustee Boone moved approval and Trustee Gosney seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent. (See meeting minutes on the Board of Trustees website, www.uky.edu/Trustees, under "Agenda".)

D. EVPHA Report

Programmatic Growth Service Lines

Provost and Co-EVPHA, Robert DiPaola provided a strategic overview focused on talent development, infrastructure and the expansion of service lines through a patient-centered model. He reiterated the organization's strategic framework centered on three pillars: advanced subspecialty care, support for people and community partners, and academic distinction through research, education and innovation. He emphasized the role of service lines in coordinating multidisciplinary care to improve patient outcomes and access.

Lung Service Line

Director of the UK HealthCare Lung Service Line, Ed Cantu presented on the significant burden of advanced lung disease in Kentucky, noting that approximately one in 10 Kentuckians are affected and that the state leads the nation in several related health metrics. Dr. Cantu outlined key priorities, including the expansion of lung transplant services and early detection of lung cancer. He highlighted recent progress, including

standardized care protocols, recruitment of specialized staff and the implementation of artificial intelligence tools to identify pulmonary nodules—resulting in the identification of more than 400 previously untracked patients and reduced time from diagnosis to treatment. He also discussed outreach efforts to expand access to care across the Commonwealth.

Dermatology Service Line

Director of the UK HealthCare Dermatology Service Line, James Wharton presented on the establishment and rapid development of dermatology services within the institution. Dr. Wharton described the creation of a new clinical presence, aggressive recruitment efforts to build a team of five to six providers within the first year, and initiatives to expand access to care and reduce the need for external referrals. He outlined plans to grow subspecialty services, develop a dermatology residency program and participate in clinical research and advanced therapies. He emphasized strong collaboration with other specialties and the positive response from patients and the community. Educational materials on melanoma screening were also shared with Trustees.

2024-25 ACGME Accreditation Outcomes

Charles “Chipper” Griffith, Dean, UK College of Medicine, presented the annual Graduate Medical Education (GME) Outcomes Report. Dr. Griffith provided an overview of the University’s residency and fellowship programs, noting that the report is typically presented by Dr. Katie McKinney, who was unavailable due to her participation in a meeting of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Board. He highlighted her national leadership role as reflective of the institution’s strong reputation in medical education.

Dr. Griffith reported that the University’s GME programs continue to grow and perform at a high level, emphasizing that such growth is accompanied by a sustained commitment to excellence in training. He noted that the institution now sponsors approximately 80 residency and fellowship programs, placing it among the top tier nationally in terms of program size and scope. He underscored that training at the University of Kentucky prepares physicians to provide high-quality care in diverse and complex clinical settings.

He further reported that the institution maintains “substantial compliance” with ACGME accreditation standards and recently completed a 10-year institutional site visit in 2024 with zero citations, an outcome he described as exceptional. Among the 80 programs, the majority hold continued accreditation, with a smaller number in initial accreditation status or awaiting outcome data. Dr. Griffith also noted that a previously cited program has returned to full compliance, resulting in all programs currently meeting accreditation standards.

Dr. Griffith highlighted several recent programmatic developments, including the establishment of new internal medicine residency programs in Ashland and Pikeville, as

well as a child abuse pediatrics fellowship. He also noted the achievement of osteopathic recognition for the physical medicine and rehabilitation residency program and the expansion of non-standard training pathways in specialized areas. He emphasized the University's role as a leading sponsor of GME programs in Kentucky and its commitment to expanding training opportunities across the Commonwealth.

In discussing workforce impact, Dr. Griffith reported that nearly half of residents and fellows remain in Kentucky following completion of their training, contributing significantly to addressing physician shortages across the state. He noted continued growth in the number of trainees, with the total increasing from the mid-600s to the mid-800s in recent years. He also highlighted ongoing efforts to recruit graduates of the University's medical school into residency programs, further strengthening retention within the state.

UK St. Claire Update

Don Lloyd, president and CEO of UK St. Claire provided an update on the first 18 months of the partnership with the University of Kentucky. Mr. Lloyd began by expressing appreciation to the Board for its support and highlighted the significant impact the partnership has had on patients across northeastern Kentucky. He briefly outlined the affiliation process, noting that UK St. Claire conducted a formal partner search and ultimately established a partnership with the University.

Mr. Lloyd reported that UK St. Claire serves 11 counties in northeastern Kentucky, with operations in eight counties, anchored by its primary facility in Morehead. Additional services include post-acute and ambulatory care in several remote and economically challenged communities. Over the past 18 months, the organization has served more than 12,000 patients in its medical center, handled over 44,000 emergency department visits, delivered more than 550 babies, performed over 8,000 surgeries and provided home health services to more than 12,000 individuals. He noted that transportation remains the most significant barrier to care in the region.

He emphasized improvements in quality and accreditation, including achieving five national accreditations through The Joint Commission, designation as a primary heart attack receiving center and pending stroke center accreditation. The cancer program was re-accredited through the Commission on Cancer due to its Markey affiliation and the organization received a four-star rating from Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS), along with national accreditation for its bariatric surgery program. Mr. Lloyd noted that the organization has met 12 of 17 University-directed performance measures, exceeding the required minimum, with measurable improvements in areas such as glycemic control, reduced readmissions and decreased use of high-dose opioids following surgery. He also reported that there have been no central line infections in nearly a year and that sepsis care performance ranks in the top 10 percent nationally.

Mr. Lloyd highlighted significant workforce and clinical expansion, including the recruitment of 50 physicians from 23 states and the addition of 10 new specialty service

lines, such as neurology, infectious disease, orthopedic spine and rheumatology. Additionally, 52 advanced practice providers have been added to support care delivery. He also discussed advancements in research and education, including 13 active clinical research protocols, six sub-projects and the initiation of an interventional clinical trial for small cell lung cancer.

In terms of education and training, Mr. Lloyd noted that approximately 110 learners are present daily across the region, including medical students, residents and other health professionals. This includes 13 family medicine residents in a rural track, pharmacy residents, newly established physician assistant residency programs and 22 third- and fourth-year medical students training in the community. He emphasized the importance of scholarship and workforce development programs, noting that 42 percent of the active medical staff has been impacted by these initiatives. A testimonial video was presented to illustrate the transformative effect of these programs on individuals and the broader community.

Mr. Lloyd also outlined the economic impact of the partnership, reporting more than two million patient encounters across operations. He cited growth across several service areas, including a 20 percent increase in diagnostic imaging, nearly 12 percent growth in inpatient admissions, approximately eight percent growth in surgical procedures and 26 percent growth in medical group volume. The urgent care model is projected to serve more than 56,000 patients annually. He further noted that 400 jobs have been created, representing a \$43 million economic impact in the region.

Workforce investment was also highlighted, with \$1.4 million invested in employee development. In total, 231 employees have enrolled in higher education programs, including 13 pursuing doctoral degrees. The organization employs 80 individuals through its Second Chance Employment Program and maintains strong partnerships with Morehead State University and regional technical colleges to support workforce pipelines.

Mr. Lloyd concluded by noting that 78 integration activities with UK HealthCare have been completed, along with the launch of 10 strategic business development initiatives and six new or expanded student health programs.

E. Financial and Operational Update

FY26 December Operational and Financial Report

Craig Collins, senior vice president and chief financial officer and Timothy Slocum, senior vice president and chief operating officer, presented financial and operational results for fiscal year 2026 year-to-date through December.

Mr. Slocum reviewed key operational metrics, including average length of stay, case mix index, discharges, operating room volumes, ambulatory visits and emergency department activity. He noted overall stable performance across the system and continued efforts to improve throughput, access and operational efficiency.

Mr. Collins presented consolidated financial results for UK HealthCare, Royal Blue Health and Claire Blue Health. He summarized revenue, expense and margin performance and discussed key trends affecting year-to-date results. Leadership emphasized ongoing attention to cost management, productivity and financial discipline while supporting clinical growth and access to care.

F. Finance Committee Recommendations

FCR 1 Acceptance of Charitable Grant Commitment from the UK Markey Cancer Foundation, Inc. to Benefit the College of Medicine, Markey Cancer Center

The recommendation approved a \$12.5 million charitable grant from the UK Markey Cancer Foundation to support the College of Medicine's Markey Cancer Center. Of this, \$12 million will create a new endowed fund and \$500,000 a non-endowed fund. The Foundation, established in 1978, has contributed over \$110 million to advance cancer research, patient care and facilities, helping the Center achieve National Cancer Institute Comprehensive Cancer Center designation.

Trustee Geoghegan made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 1. Trustee Boone seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 2 Acceptance of Charitable Grant Commitment from Linda G. Ball to Benefit the College of Medicine, Markey Cancer Center

The recommendation approved a \$5 million charitable gift from Linda G. Ball to support faculty and research at the College of Medicine's Markey Cancer Center, specifically funding a gastrointestinal cancer research program named the "D. Ray Ball, Jr. Program of Excellence in Pancreatic Cancer." The gift establishes an endowed chair, two endowed professorships and an endowed research fund in pancreatic and gastrointestinal cancer. In recognition of the family's support, the Cancer Acute Treatment Clinic in the UK Cancer and Advanced Ambulatory Building will be named the "Ray and Linda Ball Cancer Acute Treatment Clinic." The gift honors the legacy of Linda's late husband, Donald Ray Ball, Jr., who passed after a two-year battle with pancreatic cancer, and reflects the family's gratitude to his care team and commitment to advancing pancreatic cancer care and research.

Trustee Boone made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 2. Trustee Gosney seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 3 Acceptance of Charitable Gift and Pledge from the University of Kentucky Real Estate Foundation, Inc. to Benefit the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Health Sciences and Public Health

The recommendation approved a charitable gift and pledge of approximately \$7.93 million from the University of Kentucky Real Estate Foundation, Inc. (UKREF) to support the construction, renovation and/or expansion of the Michael D. Rankin MD Health

Education Building. This facility will bring together the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Health Sciences, Public Health and the Center for Interprofessional and Community Health Education, fostering collaboration and innovation in health education. The building aims to equip more students with the skills and knowledge to address health challenges in Kentucky, ultimately improving community well-being and economic prosperity.

Trustee Gosney made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 3. Trustee Geoghegan seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 5 Acceptance of Charitable Grant Commitment from Kentucky Medical Services Foundation, Inc. to Benefit the College of Medicine

The recommendation approved a \$1,000,000 charitable grant commitment from the Kentucky Medical Services Foundation, Inc. to support the construction, renovation, and/or expansion of the Michael D. Rankin MD Health Education Building in the College of Medicine. In recognition of this contribution, a classroom in the building will be named "Department of Emergency Medicine 2026." This facility will bring together the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, Health Sciences, Public Health and the Center for Interprofessional and Community Health Education, fostering collaboration and innovative health education. The Kentucky Medical Services Foundation, founded in 1978, supports the recruitment and retention of top clinicians and advances the University's missions in education, research, service and patient care.

Trustee Boone made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 5. Trustee Berry seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 6 A Resolution Providing for the Authorization, Issuance and Sale of Approximately \$850,000,000 General Receipts Obligations of the University of Kentucky, Pursuant to the Trust Agreement Dated as of November 1, 2005

The recommendation approved a resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of approximately \$850,000,000 in University of Kentucky General Receipts Obligations, to be designated as "University of Kentucky General Receipts Bonds" or Chandler Expansion and Health Education Projects Bonds, for financing two major projects authorized in House Bill 6 of the 2024 Regular Session: \$800,000,000 for Construct/Improve Medical/Administrative Facility 3 Additional Reauthorization and \$50,000,000 for Construct Health Education Building Additional Reauthorization. The resolution allows the bonds to be issued in one or more installments, with the first installment not exceeding \$100,000,000, and authorizes alternative financing through a Financing Agreement with the Kentucky Asset/Liability Commission or a lease with the State Property and Buildings Commission.

The resolution also authorizes the competitive sale of these obligations, acceptance of bids by the University Treasurer and sets the official intent that proceeds may reimburse expenditures made for the projects prior to bond issuance. These obligations will be issued under the Trust Agreement adopted in 2005, which governs

agency bonds, financing agreements, and leases for capital projects. Supplemental Trust Agreements, Continuing Disclosure Agreements and all associated documents for the bond sale are also approved. This action ensures compliance with IRS regulations for reimbursement of prior project expenditures from bond proceeds.

Trustee Geoghegan made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 6. Trustee Gosney seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 7 Internal Loan for Improve Parking/Transportation System 1 – UK HealthCare (Expand Parking Structure 8 – Construction Phase) Capital Project

The recommendation approved an internal loan of up to \$8.7 million to help fund the expansion of Parking Structure 8 at UK HealthCare, part of a revised \$67 million project scope. The project adds 700 parking spaces and repurposes office space for the UK Police Department. The remaining \$58.3 million will come from agency funds. The loan was reviewed and approved by the University's Debt Management Committee.

Trustee Boone made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 7. Trustee Gosney seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 10 Improve UK HealthCare Facilities – UK Chandler Hospital (Maternal Fetal Medicine Clinic) Capital Project

The recommendation approved the initiation of a \$4 million capital project to renovate 10,000 square feet on level 3 of Pavilion H at UK Chandler Hospital for a Maternal Fetal Medicine (MFM) Clinic. The clinic will serve high-risk obstetric patients and provide services including ultrasound, minor procedures, fetal monitoring, genetic counseling, perinatal mental health services, and telemedicine. Funding will come from agency funds and is within the \$150 million legislative authorization.

Trustee Geoghegan made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 10. Trustee Berry seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 11 Improve Medical Facility 7 – UK King's Daughters (Ohio Campus – Design Phase) Capital Project

The recommendation approved the initiation of a \$3 million capital project for the design phase of the UK King's Daughters Ohio Campus expansion. The project will plan an additional 12,000 square feet to increase emergency and urgent care capacity, expand diagnostic testing and add ambulatory and procedural services to improve patient access and care efficiency. Funding will come from agency funds and is within the \$30 million legislative authorization.

Trustee Boone made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 11. Trustee Gosney seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

FCR 12 Expansion/Improve Medical Facility 1 – UK King’s Daughters Medical Center (Various Projects – Main Campus) Capital Project

The recommendation approved the initiation of the Improve Medical Facility 1 – UK King’s Daughters Medical Center (Various Projects – Main Campus) capital project in Ashland, Kentucky. The proposal includes six projects aimed at expanding and improving the existing hospital campus:

- Cardiovascular Operating Room (CVOR) Expansion – Renovate 18,000 sq. ft. on the fourth floor near the CVOR to add a hybrid operating room, more post anesthesia care unit rooms, and additional cardiovascular intensive care unit beds.
- Pediatric Inpatient Unit – Renovate and expand 8,500 sq. ft. to create a 12-bed unit with an expanded nurse’s station to support growing pediatric inpatient needs.
- Labor and Delivery Renovation – Renovate 8,300 sq. ft. to standardize design and workflow with the recently renovated mother-baby unit.
- Laboratory Services Expansion (Design Phase) – Design 23,000 sq. ft. of additional lab space to improve automation and efficiency; construction will require future Board approval.
- Main Patient Tower Expansion (Design Phase) – Design an additional three floors totaling 108,000 sq. ft. to add up to 150 inpatient beds; construction will require future Board approval.
- Initiate the design phase of the expansion and renovation of the main operating room to improve access to surgical services.

All projects are over \$1 million and require Board approval for initiation under Administrative Regulation 8:2. Funding will come from agency funds.

Trustee Berry made a motion to recommend approval of FCR 12. Trustee Geoghegan seconded the motion. The motion carried without dissent.

G. Privileges and Appointments

Executive Chief Medical Officer Christopher DeSimone presented the list of providers from the UKHC Medical Staff for privileges and appointments. Trustee Boone made a motion to approve the list. Trustee Gosney seconded the motion and it passed without dissent.

H. Other Business and Adjournment

Chair Vance called for new or other business that needed to be brought before the University Health Care Committee or questions for the presenters. Hearing no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Leigh Bays Donald
University Health Care Committee Secretary