

NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 28, 2025

1:00 p.m.

North Central Health Care

Present:	X	Kurt Gibbs	X	Renee Krueger
	X	Lance Leonhard	X	Robin Stowe

Staff Present: Gary Olsen, Jason Hake, Vicki Tylka, Marnie Bredlau, Ryan Hanson^(Virtual)

Others Present: Mike Puerner, Marathon County Corporation Counsel, Dejan Adzic, Marathon County Deputy Corporation Counsel

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chair Gibbs at 1:00 p.m.

Public Comment for Matters Appearing on the Agenda

- None

Approval of Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- **Motion**/second, Stowe/Krueger, to approve the April 29, 2025 Executive Committee meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Update

- Mr. Hake reviewed financials through April noting they continue to be very consistent with prior months. Overall, there is net income of \$873,000 for the month and \$3.6 million year-to-date. The self-funded health insurance is doing well compared to last year.
- Fund Balance report now includes minimum (20%) and maximum (35%) target amounts. The Committee will review the current practice for fund balance and investments and may consider possible revisions i.e. organizationally vs by county, strategic priorities, planning for capital expenditures i.e. EHR system, etc.

2026 Budget Calendar

- The 2026 proposed budget will be presented to the Committee August 27 for review and approval. Input from the Committee is requested regarding 2026 revenues and expenses i.e. cost of living increase, salaries, census, rates, health insurance, long range/strategic planning for capital purchases i.e. EHR and financial systems, etc.

Appoint Chet Strebe as Citizen Member of CCITC Board of Directors

- Each municipality must approve the recommendation of CCITC Board of Directors.
- **Motion**/second, Krueger/Leonhard, to approve Chet Strebe as citizen member of the CCITC Board of Directors. Motion carried.

Medical Staff Recommendations

- **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Stowe, to approve the recommendations of the Medical Staff for amendments to Shamim Anwar, M.D., Ridhwi Mukerji, M.D., and Bret Stysly, M.D. Motion carried.

New Position Requests

- J. Hake reviewed each of the following three requests for changes to current positions:
 - Billing Analyst, Patient Finance, net impact \$5,450
 - Manager of Pharmacy, Pharmacy, net impact \$13,158
 - Pharmacy Buyer, Pharmacy, net impact \$5,139
- **Motion**/second, Krueger/Leonhard, to approve all three position changes up to the net impact as referenced. Motion carried.

Senior Leadership Work Plans

- 2025-2026 Senior Leadership Work Plan was reviewed.
- **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Stowe, to approve the work plans with the incorporation of the comments by staff and committee:
 - Input from NCCSP Board in the organization-wide strategic plan
 - Management of Pine Crest and potential transfer of operations
 - Include Lincoln County law enforcement in meetings/discussions
 - 5-year capital plan (including IT expenditures)
- Motion carried.

North Central Health Care's Contractual Relationship with Pine Crest Nursing Home in light of the potential stale and threat of litigation which could impact the sale

- Ms. Krueger informed the committee that Lincoln County is considering an asset purchase agreement of Pine Crest Nursing Home which also impacts the Nursing Home Management Agreement.
- The Committee discussed the impact of the potential sale on employees, residents, NCHC, as well as how it affects the current management agreement.
- **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Stowe, to postpone action until the next scheduled NCHC Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried with Ms. Krueger in abstention.

Request to authorize the Executive Director to work directly with Pine Crest Nursing Home Administration and Lincoln County to assess operational needs of Pine Crest and determine whether or not certain functions should operate independently from North Central Health Care standard processes to allow for a seamless transition in light of a potential sale

- Ms. Krueger informed the committee that this sale, should it be finalized, will occur much more quickly than last time, therefore, the request is that the Executive Director and the Pine Crest Nursing Home Operations Director be given the authority to begin working together to assess what needs to occur for a quick and seamless transition.

- **Motion**/second, Stowe/Leonhard to authorize the Executive Director to work directly with the Pine Crest Nursing Home Administration and Lincoln County to assess operational needs of Pine Crest and determine whether or not certain functions should operate independently and request the Executive Director to provide the Executive Committee with an update on time spent on this transition process. Motion carried with Ms. Krueger in abstention.

Closed Session

- Discussion regarding settlement authority for upcoming mediation in Case No. 24-cv-320-wmc. Attorney Oyvind Wistrom joined the Committee meeting.
- Mr. Adzic provided information on necessity of a closed session. As previously involved in these settlement discussions there is attorney client privilege type of information as well as attorney work product information that gets shared. If these types of discussions were to occur in open session this would be at a disadvantage to North Central Health Care as it pertains to its position within the litigation. These privileges are generally protected because they benefit the parties or litigants involved and it would not be in our advantage to waive those privileges that are provided to us and in order to preserve them that's why it would be beneficial to go into closed session at these types of discussions both for purposes of our position in the mediation as well as our general approach and strategy to this entire litigation.
 - **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Stowe, pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of “[c]onferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved”, to wit: Conferring with counsel regarding case strategy and discussion regarding settlement authority for upcoming mediation in Case No. 24-cv-320-wmc, Chavez-DeRemer v. North Central Community Services Program. Roll call taken. All indicated aye. Meeting convened in closed session about 3:00 p.m. Staff and legal counsel were permitted to remain in closed session.
- Motion to Return to Open Session and Possible Announcements and/or Action Regarding Closed Session item
 - **Motion**/second, Stowe/Leonhard, to return to open session at 3:29 p.m. Motion carried.
 - Committee provided direction that the attorneys will take into consideration.
- Discussion and strategy as to employee complaint and employment matter over which the committee has jurisdiction.

- Mr. Puerner provided information on the necessity of a closed session. The committee previously considered in closed session an item related to a specific complaint regarding an employee over which the committee has direct oversight responsibility. The committee gave direction at that time to Mr. Puerner and subsequently did follow that direction. Mr. Puerner has results to report from outside counsel relative to the conclusion of that complaint investigation. Therefore, for the purposes outlined in the potential motion it would be important to go into closed session to protect the confidentiality of the investigation as well as the information about the employees over whom the investigation was conducted and discussing the litigation strategy or other legal advice related to potential litigation would also be important.
 - **Motion**/second, Stowe/Krueger, to go into Closed Session (Roll Call Vote Suggested) Pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1)(c), for the purpose of “[c]onsidering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility” and pursuant to Wis. Stat. s. 19.85(1)(g), for the purpose of “[c]onferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved”, to wit: discussion with counsel relative to direction and strategy as to an employment matter and employee over which the committee exercises responsibility. Roll call vote taken. All indicated aye. Attorney Puerner remained in closed session. Motion carried. Meeting convened in closed session about 3:32 p.m.
- Motion to Return to Open Session (Roll Call Vote Unnecessary) and Possible Announcements and/or Action Regarding Closed Session item
 - **Motion**/second, Stowe/Leonhard to return to open session about 5:05 p.m. Motion carried.
 - **Motion**/second, Krueger/Stowe, to accept the investigation summary and place report in appropriate file. Motion carried.

Next Meeting Date, Time, Location and Future Agenda Items

- Next meeting moved to Thursday, June 26, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

Adjournment

- **Motion**/second, Krueger/Stowe, to adjourn the meeting at 5:06 p.m. Motion carried.