



OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the **Executive Committee** of the **North Central Community Services Program Board** will hold a meeting at the following date, time and location shown below.

Tuesday, December 7, 2021 at 2:00 PM
North Central Health Care – Wausau Board Room
1100 Lake View Drive, Wausau, WI 54403

Persons wishing to attend the meeting by phone may call into the telephone conference beginning five (5) minutes prior to the start time indicated above using the following number:

Phone Number: 1-408-418-9388 **Access Code:** 2485 441 3976

AGENDA

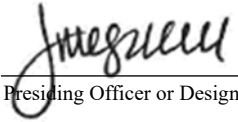
1. **Call to Order**
2. **Public Comment (15 Minutes)**
3. **Approval of the November 17, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**
4. **Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution**
 - a.
5. **Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports**
 - a. CEO Report
 - b. Organizational and Program Dashboards
 - c. November Financials
 - d. Temporary Program Closures
 - e. Community Partners Campus
6. **Discussions of Potential Revisions to Tri-County Agreement.**
 - a. This item will include a motion to go into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sections 19.85 (c), (e) and (f), for the purpose of considering performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, for conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, and for preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person involved in such problems, to wit: consideration of specific NCHC employees and personnel data in the context of potential revisions to the Tri-County Agreement.
7. **Next Meeting Date & Time, Location, and Future Agenda Items**
 - a. NCCSP Board of Directors meeting December 16, 2021
 - b. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion and education presentations to the NCCSP Board
 - c. Next Meeting: **Thursday, January 20, 2022** in the North Central Health Care Wausau Board Room
8. **Announcements**
9. **Adjournment**

Any person planning to attend this meeting who needs some type of special accommodation in order to participate should call the Administrative Office at 715-848-4405. For TDD telephone service call 715-845-4928.

NOTICE POSTED AT: North Central Health Care

COPY OF NOTICE DISTRIBUTED TO:

Wausau Daily Herald, Antigo Daily Journal, Tomahawk Leader,
Merrill Foto News, Langlade, Lincoln & Marathon County Clerks Offices



Presiding Officer or Designee

DATE: 12/02/2021 TIME: 2:00 PM BY: D. Osowski

NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Wausau Board Room

Present: X Kurt Gibbs X^(phone) Deb Hager X Lance Leonhard
X Robin Stowe X Cate Wylie

Staff Present: Jill Meschke, Tom Boutain

Others Present: Dejan Adzic, Deputy Corporation Counsel

Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 1:07 p.m. by Chair Gibbs.

Public Comment

- None

Approval of October 21, 2021 and October 28, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Stowe, to approve the October 21, 2021 and October 28, 2021 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Operational functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution

- None

Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring reports

- CEO Report – J. Meschke
 - Moment of Excellence to share about an event that occurred on Monday, Nov. 15 with lost power to the entire campus including some of our life safety supported power in the new MVCC Suite B (tower). We gathered teams of NCHC employees and Facilities Maintenance employees to make sure a resolution occurred quickly. Several items will need follow-up. A potentially difficult situation was mitigated very well. J. Meschke will be following-up with T. Kaiser of Facilities Maintenance on the situation.
- Cerner Update – J. Meschke
 - Have had some success moving forward with Cerner. Corporation Counsel wrote a letter to Cerner on NCHC's behalf which received a rapid response from Cerner concerned with the 5 pain points identified and expressing their desire to seek a resolution. We have a NCHC team identified to work with Cerner and will begin conversations this week.
 - Many stop gap measures are in place until these issues get resolved including reaching out to payers who have a 90-day payment window asking for an extension due to the implementation of the new electronic medical record. Much of the billing is being done manually. Billing team, who are tenured staff, are doing a tremendous job!
 - We are meeting State requirements.

- The Committee expressed their thanks and appreciation to the team!
- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) Interim Rule is being challenged by 10 states but recommended that health care organizations move forward to implement the Covid Vaccine Mandate now which can be modified if the Rule changes.
 - The NCHC policy and process was communicated to all NCHC employees on 11/16/2021. Each exemption form will be reviewed case by case to protect NCHC, employees and patients. There is no guaranteed exemption. Approximately 70% of employees are currently vaccinated.
 - The NCHC policy is also applied to contractors, Board members, and any who perform services for NCHC. A vaccination will be required or an approved exemption.
 - As of 11/16/21 there are 23 staff out, of which 11 are fully vaccinated.
- Organizational and Program Dashboards – J. Meschke
 - Highlights include a slight vacancy increase but remain within target, turnover rate is consistent, patient experience scores are good, and hospital readmissions reduced in the nursing home.
- Financials – J. Meschke
 - The CEO Memo along with the October Financials will be emailed to the Board.
 - The month shows a good performance partially due to new rates received for Pine Crest Nursing Home which were backdated to July 1 which amounted to \$500,000. We anticipate a payment in November for Mount View Care Center.
 - Also noticed were increases in net patient revenue in key areas such as Outpatient. Weekly operational meetings are occurring with each program to review staffing, census, productivity, week over week comparisons, utilization, staffing models, etc.
 - Mount View Care Center maintained consistent staffing during the recent move to the new building.
 - Benefits are favorable for the year but will begin to see end of year turn with increased utilization.
 - Diversions are slightly over for the month; weekly meetings occur to review and understand why they occurred, and there is approval for each diversion.
 - Cash improved in October.
 - Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (HERC) notified us of potential concerns with supply challenges for food and personal protective equipment (PPE). We are monitoring our supplies closely and will contact Emergency Management if additional needs are identified.
 - A comprehensive document describing the 2022 budget will be provided first to Chair Gibbs and then to the Board to review, evaluate, and ask for additional information prior to the December Board meeting.
 - The number of vaccination clinics have been expanded due to the mandate and are also open to staff and residents to receive boosters.
- Board Work Plan
 - The Work Plan will be discussed at the December Meeting.

Discussions of Potential Revisions to Tri-County Agreement

- Wylie moved to go into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sections 19.85 (c), (e) and (f), for the purpose of considering performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, for conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, and for preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person involved in such problems, to wit: consideration of specific NCHC employees and personnel data in the context of potential revisions to the Tri-County Agreement. Second by Stowe. Roll call vote taken. All indicated Aye. Staff were dismissed. Dejan Adzic was asked to remain in closed session. Motion carried. Meeting convened in closed session at 1:37 p.m.
- **Motion**/second, Wylie/Leonhard, to reconvene in open session at 5:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Announcements

- The Committee will continue to work on the potential revisions to the Tri-County Agreement.

Adjournment

- **Motion**/second, Stowe/Wylie, to adjourn the meeting at 5:35 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Debbie Osowski, Executive Assistant to CEO



North Central Health Care

Person centered. Outcome focused.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 2, 2021
TO: North Central Community Services Program Board Executive Committee
FROM: Jill S. Meschke, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer
RE: CEO Report – December 2021

Below are updates since our last meeting.

Moment of Excellence

Construction progress continues. Dietary Services has recently moved their Marathon County operations into the new kitchen in the nursing tower. This was a tremendous effort involving new workflows and equipment.

Since Our Last Meeting

NCHC has kicked off our annual Employee Partnership Survey. Deadline for participation was December 1. Programs with 100 percent participation receive a pizza party, which was a great motivator for several areas.

Industry News

November 4 CMS issued an interim final rule requiring COVID-19 vaccinations for workers in most healthcare settings that participate in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. The COVID-19 Incident Command team established policy and processes to comply with the rule including a methodology to consider religious and medical exemptions. November 30 the mandate was temporarily placed on hold across the country by a federal district court in Louisiana through a preliminary injunction blocking enforcement. There is a possibility that the ruling will be overturned.

NCHC stopped potential employee terminations that may have affected as many as two dozen staff (most occasional workers and students that are not actively on current schedules). We are prepared to resume enforcing the mandate as necessary. NCHC encourages vaccination for our employees and residents, provides vaccination clinics for those individuals, and continues requirements for PPE and testing to keep our residents, patients, employees, and visitors safe.

Dashboards

Dashboard results for November are being compiled. Some early measure results include improvement in employee turnover rate by 0.5 percent from October. Patient experience continues to have strong performance with net promoter score of 71.1. Nursing home readmission rates increased to 16.7 percent in November, which is an unfavorable trend from the prior month by 6.3 percent. However, both Mount View and Pine Crest now have 4-star quality ratings turning the measure green.

Input from the Board of Directors is requested in desired changes to the existing dashboard measures.

Financial Highlights

NCHC received \$1.2 million in phase 4 Provider Relief Funds, which will be included in November's financial results. We have also received notice that NCHC will receive an APRA Rural payment. The amount of that payment is unknown.

Pine Crest received back payment for July 1 Medicaid rate increases in October, but accounting is working with DHS to reconcile items related to Mount View. The back payment for July 1 Medicaid increases is expected in December.

NCHC has applied for a Badger Bounceback Healthcare Infrastructure grant to support construction of the outpatient and community treatment space. Award notifications are anticipated in January.

Processes to close the general ledger are underway. Additional financial information will be available for the Board meeting.

Current Challenges

COVID-19-related staff absences are on the rise. For comparison, September 7 NCHC had 15 employees out due to COVID of which three were COVID-positive. That same day, county positivity ratings (number of positive individuals per total population) were as follows: 8.6% Marathon, 11.9% Lincoln, and 12.3% Langelade. As of December 1, NCHC had 45 employees out due to COVID of which 30 were COVID-positive. County positivity ratings are: 16.0% Marathon, 14.6% Lincoln, and 17.1% Langelade.

Considerations and Decisions

During the December meeting of the NCCSP Board of Directors, I will be asking the members for their consideration of several items, namely (1) the compensation administration manual and pay grades, (2) the physician compensation policy, (3) the 2022 budget, and (4) the Code of Conduct. Additional details related to the budget will be made available to the Board to consider prior to the meeting.

Conclusion

Progress continues for a variety of initiatives at NCHC. We appreciate the time and commitment of the Board of Directors. Have a happy holiday season. Thank you.