

Northwest Iowa Care Connections Board Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2014 9:00 a.m. O'Brien County Courthouse

The Northwest Iowa Care Connections (NWIACC) Board met with the following members present: Bill Leupold, Dickinson County Representative, (NWIACC Chair), Linda Swanson, Clay County Representative, (NWIACC Secretary), Mark Behrens, Lyon County Representative, Phil Bootsma, Osceola County Representative, Ron Graettinger, Palo Alto County Representative and Tom Farnsworth, O'Brien County Representative. Those also in attendance were: Barb Rohwer, O'Brien County Auditor, Kim Wilson, Regional Administrator, Barry Whitsell, Village NW/ NWIACC Advisory Board Adhoc Representative was not present. Visitors: Pat Lange, DHS Case Management, Jan Heikes, DHS –MHDS Division, Kim Scorza Seasons Center and Ron Askland, Horizons Unlimited.

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

Moved by Ron Graettinger, seconded by Mark Behrens to approve the agenda. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Ron Graettinger, seconded by Mark Behrens to approve the minutes of the June 20, 2014 meeting with the correction to the motion regarding entering into closed session to include the time. The Board entered into closed session at 11:57 a.m. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Linda Swanson to have the region's audit for Fiscal 2014 be done as a part of the O'Brien County audit. Motion carried by all ayes.

Jan Heikes, DHS MH/DS Division Community Services Consultant, gave an update on legislation and DHS/Regional policy review. The Region and the counties that comprise the region must implement new or enhanced services for its clients if they exceed a 25% fund balance per legislation. They was much discussion on how that would need to be handled.

Moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Mark Behrens to approve the following claims. Motion carried by all ayes.

Echo Plus, Inc.	Services	3,280.12
Hansmann, Allen	Transport	1,020.00
Hope Haven	Services	16,061.35
Horizons Unlimited	Services	22,518.24
Kathleen's Care Inc.	Services	4,410.00
Opportunity Village	Services	303.72
Prairie View Management Inc.	Services	1,909.91
Season's Center	Services	1,532.50
Sunshine Services Inc.	Services	14,943.96
The Pride Group	Services	44,622.85
Village Northwest Unlimited	Services	33,971.29
Willow Heights	Services	2,756.00

The storage of the paid claims was discussed. It decided to store them in compliance with regional HIPAA Privacy and Security requirements in the O'Brien County Disability Services Coordinator's (DSC) office.

The Mental Health Advocate will continue to be paid from each County's Mental Health fund 10 for Fiscal 2015. Beginning in Fiscal 2016, the Mental Health Advocate may be an employee of the Department of Inspection and Appeals. NWIACC will watch for legislative action that directs that reorganization process.

The Community Capacity Teams Update was given. At this point, data is being gathered on the Community Crisis and Employment Initiatives. It was decided it was best to take a step back and review what has been happening. There were many positive comments regarding Luther Snow's presentations in the area. Mr. Snow's summary showed what the region has and doesn't have and how persons with disabilities fit into the community. It was shown that we have a need to match employers in our communities with people with disabilities who want jobs to foster a win-win solution for everyone.

It was noted that the process to work with Vocational Rehabilitation Services for funding can be very discouraging for clients and Case Management paperwork can be a deterrent to people being able to work. These are barriers the region needs to work on to encourage success for employment candidates.

Kim Wilson reported that she has contacted David Scott regarding our region's need for legal representation. Mr. Scott is interested in serving in that capacity, but has some questions before he would make any commitments.

The Annual Budget & Service plan was reviewed. There were some minor changes that need to be made prior to approval. One change had a lengthy discussion. Page 9 of the plan has an individual that was proposed to be grandfathered in for services. The Board was informed that the Department of Human Services will not approve grandfathering of individuals.

Moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Tom Farnsworth to approve the Annual Service & Budget Plan with the changes that were discussed and included the removal of the grandfather language and substituting yes in place of grandfathering. Discussion – the financial impact of saying yes to include the developmentally disabled population to the region's budget is a great concern. Since the region is just beginning to operate and there are potential unknown costs that could be placed upon the region, the Board doesn't feel comfortable to add this population. Phil Bootsma withdrew his motion.

Moved by Ron Graettinger, seconded by Mark Behrens to approve the Annual Service & Budget Plan with the changes discussed including the removal of the grandfather language on Page 9 and replacing that language with "No" to including additional population groups for services. Roll call vote: Tom Farnsworth – No; Phil Bootsma – Yes; Mark Behrens – Yes; Linda Swanson – Yes; Ron Graettinger – No. Motion carried.

Kim Scorza, of Seasons Center met with the Board to discuss the inadequacies of the reimbursement for inpatient psychiatric services and the losses that Seasons and the Spencer Hospital have absorbed due to this. Ms. Scorza is requesting funds from the NW IA Care Connection region to help defray the costs of inpatient and outpatient mental health services when provided by Seasons Center clinicians involved in both services.

Bylaws for the region need to be drawn up. A committee will be assigned the task of drafting some language for the region. Tom Farnsworth, Linda Swanson and Ron Askland from Horizons Unlimited volunteered to work on this.

HIPAA update – Lisa, Lyon/Osceola DSC, is taking care of HIPAA. She is working on the business associate agreements being processed for all vendors of the region.

Logo/Website – there is nothing to report at this time. The Board suggested that some area businesses who do this be contacted as they will often do this for non-profits for a minimal charge and can also design a logo.

A contract with Hope Haven for Fiscal 2015 services in the jail at Dickinson County was discussed. This is a service that Seasons had provided for some of the counties a few years ago through the Integrated Services Pathways (ISP) grant, but due to lack of mental health funds, the counties no longer could contract for the services. This item was tabled to a future meeting to allow for information from the other counties to be compiled and a presentation to the Governance Board to be arranged through Hope Haven to share information.

Mark Behrens left the meeting at 12:30 p.m. Linda Swanson left the meeting at 12:34 p.m.

There was a question/concern about the dates and timeliness for claims to be submitted for payment at the Board meetings. The Board will not change the dates that bills must be received for payment. They are due by the 10th of each month for consideration of payment at the monthly Governance Board meeting on the 3rd Friday of each month.

It was moved by Phil Bootsma, seconded by Tom Farnsworth to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. Motion carried.

It was moved by Tom Farnsworth, seconded by Phil Bootsma to adjourn. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Barb Rohwer, NWIACC Recording Secretary