

**Northwest Iowa Care Connections
Governing Board
August 25, 2020 1:30 PM The Shores, Emmetsburg, IA and via Zoom**

The Northwest Iowa Care Connections (NWIACC) Governing Board met on Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 1:30 pm at The Shores, Emmetsburg, IA and via Zoom. Board members present: Barry Anderson, Clay County Representative, (Board Chair), Jayson VandeHoef, Osceola County Representative (Board Vice-Chair) via Zoom, Donnie Loss, Kossuth County Supervisor, Craig Merrill, Palo Alto County, Bill Jensvold, Winnebago County Supervisor, and Ken Abrams, Worth County Supervisor.

Advisory Board members present via Zoom were: Holly Boettcher, Michelle Huntress and Amanda Schmidt.

Others in attendance were: Amanda Hansen, Palo Alto County Clerk and FY 21 NWIACC Fiscal Agent representative, Melissa Loehr, NWIACC CEO, Therese Trojahn, NWIACC Claims Processor and Recording Secretary, Sandy Mireles, WHW Community Services, and Jay Ricke, ITP. Attending via Zoom were: Dan Fank, Worth Co. Sheriff, Lorri Young, Prairie Ridge, Shante Whalen, Seasons Center, Kasey Fear, Spencer Hospital, Scott Witte, Hope Haven, and Deb Brodersen, Spencer Hospital.

The meeting was called to order by Barry Anderson, Chair, at 1:30 pm. Welcome and introductions were exchanged. Ken Abrams motioned, and Craig Merrill seconded the adoption of the current agenda with no additions. Motion was unanimously approved.

A motion by Bill Jensvold and seconded by Ken Abrams to approve the meeting minutes for July 28, 2020. Motion was unanimously approved.

There was no correspondence.

Melissa Loehr introduced the three Advisory Board members who were present at this meeting. Holly Boettcher is a Parent of a child with Serious Emotional Disturbance, Michelle Huntress is UDMO Head Start and BVU instructor and Amanda Schmidt is the West Bend-Mallard Superintendent.

A Regional update was given by Melissa Loehr. Disability Services Coordinators are continuing to build relationships and establish clients by doing care coordination, information and referrals and funding authorizations. We are continuing to look at each area to streamline processes. We have changed from Solutions to Next Generation Technologies.

Melissa Loehr gave an update for the regional COVID-19 weekly meetings. Continue to listen to concerns and are being proactive in identifying needs. Contact Melissa Loehr to participate.

There was no Legislative update.

Claims were presented by the Fiscal Agent representative, Amanda Hansen. A motion to approve the claims as printed was made by Ken Abrams and seconded by Donnie Loss and was unanimously approved. Following is a list of the claims:

Associates for Psychiatric Services	Diag.Eval.Related To Comm	800.00
Bison Graphics & Awards Alan	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	46.00
Marlee Christoffel	Employee Mileage & Subs.	93.23
Clay County Sheriff	Sheriff Transportation	57.50
Cornwall,Avery,Bjornstad&Scott	Legal Representation	60.00
Duncan Heights, Inc	Supported Comm Living	8295.00
Exceptional Opportunities, Inc	Supported Comm Living	4105.92
Gordon Flesch Company Inc	Office & Data Processing	28.57
Hope Haven Inc.	SCL	3921.62
Integrated Telehealth Partners	Outpatient	2254.17
Iowa Information	Official Pub & Legal Notice	193.04
Kathleen's Care Inc.	RCF	5740.89
Ken Borth Auto Plaza Inc	Employee Mileage & Subs.	75.80
Kossuth Co Sheriff	Sheriff Transportation	182.64
Melissa Loehr	Employee Mileage & Subs.	29.90
RUTH MELBY	Employee Mileage & Subs.	151.37
Anna Miller	Employee Mileage & Subs.	191.48
Next Generation Technologies	Office & Data Processing	700.00
NW IA Youth Emergency Services	Other Transportation	354.75
Plains Area Mental Health Ctr	Outpatient	400.00
The Print Shop	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	189.80
Sandy Law Firm Shannon Sandy	Legal Representation	289.67
Scenic Acres	Supported Comm Living	5040.00
Seasons	ACT/Evaluations/Mobile Crisis	7532.00
Solutions Inc.	Services	2774.20
Spencer Office Supplies	Stationery/Forms/Gen Ofc	525.92
U.S. Cellular	Telecommunications Serv.-	81.63
Abby Wallin	Employee Mileage & Subs.	55.00
Winnebago Co Sheriff	Sheriff Transportation	332.95
Winnebago County Public Health	In-Home Nursing	750.00
Worth County Sheriff	Sheriff Transportation	338.93

The Region's current fund balance is \$1,395,207.85 as of 08/25/2020.

Old Business

No action was taken on the 28E Agreements and HF 2643 Language. The Region's only assets currently are laptops. Melissa Loehr will send a summary to the Board members for the September meeting.

New Business

The following FY21 NWIACC Contracts were approved as follows:

Sioux Rivers – Crisis Stabilization Services – Motion by Jayson Vandehoef, seconded by Craig Merrill and unanimously approved.

Mercy Health Services Iowa Corp. DBA MercyOne – Commitment Related Evaluations – Motion by Ken Abrams and seconded by Donnie Loss and was unanimously approved.

Spring Harbor – Residential care –Motion by Donnie Loss, second by Bill Jensvold and unanimously approved.

Prairie Ridge Integrated Behavioral Healthcare -Mental Health Therapy – Motion by Jayson Vandehoef, seconded by Bill Jensvold and unanimously approved.

The following contacts are still in negotiation:

Berryhill Center – Mobile Crisis Service for Kossuth County
YES Center

Melissa Loehr updated the Board on the August 10 Advisory Board meeting. We have 6 members and are still looking for more. Also looking for 2 Governing Board members to attend the Advisory meetings.

NWIACC has received a bill for medications in the jails. These have not been paid for in the past and are not in the budget. Melissa Loehr has reached out to other Regions and DHS for clarification. It is the Board consensus to pay these from the Region. Melissa Loehr will review the current budget and present a budget amendment at the next Board meeting.

A presentation was given by Jay Ricke of Integrated Telehealth Partners (ITP) on their services in jails and ERs. No action was taken.

Melissa Loehr reviewed the CARES Funds Distribution process. The Region will receive \$608,116 and these funds must be spent by 12/30/2020. Melissa Loehr is working on an application and scoring sheet. Will be setting up a review committee to review and award these funds. No action was taken by the Board.

Updates

Updates were given by service providers regarding regional services, which included an update on Assertive Community Treatment (ACT), Mobile Crisis Response, and Individualized Placements and Supports (IPS) Supported Employment Service which saw no new referrals, 5 active cases, with 43 individuals employed since the start of the grant (7/1/18). There are 3 individuals currently employed. A few COVID-19 cases have presented in the Spencer Hospital. Michelle Huntress and Amanda Schmidt gave a brief update on how the beginning of the school year has been affected by COVID-19 guidelines. Holly Boettcher thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve on the Advisory Board.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ken Abrams and seconded by Bill Jensvold. The motion was unanimously passed. Meeting was adjourned at 3:23 pm.

The next meeting will be held September 22 at 1:30 at the Shores in Emmetsburg and via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Trojahn, NWIACC Governing Board Recording Secretary