

Northwest Iowa Care Connections Governing Board

May 13, 2020 1 PM On-line through Zoom

The Northwest Iowa Care Connections Governing Board met on Wednesday, May 13, 2020 at 1 pm online through Zoom. Board members present: Barry Anderson, Clay County Representative, (Board Chair) Jayson VandeHoef, Osceola County Representative (Board Vice-Chair), Craig Merrill, Palo Alto County (Board Secretary) and Bill Leupold, Dickinson County Representative, and Dennis Vanden Hull, O'Brien County Representative, on the phone.

Other in attendance online were: Ken Abrams, Worth County Supervisor, Donnie Loss, Roger Tjarks, and Kyle Stecker, Kossuth County Supervisors, Carmen Moser, Palo Alto County Auditor and FY 21 NWIACC Fiscal Agent, Kim Wilson, NWIACC CEO, Melissa Loehr, NWIACC CEO designee, Amber Garman, Kossuth County Auditor, Deb Brodersen, Spencer Hospital, Scott Witte, Hope Haven, Emily Rohlk and Jill Barr, Seasons Center, Barry Whitsell, Village NW, and Effie Hill, Iowa Dept of Public Health.

The meeting was called to order by Barry Anderson, Chair, at 1:05 pm. Welcome and Introductions were shared. Jayson Vande Hoef motioned and Craig Merrill seconded the adoption of the current agenda with no revisions. Motion was favored by all ayes.

May 7th, 2020 Governing Board meeting minutes were reviewed and approved through a motion by Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Bill Leupold, and a unanimous vote by all Board members

Kim Wilson, NWIACC CEO, provided the Board with a letter shared by Bob Lincoln, County Social Services (CSS), which was written May 5, 2020 by Steve Weidner, County Social Services regional attorney, to Todd Holmes, Kossuth County Attorney. The letter's contents described CSS's position that Kossuth County was delinquent in sending a requested allocation in January 2020. Questions and discussion ensued following the reading of the letter.

Donnie Loss and Amber Garman explained their position as this special allocation falls outside of an October 2019 Settlement Agreement, which was reached by Kossuth County and CSS to support Kossuth County's debt reduction plan and their semi-annual per capita tax asking to the Region. Kyle Stecker shared that this January allocation was not assessed to any other CSS county so Kossuth County was requesting clarification from CSS in writing as to the purpose of the allocation.

There was also discussion about the expected ending fund balance figures from Kossuth County to Northwest Iowa Care Connections. Amber Garman explained the terms of the pay-out, which includes a timetable for CSS to release funds sometime in December 2020, after the GAAP tallies are determined from all the CSS counties. Kossuth County representatives shared today their belief that they have honored the terms of the Settlement Agreement.

It was noted that there is no "paper trail" at this time (CSS Board meeting minutes, or other correspondence) which supports the current report. Since binding arbitration had been scheduled but was not followed through on, the need for documentation to support the terms and conditions of meeting the Settlement Agreement between Kossuth County and CSS. Amber Garman produced definitive payment amounts made to CSS in October and April of FY 20 as part of their agreement. Attempts to determine the per capita contribution against the debt reduction payment were done to support the position being taken that all revenues were properly accounted for.

Individual NWIACC Governance Board shared their belief and were in consensus that Kossuth County has moved forward in “good faith” to satisfactorily rectify their financial obligations with CSS so will proceed with the Member County processing of the newly developed 28E Agreement, Bylaws, and the revised Personnel Contract which was motioned by Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Dennis Vanden Hull and adopted unanimously. Worth and Kossuth County reported they approved all these documents at their scheduled Board meetings this week. Winnebago County representative Bill Jensvold was not present for today’s meeting so Chair Barry Anderson will reach out to him to address questions/concerns and determine their County’s intention to act on these regional formation documents.

With the approval of the FY 21 county membership, approval of the third 1 FTE Disability Service Coordinator position for the Clay/Osceola coverage area was provided through a motion from Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Craig Merrill and approved unanimously.

Jayson Vande Hoef motioned and Bill Leupold seconded the motion to approve the .25 FTE claims processing position for the Region. All approved the motion.

Kim Wilson shared the proposal for administrative coverage, which includes a more mobile approach, with telecommuting and home office outfitting to assist Disability Service Coordinators (DSC) in their community-based work. She shared the intent to have central purchasing, to support communication from a central regional contact number and connectivity through portable electronic means. Estimates were shared on the purchasing of two additional laptop computers similar to the CEO equipment authorized last month, along with an inexpensive yet adequate desk top printer, were approved through a motion from Jayson Vande Hoef, seconded by Craig Merrill and unanimously approved by the Board.

In line with this portability plan, was the approval of a \$25 a month stipend through motion by Bill Leupold, seconded by Craig Merrill and approved by all ayes for reimbursement to regional staff in use of their personal phone for response to and conveyance of regional communication which cannot be attained through the pre-determined regional outlets.

Kim Wilson shared that the Children’s Advisory Committee Selection Team is scheduled to meet in the next couple of weeks. Two Governing Board members are requested to participate with two Adult Advisory Committee members in this process. Kim encouraged interested Board members to contact her at their earliest opportunity.

There was no public comment

The next NWIACC Governing Board meeting will be Tuesday, May 27th on line

Craig Merrill made the motion to adjourn the meeting with Bill Leupold providing the second. The motion was unanimously passed. Meeting was adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

Kimberly Wilson CEO
NWIACC Governing Board Recording Secretary