

Northwest Iowa Care Connections Board Meeting Minutes

August 28, 2018 1:00 p.m. O'Brien County Courthouse

The Northwest Iowa Care Connections Board met with the following members present: Bill Leupold, Dickinson County Representative (NWIACC Chair) who arrived at 1:20 pm; Tom Farnsworth O'Brien County Representative (NWIACC Vice Chair); Mark Behrens; Lyon County Representative, (NWIACC Secretary); Jayson Vande Hoef, Osceola County Representative; Craig Merrill, Palo Alto County Representative and Barry Anderson Clay County Representative. Those also in attendance were: Barb Rohwer, Regional Fiscal Agent, Kim Wilson NWIACC CEO, Abby Wallin, Mental Health Advocate; Barry Whitsell, Village NW/NWIACC Advisory Board Adhoc Representative; Robert Aiken, Seasons Center; Kelvin, Hope Haven, Deb Brodersen, Spencer Hospital (by phone); Ann Frink, DHS Case Management; Jason Wagner, Amerigroup, and Don McGregor, Kossuth County, Ron Sweers, Hancock Co. Supervisor; Bill Jensvold, Winnebago Co. Supervisor; Ken Abrams, Worth County Supervisor, Mark Loutsch, Plymouth County Supervisor, Dona Nielsen Disability Service Coordinator for Kossuth County, and Sandy Mireles, General Assistance Director for Winnebago County.

Tom Farnsworth called the meeting to order at 1:03 pm.

Moved by Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Barry Anderson to approve the agenda. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Mark Behrens, seconded by Craig Merrill to approve the minutes of July 24, 2018. Motion carried by all ayes.

Correspondence – letters have been received from Plymouth and Sioux Counties with their requests to join the NW IA Care Connections Region.

Legislative Update – Legislation is possible-y going to be proposed for next session regarding some of the requirements of SF504. The hope is to get the 25% language regarding fund balances stricken or relaxed to give the regions the ability to better serve the clients with additional core services required through HF2456. There is also some discussion of increasing state sales tax with a portion of the funds (3/8 of a cent) used for mental health and disability services. It is estimated that \$150 million could be generated for these services.

Moved by Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Barry Anderson to approve the following claims. Motion carried by all ayes.

ADVANCED SYSTEMS	SERV	243.56
CEDAR VALLEY RANCH	SERV	1,592.16
CHATHAM OAKS RES	SERV	734.20

CLAY CO SHERIFF	SERV	269.97
DEKOTER THOLE DAWSON & ROCKMAN	SERV	120.00
DICKINSON CO SHERIFF	SERV	998.07
DICKINSON CO AUDITOR	PHONE	30.88
DICKINSON CO TREAS	OFFICE EXP	78.81
GEORGE OFFICE	SUPP	233.69
GREER LAW OFFICE	SERV	150.00
HORIZONS UNLIMITED	SERV	1,157.64
IOWA INFORMATION	BD PROC	344.65
KATHLEEN'S CARE INC	SERV	5,464.68
KLAY VELDHUIZEN	SERV	360.00
NELSON, AMBER	SERV	132.20
NW IA YES CENTER	SERV	1,121.75
O'BRIEN CO SHERIFF	SERV	34.00
OSCEOLA CO AUDITOR	PHONE	24.49
OSCEOLA CO SHERIFF	SERV	187.37
PALO ALTO CO SHERIFF	SERV	1,578.43
RENSINK PLUM VOGEL	SERV	71.90
ROCKHILL, LISA	MLGE	59.00
ROLLING HILLS SERV	SERV	2,000.00
SANDY LAW FIRM	SERV	376.81
SEASONS CENTER	SERV	63,976.08
THE PRIDE GROUP	SERV	32,372.61
VERIZON WIRELESS	SERV	80.02

VILLAGE NW UNLTD	SERV	1,963.29
WALLIN, ABBY	MLGE	56.00
WILL, BETH	MLGE	354.80
WILLOW HEIGHTS	SERV	1,403.00
WILSON, KIM	MLGE	207.20
YELLOW CAB INC	SERV	468.10
TOTAL		118,245.36

The Regional fund balance after today's claim payment is \$2,687,721.44.

Moved by Barry Anderson, seconded by Mark Behrens to make an exception to the requirements associated with incentivizing psychiatric access on the Seasons contract. Since data collection during a crisis phone call for psychiatric admission to the hospital may not be readily available, Seasons will not be subject to a reduction of their billed rate for psychiatric phone call consultation to access inpatient mental health services. Seasons will still attempt to get the information when the client is admitted for services. Motion carried by all ayes.

The exception to policy for the Pride Group Fiscal 2019 rates was tabled until the next Board meeting. There are still some questions and issues that need to be worked on regarding services that would be offered.

A request for funding by Village NW for Supported Community Living Services for an individual with a primary diagnosis of Brain Injury with a mental illness was made. The individual is currently a resident of South Dakota and is on Medicaid there. Because the client cannot receive Iowa Medicaid until he lives in Iowa, Village NW is asking the Region to cover the cost for 2 months until his Iowa Medicaid and Habilitation Funding can be approved. Discussion – The individual requesting funding is not an Iowa Resident or a resident of one our Region's counties. NW IA Care Connections does not have Brain Injury as a diagnostic population that we fund. There is no available clinical documentation to support a mental illness diagnosis and one that would be eligible for habilitation funding. Setting a precedence for such a request is not supported. Moved by Tom Farnsworth to approve the exception to policy and approve request for funding of this individual at Village NW. Motion died for lack of a second.

Moved by Tom Farnsworth, seconded by Mark Behrens to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter of support for Hope Haven's request for a 5th bed in one of their Home and Community Based Services homes in Clay County. Motion carried by all ayes.

Moved by Barry Anderson, seconded by Craig Merrill to approve the request for payment of the registration fee and mileage for up to 2 staff of each entity in the Region of the NW IA Care Connections Stepping Up Initiative Team Representatives to attend the Iowa Stepping Up Summit on October 24, 2018 in Des Moines. Motion carried by all ayes.

The mileage and reimbursement to Clay County for use of their county car by the Region CEO was discussed. Clay County would like to see the Region purchase a vehicle or in some way reimburse Clay County for a more accurate cost for the usage. Moved by Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Mark Behrens to reimburse Clay County at their current per mile rate (\$.35per mile) effective September 1, 2018. Motion carried by all ayes except Barry Anderson who abstained.

The Board had discussion with members from Hancock, Kossuth, Winnebago, Worth and Plymouth Counties regarding their desire to join the NW IA Care Connection Region. Plymouth and Sioux Counties are possibly interested in joining the Region, but are not sure if or when they would want to join. They would like to remain the Sioux Rivers Region if they could get at least one more county to join them. Hancock, Kossuth, Winnebago and Worth Counties would like to join NW IA Care Connection July 1, 2019. The NW IA Care Connection Board had many questions regarding the financial status of these other counties as well as staffing. There was also discussion on if this would make the Region too big as if all the counties came in. The State has informed the Region that counties must be contiguous. Due to the geography, Emmet County would have no choice but to also join the NW IA Care Connections Region if the eastern counties became part of the Region. Emmet has not expressed any interest in leaving the County Social Services Region. The NW IA Care Connection Region's per capita of \$30.30 would continue to be the funding limit (per SF 504) regardless of what counties joined.

Moved by Barry Anderson, to accept the letters of intent to request to join the NW IA Care Connection's Region from: Hancock, Kossuth, Plymouth, Sioux, Winnebago and Worth Counties with the contingency of any debt that would be owed to the previous Region would be satisfied prior to joining NW IA Care Connections. Any fund balances that the entering counties have will also become part of the NW IA Care Connections fund. Ayes: Barry Anderson, Craig Merrill, Tom Farnsworth & Mark Behrens Nays: Jayson Vande Hoef - Motion carried.

Discussion on Region Fiscal 2020 per capita rates was held. It is difficult to know where to start with the potential of new counties joining the region. We will look at the services, fund balances and per capita rates for the existing Region to work on preliminary budget numbers for Fiscal 2020 until we get more information. This will be discussed again at the September board meeting.

Updates – Seasons gave an update on the Mobile Crisis Response. They are still having staffing issues due to a shortage of workforce in the western counties on the weekends. All other hours are covered at this time. Staff recruitment continues.

The next meeting will be September 25, 2018 at 1:00 pm.

Moved by Tom Farnsworth, seconded by Barry Anderson to adjourn at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Barb Rohwer, NWIACC Recording Secretary