

**NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

January 27, 2022

3:00 p.m.

North Central Health Care

X	Eric Anderson	X _(WebEx)	Randy Balk	X	Tom Bauknecht
X	Chad Billeb	X	Kurt Gibbs	X _(WebEx)	Deb Hager
X	Lance Leonhard	EXC	Dave Oberbeck	X	Robin Stowe
X	Gabe Ticho	X	Pat Voermans	X _(WebEx)	Bob Weaver
X _(WebEx)	Cate Wylie				

Staff Present: Jill Meschke, Jarret Nickel, Dr. Rob Gouthro, Tom Boutain, Jennifer Peaslee, Bobby Splinter, Tammy Buchberger

Others Present: Dejan Adzic, Deputy Corp. Counsel

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Gibbs

Chairman's Announcements

- Welcome Tom Bauknecht, new NCCSP Board member from Langlade County. Thank you for your interest in serving North Central Health Care and the Tri-County citizens.
- J. Meschke submitted her resignation last week. The Executive Committee discussed with her yesterday about the possibility of staying. The Committee is looking to the Executive Management Team to help plan for the next steps for the CEO and CFO and concerns that the Committee needs to have buy-in by this entity and leadership. Executive Committee meets again 1/31/22 to hear these recommendations and will report back to the Board. There may be another meeting of the Board regarding next steps. At minimum, J. Meschke will stay until 3/31/22 and we thank her for all of her efforts as she has been instrumental these past two years during a difficult time of the Covid pandemic.

Public Comment for Matters Appearing on the Agenda

- None

Consent Agenda and Monitoring Reports

- **Motion**/second, Billeb/Ticho, to approve the December 16, 2021 NCCSP Board Minutes. Motion carried.

- **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Anderson, to approve the recommendations of the Medical Executive Committee for Initial Appointments for Jean Vogel, MD, and Hannah Wenzlick, PA-C, and Reappointments for Gabriella Hangiandreou, MD, Kimberly Hoenecke, DO, Tiffany Pluger, APNP. Motion carried.

Board Discussion and Action

- CEO Report – J. Meschke
 - NCHC is well prepared with the CMS vaccine mandate moving forward again.
 - Medicaid rate increases, as part of the biennium budget, are moving through. Fee for service rates increased on 1/1/2022 with a 7.5% increase. An annual review of rates will be implemented to verify we meet market competitive gross charges.
- Dashboards – J. Meschke
 - A challenging year for turnover but with an increase in direct care rates last summer we received a good response and did not lose many staff due to the mandate.
 - Employee Engagement scores were largely strong with manager relationships making significant progress.
 - Nursing Home Star rating is up to a 4-Star rating that both nursing homes continue to strive to maintain.
 - In discussion with the Executive Committee, the number of diversions has improved greatly but does not relate to a favorable budget. We will be aligning these in the coming year.
 - Direct expenses were related to staffing.
 - Financial information for year end is preliminary until the audit is complete in March.
 - **Motion**/second, Ticho/Billeb, to accept the Dashboards as presented. Motion carried.
- December Financials – J. Meschke
 - Fiscal year ending in December is showing a net loss of \$4.8 million. Contributing factors relate to net patient revenue shortages and staffing exceeding plan due to Covid and staff shortages. Hospital diversions exceeded plan by \$678,000. Diversions have been improving but an aggressive target was set with \$750,000 in diversions for the year.
 - Areas of favorability were one time revenue sources of \$1.5 million in Covid Relief Funds and over \$3 million in nursing home supplemental funding. We are favorable in support costs by \$1.6 million and saved \$1.2 million in contracted provider costs with physicians on staff in the inpatient hospitals.
 - Acute behavioral health loss is attributed to diversions and variability in hospital census throughout the year. Both nursing homes exceeded annual revenue targets but staffing shortages and related costs provided problems.
 - Liquid cash flow remains an operating challenge. With additional higher payment reimbursement rates, we were able to keep cash stable from November but additional cash reserves in short-term investments have depleted.

- Renovations in the inpatient hospital will assist with diversions and census with the change from double to single room occupancy. Substantial completion is expected in April, with July as the target to be operational.
- Auditors will be on site in March. We are confident financials are a fair representation of the organization and do not anticipate large swings in financial performance to be different. The audit presentation is currently slated for May.
- Low cash reserves and how to address this is very concerning. The current Risk Reserve Policy does not have specific trigger points for capital contributions. The Executive Committee is reviewing this while working through the revisions to the Tri-County Agreement. K. Gibbs announced that the Marathon County Board this week approved its ARPA request process and form and brought it to the attention of NCHC to submit a request.
- **Motion**/second, Balk/Billeb, to accept the December financials. Motion carried.

Motion to Reconsider Compensation Administration Manual and Pay Grades

- If the Motion to Reconsider is passed, the Board will consider action on the Compensation Administration Manual and Pay Grades item originally considered at the Board's December 2021 meeting.
 - L. Leonhard requested this item be added to the agenda but will talk further with the Executive Committee before bringing back to the Board.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION

- **Motion** by Stowe that pursuant to Section 1985(1)(c) and (f) Wis. Stats. for the purpose of considering employment and performance evaluation of any public employee over which the governmental body exercises responsibility, and preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems, which if discussed in public, would likely have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such problems, including specific review of performance of employees and providers of service and review of procedures for providing services by Agency, to wit: *Report of Investigations related to Corporate Compliance Activities and Significant Events*. Second by Leonhard. Roll call vote taken with all indicating 'aye'. Motion carried.
- **Motion**/second, Voermans/Stowe, to reconvene in open session at 4:07 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Future Agenda Items

- None

Adjourn

- **Motion**/second, Stowe/Billeb, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:08 p.m.