



North Dakota Long Term Care Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 28, 2025
11:00am – 1:00pm
Sixteen03 Main Events, Bismarck, ND

1. Call to Order

Chair, Amy Kreidt, called the board meeting of the North Dakota Long Term Care Association Board to order at 11:05am on Wednesday, December 11, 2024.

Welcome & Introductions –

2. Roll Call

Rick Regner, Secretary/Treasurer and Stacy Irej, Office Manager NDLTCA, took roll call. We do have a quorum.

Members Present:

Deb Fraser
Blake Kragnes
Amy Kreidt
Joyce Linnerud Fowler
Jac McTaggart
Belinda Moen
Brittany Ness
Richard Regner
Tonie Stoen
Kiara Tuchscherer
Tim Kennedy – via TEAMS

Others Present:

Nikki Wegner, NDLTCA President
Erica Cermak, VP of Government Affairs
Peggy Krikava, Education Director
Vanessa Raile, Emergency Preparedness
Stacy Irej, Office Manager

3. Call for other business

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. Approval of Dec. 11, 2024 MINUTES

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES BY BLAKE KRAGNESS/2ND BY TONIE STOEN.100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

6. 2024 Year End Financials

Stacy Irej provided financials report.

- Peggy went through the Education portion
- Increase in sponsorships under Education.
- Payroll – transition.
- Legislative - \$10,000 for Keep it Local campaign.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIALS BY JAC MCTAGGART/2ND BY BLAKE KRAGNESS.100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

7. Association Report

a. New Policy Proposal-NDLTCA Meetings Code of Conduct —Nikki Wegner and Peggy Krikava, Education Director

- **MOTION to approve the addition of the Code of Conduct - Rick & Deb – 100% Yays**

b. NDLTCA and NDBOENHA Contract 2025-2029 — Nikki Wegner and Peggy Krikava, Education Director

- 4 year contract. Nothing changed. BOE approved in January.
- **MOTION to approve contract – Tonie/Kiara**

8. Education Report

a. Education Assistant – Belma Chpeljac (CHS-PAYL-UTS) – February 10

- Bachelor’s Degree (double major in Business Administration and Marketing)
- National Guard until April 2025
- Horizon Financial Bank (Bookkeeper/Marketing Rep)

b. 2025 Education

- Annual Convention – May 6-9, 2025 “Blazin Trails in Quality”
 - Expo Registration is live
 - 10 registrations with a hope for 90 booths. Last year we had 87 booths.
 - Education Registration and brochure will be available by February 14
 - Budgeting for 700 attendees – estimating profit of \$80,000
- LTC Managers Bootcamp – May 6, 2025, Radisson (Pre-Convention)
 - Anticipating 100 attendees
- Administrator’s Conference – July 22-25, 2025, Walker, MN
- Fall Conference – September 22-26, 2025, Holiday Inn, Fargo
- Proactive Webinar Series (opt out at any time. Need 12 to cover cost)

- Survey Smart: LTC Deficiency Trends & Solutions – 12 month
 - Reducing Litigation Risk for SNF & AL – 12-month
 - Secrets to Great Department Heads – 8-Weeks (March-May)
 - Capturing Accurate Reimbursement – 6-Weeks (July – Aug)
 - Survey Prep & Post-Survey Elements 8-Weeks (Aug – Oct)
- c. 2025 Sponsor Program:**
- 8 Platinum, 11 Gold and 11 Bronze = \$187,500
 - Budgeted for 7 Platinum, 11 Gold and 16 Bronze = \$198,000
 - NOTE: 1 Platinum and four Bronze yet to come for an additional \$25,000 (Intercare Recruitment, BEK, Fusion Medical, Medify Air, RTG Medical)
 - Non-renewals: Mutual of America, Interim Healthcare
- d. 2025 Associate Membership**
- a. Renewals always come in slow until closer to the expo
 - i. 35 Renewals (3 Expanded, 31 Regular, 1 Individual)
 - ii. Budgeted: 2 Expanded, 63 Regular, 4 Individual)
- e. Member Only Section**
- a. New password is NDLTc@2025

9. Emergency Preparedness Update

- a.** On 1/7, the ND HHS EPR unit began trainings on the software program that will **replace HC Standard Bed Availability, HC Standard Resident Tracking Online & Mobile and Everbridge – Mass Communication. ReadyOP**

Tuesday of each week is a new topic and Thursday of the same week is a repeat of Tuesday's topic. Once all aspects are covered, the following designated training times will be Open Hours for asking questions as you begin using the system. All LTC facilities need to participate in this training. This will be essential to be prepared if an emergency would occur.

The information shared each week is on the NDLTCA website under the main Emergency Preparedness under What's New – ReadyOp. The handouts as well recordings of the sessions are on the website.

Please reach out the ND HHS EPR DOC if you do not have your Username and Password or for any other questions on how to operate the system/program. Having all of the three systems in one software program will be very beneficial. **The go live date is March 2025.**

- b.** To ensure my list of **Emergency Preparedness contacts** is up to date so that I can create my rosters in ReadyOp, I will be sending out an email to administrators to update their EP lists that should be receiving my emails, meeting invites and information that the state EPR unit sends out. Please have this review of your contacts back to me no later than. 2/25/25.
- c.** **The Comprehensive Emergency Operation Plan Site Visit Program** will be beginning soon. I received the signed contract with UND – Center for Rural Health late Friday. The grant is for \$99,000. This should allow 45 LTC facilities the

opportunity to have this site visit at approximately \$2200 each within the next year. This is NOT a Regulatory visit. I am currently working with the contractor, Heartland Consulting – Derek Hanson, on the specifics of the program. I anticipate that it will be an application process through the NDLTCA with scheduling through Heartland. Heartland Consulting will invoice NDLTCA for the visit and we will pay through the grant. This is a great opportunity for a review of your EOP to ensure you are meeting Emergency Preparedness and some Life Safety regulations without the possibility of deficiency and to ensure you are keeping your residents and staff safe! Please watch for the specifics and application deadline information soon!

- d. **SAVE THE DATES: Tuesday, October 28th and Wednesday, October 29th Emergency Preparedness – Life Safety – Environmental Service Bootcamp** sponsored by NDLTCA and NDESA at the Hilton Doubletree in Fargo. More information coming soon.
- e. The **BSC Apprenticeship RADaR (registered apprenticeships done Right) has opportunities for LPN and RN programs starting this fall August 2025.** Please take a look at the handout in your packet. The Bismarck RN and LPN programs' registration due date is March 5th. The satellite sites have a bit more flexibility with their due date through the summer until the program is full. The RN program is being offered in Harvey and Ashley. The PN program will be offered in Hazen, Garrison and Hettinger. With the satellite sites alternating each year with the RN and LPN programs. This is a great way to GROW your nurses within your facility! Please reach out to Alex Glatt, Assistant Dean-Nursing Pathways at BSC, alex.a.glatt@bismarckstate.edu, 701-224-5575.

10. Committees Actions Approval

a. Workforce

- Career view Flyer

11. VP of Govt. Affairs Report

a. Governor Armstrong budget update (1.5% 1.5% inflation, property tax relief, state hospital \$3 mill)

- 300 mil bondage package for state hospital.
- 19.2 mil for behavior health programs
- 44.3 million education savings account program
- 105 million to approve housing for affordable living
- Great conversations on leadership. Association is well respected.
- 1000 bills have been submitted.
- Dept. has been doing an overview – 3 new committee members

b. Instructions for Board members at the Legislative Reception

- Talk about Facts and Figures
- Speak to what you are comfortable about
- Educate them what your services provide

- How are you funded
 - Facts & Figures is educating, Talking points is lobbying which is unethical
12. Legislative Platform
- a. Legislative
 - Behavioral Health Solutions (Bill Treese and Dr. Kristy Kovacs) **NOON**
 - Propose new motion - Basic Care Inflation
 - 1. MOTION – 4% & 3% instead of dual inflator – Kiara/Tonie – 100 Yays
 - Propose new motion - Adult Residential Rate Enhancement
 - 1. MOTION – to approval proposal for solutions for financial challenges in Adult Residential– Rick/Blake – 100% Yays
 - b. Legislative-led initiatives
 - Personal care allowance
 - LTC Insurance
 - Felons and LTC
 - c. DHHS Pre-filed bill
 - Resident Rights-took position against it, met with Karla re concerns and we reached consensus on paring it down.
 - SB 2081 Geropsychs

13. Brad and Eide Bailly is going to look over the contract. Please review with any questions or concerns. Do you feel the need to have an attorney look it over?

MOTION: To ask Megan Flom Kaylene/Brittany

14. Other Business

15. **Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 1:28pm

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Regner, Secretary/Treasurer