

**Care Connections of Northern Iowa  
Governing Board  
September 28, 2021, 1:30 PM**

Care Connections of Northern Iowa Governing Board met on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 via Zoom. Board members present were: Barry Anderson - Clay County Supervisor, (Board Chair), Donnie Loss - Kossuth County Supervisor, Jayson Vande Hoef - Osceola County Supervisor (Board Vice-Chair), Ron Graettinger - Palo Alto County Supervisor, and A. J. Stone - Worth County Supervisor. Board and Advisory Board Member present was Amanda Schmidt.

Care Connections employees in attendance: Melissa Loehr – CEO, Therese Trojahn – Claims Processor and Recording Secretary, Jennifer Dykshoorn - Office and Finance Specialist, and Anna Miller – Service Coordinator. Others in attendance were Carmen Moser – Palo Alto County Auditor and CCNIA Fiscal Agent, Deb Broderson - Spencer Hospital, Jill Barr and Rebecca McCrackin – Seasons Center, Courtney Cook – AEA, Michaela Simmons – Hope Haven, Sandy Mireles – WHW Community Services, Pam Moldovan – DHS and Sandra Moniot - Iowa Peer Workforce Collaborative.

The meeting was called to order by Anderson, Chair, at 1:30 p.m. Welcome and introductions were exchanged. Vande Hoef motioned and Loss seconded the adoption of the current agenda as printed. Motion was unanimously approved.

A motion by Stone and seconded by Vande Hoef to approve the meeting minutes for August 31, 2021, as printed. Motion was unanimously approved

**Updates**

Updates were given by service providers regarding regional services, which included an update by Seasons Center on Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) and Mobile Crisis Response, Hope Haven on IPS Employment, Spencer Hospital BH unit, and Iowa Peer Workforce Collaborative.

**Fiscal Agent/Finance Report**

Claims were presented by Fiscal Agent, Carmen Moser. A motion to approve the claims as printed was made by Loss and seconded by Vande Hoef and was unanimously approved. Following is a list of the claims:

43 NORTH IOWA	SERVICES	1408.44
CENTRAL IA JUV DETENTION CTR	SERVICES	517.63
MARLEE CHRISTOFFEL	EMP EXP	153.45
CLAY COUNTY SHERIFF	SERVICES	57.50
CORNWALL, AVERY, BJORNSTAD & SCOTT	SERVICES	225.00
DUNCAN HEIGHTS, INC	SERVICES	2163.60
EVIZZIT OF IOWA PSYCHIATRY PC	SERVICES	8649.54
EXCEPTIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, INC	SERVICES	3198.04
EYERLY BALL COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH	SERVICES	8262.89
FOUNDATION 2	SERVICES	678.08
GFC LEASING - WI	OFFICE SERVICES	281.83
HILLCREST FAMILY SERVICES	SERVICES	352.28
HOPE HAVEN INC.	SERVICES	10454.60
HORIZONS UNLIMITED PALO ALTO CO	SERVICES	261.60
KEN BORTH AUTO PLAZA INC	EMP EXP	160.40
KOSSUTH CO SHERIFF	SERVICES	466.00
RUTH MELBY	ADVOCATE EXP	23.34
MIDWEST TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LLC	PHONE EXP	75.00

ANNA MILLER	EMP EXP	604.33
NEXT GENERATION TECHNOLOGIES	DATA PROCESSING	801.50
NW IA YOUTH EMERGENCY SERVICES	SERVICES	1308.25
OSCEOLA COUNTY SHERIFF	SERVICES	139.92
PELZER LAW FIRM	SERVICES	296.10
PLAINS AREA MENTAL HEALTH CTR	SERVICES	700.00
PRAIRIE RIDGE	SERVICES	100.00
THE PRIDE GROUP	SERVICES	32227.42
THE PRINT SHOP	PUBLIC ED SERVICES	831.00
SEASONS	SERVICES	8040.00
SECURE SHRED SOLUTIONS	SANITATION & DISPOSAL	48.00
SIOUXLAND MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	SERVICES	2600.00
SPENCER DAILY REPORTER	PUBLICATIONS	124.66
THRIFTY WHITE PHARMACY	SERVICES	172.09
WINNEBAGO CO SHERIFF	SERVICES	1047.06
WINNEBAGO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH	SERVICES	875.00
WORTH COUNTY SHERIFF	SERVICES	166.60

The Region's fund balance on 9/28/2021 is \$2,111,519.62. Member counties will be billed in October for their share.

### Old Business

*28E & Bylaw Language* – By-laws were reviewed by the Board. A final copy will be sent to Board members prior to the October meeting and a vote will be made at the October meeting.

*28E Agreement:* A motion by Graettinger and seconded by Loss to keep “4.3 b) Each county appointed Director shall have two votes. Other voting Directors shall each have one vote.” as written in the agreement. Motion passed with Board member Vande Hoef voting against. A final copy of the 28E Agreement will be sent to Board members prior to the October meeting and a vote will be made at the October meeting.

### New Business

*Anna Miller – Adult Coordinator Update* – Miller gave an update on services and activities in Kossuth, Winnebago and Worth counties.

*Proposals for Regional Services* – Loehr presented Proposals for Regional Services requests for Habilitation & Supportive Community Living Services, Crisis Stabilization Services in Osceola, Clay and Palo Alto counties and 23-hour Observation for the Board to review. A motion by Stone and seconded by Loss to allow Loehr to send these three proposals out to providers. Motion was unanimously passed.

*Policy Review* – Loehr reviewed the written policies for Residential Care Facility (RCF), Regional Rent Subsidy and Utilities, and Basic Needs Request. These services are in the Budget Plan and these policies will give uniform guidance to provide the services.

*Contracts and MOUs* - A motion by Vande Hoef, seconded by Loss to accept the Plains Area Mental Health Regional Assessment & Stabilization Center/Rolling Hills/Sioux Rivers and Care Connections collaborative addendum was unanimously passed.

A motion by Loss and seconded by Vande Hoef to accept the Plains Area Mental Health and Care Connections addendum. Motion was passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the rate changes due to Medicaid rate increase addendum for Horizons Unlimited was made by Stone and seconded by Loss. Motion was passed unanimously.

A motion to accept the rate changes due to Medicaid rate increase addendum for Exceptional Opportunities was made by Loss and seconded by Vande Hoef. Motion was passed unanimously.

*Access Center Operational Costs* – Loehr and Anderson attended a meeting with Sioux Rivers and Rolling Hills to discuss funding the Access Center by the Regions.

*Marketing Outreach* – CCNIA was approached by a local television station to do advertising during Mental Illness Awareness Week. This would be approved through the current budget. The Board asked that they be made aware of advertising campaigns.

A motion to provide a yearly stipend of \$75.00 for staff for apparel with the Region's logo was made by Stone and seconded by Loss. The motion passed unanimously.

There was no public comment.

The next meeting will be held October 26, 2021, at 1:30 at the Shores in Emmetsburg.

The meeting was adjourned by Anderson at 3:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Trojahn  
Care Connections of Northern Iowa Governing Board Recording Secretary