



North Dakota Long Term Care Association
Board Meeting
Thursday, June 27, 2024
2:00pm – 4:00pm
NDLTCA, Bismarck, ND

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Amy Kreidt, called the meeting of the North Dakota Long Term Care Association Board to order at 2:00pm on Thursday, June 27, 2024.

2. ROLL CALL

Richard Regner, Secretary/Treasurer took roll call.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amy Kreidt	Jac McTaggart (TEAMS)
Tim Kennedy	Tonie Stoen (TEAMS)
Richard Regner	Jill Foertsch (TEAMS)
Joyce Linnerud Fowler	
Kiara Tuchscherer	
Stephanie Edland	
Belinda Moen	
Blake Kragnes	
Kaylene Kitelinger	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nikki Wegner, NDLTCA President
Peggy Krikava, Education Director
Casidie Fladeland, Education Director Assistant
Carol Ternes, Executive Assistant
Stacy Irely, Office Manager

3. CALL FOR OTHER BUSINESS

Amy called for other business.
-Nikki added Inflationary increase on dues
-Tonie added CNA Registry & Abuse Allegation

4. ANTITRUST AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Amy asked all present to read the Antitrust and Conflict of Interest Policy.
No questions or comments regarding policy were asked.

5. **INTRODUCTION OF NEW OFFICE MANAGER**
Nikki introduced Stacy Irey as the new Office Manager
Introductions of Board were done.
6. **MAY 7, 2024 MINUTES**
MOTION: KITELINGER/REGNER MOVED AND SECONDED TO APPROVE
MAY 7, 2024 MINUTES.
100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.
7. **CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING UPDATE**
Nikki updated on the visit to the briefing at the beginning of June. Her, 4 board members, and 3 other members met with the 3 delegates' offices and they were supportive. They signed on to the Congressional Review Act. They have not yet signed on for the Protecting American Seniors' Access to Care Act as they wanted to do some research. Nikki reached out to Congressman Armstrong's office to see if he could attend our Fall Conference in Fargo in September. He is not available but his State Director, Mary Christy, is able to attend in the capacity of listening and sharing comments or questions with him. The board has decided to ask him for both a video addressing our group to present as well as having his State Director attend. Nikki will reach out and invite Mary Christy to attend.
8. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**
 - a. Tim Kennedy provided testimony on the Nursing Facility Incentive Program and Nikki provided an update on the contract nursing study including the concerns of increased need due to the minimum staffing rule. During Nikki's presentation, Kristin Roers stated that the state should support AHCA's lawsuit. The ND AG's Office is considering an Amicus Brief Re: CMS Min Staffing Rule.
 - b. Letter to Commissioner re: Governor's Budget
Nikki provided a handout of a proposed draft. Waiting on a few items from the Medicaid office.
 - c. Facts & Figures
Board was asked to review to see if any data was missing that we want or if anything was no longer relevant. They were asked to send any suggestions to Nikki.
Guidehouse Report – The state has the report. Sara will review with us in August.
9. **UPIC FEDERAL AUDIT UPDATE**
The UPIC Audit originated in ND. Board discussion was had that it would be worthy to get a list of what they need. Not all facilities will get an audit and some may get it more than once. Peggy asked if it would be worth having a session at the Fall Conference, but it was decided it is too soon. Concern of the timeline being during the pandemic. We have no answers as to when the next audit will be.
10. **TRANSITION TO PDPM UPDATE**
The board discussed having this added to the Fall Conference.
The transition is set to take place on January 1, 2025.
We have hired a consultant and will be meeting with LeeAnn and Grant from AHCA in July. There is a concern with the systems processing. Discussion was had that is was built

for Medicare, not Medicaid. Stephanie asked to join the initiative and Nikki will send the invite.

11. KEEP IT LOCAL – PROPERTY TAX COALITION UPDATE

Keep it local is the coalition who is in opposition of the elimination of property tax. There are currently 64 members and will continue to grow. The question came as to why to support when facilities are non-profit and do not pay property taxes. Medicaid represents a large pot of money and will be a bucket that legislators will look to cut from We need funding to continue. After board discussion, they decided it needs a membership vote and that when surveying to remind them that this decision is as a facility not personal. We can survey and then decide and discuss at the Administrators Conference. Nikki will also visit with Tim with the ND Hospital Association to see their stance.

12. UPL ISSUE UPDATE

The board requested a webinar on cost reporting. The UPL is rebased every 4 years. We need recalculation every other year. Needs more discussion.

13. WORKFORCE COMMITTEE – ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE

This is a new committee that will oversee matters pertaining to resources and education revolving around staffing, recruitment, retention and financial support related to workforce development. Blake will be the board representative. Co-Chairs: Mandi Robinson and Baylin Walz.

**MOTION: KITELINGER/MOEN MOVED AND SECONDED TO ADD THIS COMMITTEE INTO THE BY-LAWS.
100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.**

14. EDUCATION REPORT

Administration’s Conference – July 23-26, 2024

- We have 57 registered for this year. This is low. Early bird is Tuesday, July 2
The Administrator’s Conference is helped financially by our Platinum and Gold Level Sponsors.

Fall Conference schedule is a little slow coming together. Plan to have everything set and registration up on August 7 with early bird deadline August 28. Will send out an email with the block of room information after the holiday.\

Upcoming Trainings:

- RAC-CT Training – August 5-7 – Courtyard by Marriott, Bismarck – Registration is live
- Abuse & Neglect Program Checkup 6-week webinar series – Wednesdays August 7 through September 11 at 1:30 p.m.
- Frontline Caregiver Training – Cares SMI Certification, Debbie Richman– October 22 (Bismarck) and October 23 (Fargo)

15. SPONSOR UPDATE

Sponsorship Program: 8 Platinum, 11 Gold and 16 Bronze = \$207,500. Budgeted \$184,000 = \$23,500 more

New sponsors: HTG Architects-Gold, Roers – Gold, Medify Air – Bronze, New Vision Security – Bronze, Pope Design – Bronze, Fusion Workforce Solutions – Bronze, Intercare Recruitment – Platinum

**Thank you Stephanie Edland for bringing in Intercare.

16. ASSOCIATE MEMBER UPDATE

Update: 5 individual and 63 regular.

17. QUALITY AWARD WORKSHOPS

We have 39 Bronze and 7 silver.

Bronze – Monday, September 23 – prior to start of Fall Conference, Holiday Inn Fargo

Silver – tentatively held for September 10 and 11 in Bismarck.

Tentative Webinars

Psychosocial Well-being – 6-week series Nov-Dec

Reducing Hospital Readmissions – 1 day – December

18. BOE UPDATE

Peggy let us know that license renewals are coming up. Reminder to let the State know when there is a change of Administrator on record.

19. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS UPDATE

I have been on facility visits over the past 3 weeks. I have visited:

- a. Skilled Nursing Facilities: 20
- b. Basic Care Only: 4
- c. Assisted Living Only: 7
- d. Total number of facilities visited: 31
- e. Actual Locations (*some of the above may be in the same location with a separate address*): 26

These are very informal visits, scheduled for an hour. On the visit,

- a. I take a tour of your building (*anything you would like to show me!*) – *Eventide Fargo gave me Knoephla soup to go! It was wonderful! The cook's mother is from Zeeland... my old stomping grounds!!*
- b. We sit down and take a look at your EOP book (*if you want to share it*). I like to see what format you are using so that I know what works best and what I can share with other facilities.
- c. Answer any questions you have and find out how we can help you!

I am going to continue these facility visits through July and August. If I was not at your facility in 2023 with the state's evacuation training with the bus and HC standard Mobile resident tracking, I am hoping to visit your facility this year.

If your facility is scheduled for the state's evacuation training, I have you on my list to visit and join them in their training.

For comparison, last year, I visited a total of 15 actual locations, with a total of 20 total facilities.

The HPP Call for June focused on EBP information. Please check out the recording and slides.

Please consider participating in the monthly HPP call (The last Tuesday of the month at 11:00 AM) as the state will be continuing to offer Emergency Preparedness refresher topics. These are good calls to be on for new members to your leadership team. The meeting invite is sent approximately 10 days in advance to Emergency Preparedness Contacts.

ICS Overview training on the online course for 100, 200, 700, 800 was offered at Ave Maria on 5/30. Participants were given an overview to then take the online testing. Ave Maria offered their location for this training. Sherry Adams, an expert in ICS, is the instructor. She is from the Southwestern Public Health District. She is also an EPR Coordinator for that region. Valley Senior Living has also offered their facility for this training on 7/9/24. If you would like to host this training for your region, please let me know and I can send out the invite and track registrants and participants.

I am working on the sessions for the Fall Conference in September. If you have any suggestions, let me know.

Tabletop Exercise that you can take back to your facility for training and exercise compliance

HC Standard Troubleshooting Session – Preparing for Bed Availability drills – log in – survey – downloading/uploading resident lists

I am also looking at bringing in an OSHA session

The Maintenance/Environmental Services Mentorship Program has begun. This is a program in partnership with the NDESA (ND Environmental Services Association).

They have been a great partner with us for many years. They helped sponsor the recent Life Safety Bootcamp that was well received in April.

Along with the mentorship program, they are looking to sponsor another training session focusing on this position's needs every 18 months, outside the regular convention/conference.

This mentorship program is tailored to the needs of the facility/staff member.

The first use of the mentorship program was Anna Halvorson – Good Samaritan Society – Lakota in early June. She has two young men in this position, 18 and 19 years old. Mike Medrud and Eric Christianson from the NDESA went to her facility, looked at their documentation and books, plus did a mock Life Safety Survey. This was very helpful to these staff.

The most important aspect of the mentorship program is building the relationships between the facility administrators and the NDESA to help facility the program as needed or desired.

Your facility must be a member of the NDESA to participate. The fee to join the NDESA for your facility is: \$50 yearly.

If you would like to participate, please send in the membership form to NDESA and contact me so I can get you in the program.

Evacuation training is still available through the ND DHHS EPR unit. Duane Ell is the facilitator of this training. If you want this training at your facility, please contact Duane at dbell@nd.gov

20. OTHER BUSINESS

a. INFLATIONARY INCREASE ON DUES

Discussion was had whether to increase fees? ACHA has a 3% increase and did last year as well. Do we make small more frequent increases or not at all and possibly have to make a larger increase in the future? Look at the budget and maybe look at what small increases look like. Discussed whether to skip the legislative year? We do not want to have a large amount of money in investments and then not have members able to afford being members. The decision was to see where we are at with the budget and then discuss whether to do an increase in July.

b. CNA REGISTRY & ABUSE ALLEGATION

A facility was given a G level deficiency and with this found to be validated. The CNA was let go, only to find that she was hired down the street at a different facility. Why can there not be a flag on the Board of Nursing to protect? All across the board were in agreement and many had similar situations. Nikki is going to talk to Tim Weidrich and other State Executives regarding this issue and invite the Board via TEAMS to see if there can be some sort of registry to at least say CONTACT THE CNA Registry.

Board meeting adjourned at 4:13pm

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Regner, Secretary/Treasurer