

Northwest Iowa Care Connections Board Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2014 9:00 a.m. O'Brien County Courthouse

The Northwest Iowa Care Connections Board met with the following members present: Bill Leupold, Dickinson County Representative, (NWIACC Chair), Linda Swanson (NWIACC Secretary), Mark Behrens, Lyon County Representative, , Ron Graettinger, Palo Alto County Representative and Tom Farnsworth, O'Brien County Representative. Phil Bootsma, Osceola County Representative arrived at 9:20 a.m. Those also in attendance were: Barb Rohwer, O'Brien County Auditor, Kim Wilson, Regional Administrator, Barry Whitsell, Village NW/ NWIACC Advisory Board Adhoc Representative. Visitors: Pam Moldovan DHS TCM; Dan Ries, Seasons Center and Mike Porter, Pride Group.

Bill Leupold opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

It was moved by Ron Graettinger, seconded by Tom Farnsworth to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by all ayes.

It was moved by Linda Swanson, seconded by Mark Behrens to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2014 meeting with the correction to the motion regarding approval of the NWIA Care Connection Service Provider Contract Template (NW IA Care Connections Provider & program Participation Agreement) to state that it is subject to the attorneys' review. Motion carried by all ayes.

Russ Beckendorf, of MHR, Inc. and Tom Fuoss, of Perspective Insurance, came and presented insurance coverages/premiums that the NW Iowa Care Connections will need. Russ Beckendorf gave a quote from ICAP at \$6,827.72 for a \$2,000,000 coverage limit and \$9,022.72 for a \$4,000,000 coverage limit. Tom Fuoss of Perspective Insurance gave a quote of \$6,404 for a \$4,000,000 coverage limit. Deduct \$700 of premium cost per million of coverage if less coverage is wanted.

Legislative updates – In regards to Mental Health Advocates, current proposed legislation continues to promote their functions being handled under the Dept. of Inspections and Appeals ; this was line item vetoed by the Governor last year because it was considered to result in an increase to the State budget. There is some discussion at various levels of state and local government to see the MH/DS regions be their employers. In April 2014, NWIACC Regional staff was invited by administration of the 3rd Judicial District to be a part of the hiring of our region's advocate. Rose Lloyd was hired to be the advocate beginning May 1, 2014. We hope to see improvements in access and client monitoring as this moves forward which may result in additional costs. The Advocate's fees include service to clients at a rate of \$15.00 per hour plus mileage and cellphone. There are no plans to have a dedicated office; the Advocate works from her home. She will handle all cases as of June 1, 2014. She is court appointed/hired. We will need to see if a contract with her and our region is needed.

It was moved by Ron Graettinger, seconded by Tom Farnsworth to accept the quote of ICAP for the \$2,000,000 limit at \$6,827.72. Motion carried by all ayes.

Mike Porter is exploring the option of respite services to help out the region. There is a rule that there cannot be two separate businesses in same facility so he needs to see what can be done if he wants to

pursue crisis stabilization services. There is more emphasis due to federal rules to increase community based placements instead of facility based care so he is looking at a transition plan for that. Seasons is also looking into crisis services.

There was a discussion about an application for a technical assistance grant through the Department of Human Services for Luther Snow to come and speak about community capacity building, asset-mapping and collaboration in activities related to the region over a four day period in June. This grant includes meeting with business leaders in communities within the region to explore opportunities to provide more competitive work situations for persons with disabilities. It was moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Linda Swanson to authorize the Chairman and CEO to enter into an agreement to apply for a technical assistant grant through DHS for NW Iowa Care Connections for training and network activities. The total funding request is \$8,870. Motion carried by all ayes.

Regional Legal Representation was discussed. Shane Mayer, Lyon County Attorney discussed the conflicts that may arise with a member county's attorney being the legal representative for the region. Due to the high potential of conflict of interest for a county attorney to represent the region, it was suggested it be best to find outside counsel for the region.

It was moved by Phil Bootsma, to enter into a 28E agreement with Lyon County for County Attorney Shane Mayer to be the legal representative to the region. Motion died for lack of a second.

It was moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Ron Graettinger to approve the NW Iowa Care Connections Provider and Program Participation Agreement template for use by the region for contracting purposes. Motion carried by all ayes.

Targeted case management was discussed. The three counties (Clay, O'Brien & Osceola) will continue to contract individually with Seasons.

There was discussion about Seasons Center contract negotiations, which is identifying the services covered by the region and what core services were and what would be paid for. Emmet County is still a Seasons Center member, but not a part of our region.

There was discussion about the Region's Contracts with the Member Counties for Administrative Services. Each county is to get their contracts reviewed by their county attorneys with recommendations brought back to the region for review and approval at the next meeting.

Regional bylaws will be reviewed at the next meeting.

It was moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Linda Swanson to approve the HIPAA business associate template. Motion carried by all ayes.

It was moved by Mark Behrens, seconded by Tom Farnsworth to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted:

Barb Rohwer, NWIACC Recording Secretary

