



North Dakota Long Term Care Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 27, 2025  
1:00pm – 3:00pm  
NDLTCA / TEAMS

**1. Call to Order**

Chair, Amy Kreidt, called the board meeting of the North Dakota Long Term Care Association Board to order at 1:01pm on Thursday, March 27, 2025.

**Welcome & Introductions –**

**2. Roll Call**

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

**Members Present:**

Deb Fraser  
Stephanie Edland  
Tim Kennedy (in person)  
Kaylene Kitelinger  
Blake Kragnes  
Amy Kreidt (in person)  
Joyce Linnerud Fowler  
Jac McTaggart  
Belinda Moen  
Brittany Ness  
Richard Regner  
Tonie Stoen  
Kiara Tuchscherer

**Others Present:**

Nikki Wegner, NDLTCA President  
Erica Cermak, VP of Government Affairs  
Peggy Krikava, Education Director  
Belma Chpeljac, Administrative Assistant  
Vanessa Raile, Emergency Preparedness  
Stacy Irey, Office Manager

**3. Call for other business**

Tim – Name badges

**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 Jan. 28, 2025 MINUTES**

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES BY BLAKE KRAGNESS/2ND BY RICHARD REGNER. 100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.**

**6. Committees' Actions Approval**

**a. ND LTC PAC Report – Chair Reier Thompson**

- Current Balance - \$27,704.23
- 49 members joined so far in 2025
- We will be doing a PAC membership drive now through May 9<sup>th</sup>. Will be giving out gift cards in a drawing to those who join by then. Looking at possibly have Reier do a video.
- Taste of Bismarck will be Tuesday, May 6. We have 6 sponsors and 4 venues plus the registration starting point will be at The Luft.
- Summer we will do golf and painting as well as a dinner by Tim Kennedy. Looking at a shrimp boil.

**b. CareerView XR – Blake Kragness**

- Matt Chausee joined the meeting to discuss being an industry partner with CareerView. \$100,000 for 2 years provides 2 – 5-7 minute day in the life occupation videos.
- Looking for support of Senate Bill 2019 to get funding.
- We questioned the pilot end date of 6.30.25.
- They currently have 1 partner and are in contact with many others with 4 are tentative to see on funding.

**7. Association Report**

**a. Membership agreements – Stacy**

- 73-NF, 55-AL, 53-BC = 181
- All but one returned, the 1 had to send to corporate and has been billed and has paid

**b. AHCA/NCAL membership – Stacy**

- AHCA/NCAL membership dues are due 3.31.25. We paid \$142,064.50 on 3.12.25 to get the 4% discount which is reflected in that amount.

**c. Accounting Update – Nikki**

- Kelly is going to stay on for some functions.
- This was already in the budget

**d. Eide Bailly Audit in April – Nikki**

- Eide Bailly will be doing the audit April 7-11

**e. HIS Agreement – Nikki**

- We had Pierce Durack look over the agreement with HIS. We sent the edits to them and are waiting to hear back.
  - We have not yet billed them for sponsorship
- f. **ND Auditor's office - Nikki**
- The ND Auditors Office has requested statistics regarding the Dept. We gave them the Facts & Figures Book.
  - Nikki & Erica will draft a letter and we will have the board vote on it. Not sure how much we want to share.

## 8. Education Report

### a. 2025 Education

- ICD-10 Training – 31 Attendees. Went well, good comments
- Annual Convention – May 6-9, 2025 “Blazin Trails in Quality”
  - Expo = 73 Exhibitors (87 in 2024). Registrations are still coming in
  - Registrations = 361 (726 in 2024 and budgeting for 700)
    - Early bird deadline Monday, March 31
    - Adding additional attendees at early bird pricing deadline – April 11
  - LTC Managers Bootcamp = 82 registered. May need to move this training to the Event Center. Good problem to have.
  - Gala Dinner – Sixteen03. First Lady giving out Caregiver Awards, Reier MC
  - Theme Hospitality and Dance - Radisson
  - Board Recognition – Wednesday Opening Keynote
- Administrator's Conference – July 22-25, 2025, Walker, MN
  - Jeff Call Leadership Workshop (Mark Parkison's new book, 7 habits of a great leader, goal setting, group work) Based off the AHCA/NCAL Future
  - Brad DeJong – Rate Setting Updates and Strategy Discussions for LTC and BC facilities
  - Cyndi Siders - Insurance Underwriters and/or Panel- Survey's
  - Grandview Lodge, Brainard, MN – 2026 – plan to tour
  - Woodland Resort for 2027. They are expanding
- Fall Conference – September 22-26, 2025, Holiday Inn, Fargo
- 2025 Sponsor Program:
  - 7 Platinum, 11 Gold and 14 Bronze = \$190,500 (Rural Health)
  - Budgeted for 7 Platinum, 11 Gold and 16 Bronze = \$198,500
  - New Sponsors: Sanford Health/GSS, Prairie Travelers (Staffing), Vikor Scientific (Molecular Diagnostics/Pathology)
  - Anticipate the Rural Health will be coming in as Gold again.
- 2025 Associate Membership
  - Renewals always come in slow until closer to the expo
    - 52 Renewals (4 Expanded, 48 Regular, 2 Individual = \$21,150)
    - Budgeted: 2 Expanded, 63 Regular, 4 Individual = \$25,775

## 9. Emergency Preparedness Update

- a. The Emergency Operations Plan Comprehensive Review Program has been de-funded. The UND Center for Rural Health terminated the \$99,000 grant per the Trump

Administration DOGE team on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>. I was notified on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup>. The grant had been funded through the CDC COVID-19 federal government funding.

- There were 35 facilities that had applied and were approved. 32 Skilled Nursing Facilities and 3 stand-alone Basic Care facilities. They were all notified on Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> that the program was put on hold. I am continuing to look for replacement funding for the program. I reached out to the ND HHS EPR – HPP – Dawn Lehrmann, Juli Sickler and Tim Wiedrich. There had been funding awarded to the PHEP (Public Health Emergency Preparedness) and HPP (Hospital Preparedness Program – *which LTC falls under*) for H5N1 – Bird Flu response. At a meeting in late January, the funding that was awarded to HPP was \$600,000. At that time it was noted that the HPP funding could be used for any preparedness and response activities. At that time, I said I did not need additional funding as I had the UND grant. On Wednesday, the 25<sup>th</sup>, I asked them if we could use \$87,500 of that funding to cover this program for LTC. It was denied. They said they were unsure of the funding at this time.
- Juli Sickler noted that maybe their State Response Team – the EPR coordinators for each region could do this Review activity for no cost to the facilities. She asked for the scope of the program. I sent her the email that I had sent out when I rolled out the program. The email included the three documents from Heartland Consulting, which included, the Agenda for the day visit, the facility tour to look at systems, and the scope of documents that they would be reviewing. I also noted that the SRT does not have background in Life Safety Code nor the entirety of the E-tags that are surveyed. I emphasized that this was a non-regulatory visit and that was a major draw to the program.  
I have not heard back from Juli at this time.
- b. There are a number of EP sessions at the NDLTCA Spring Convention. Please see the reminders in my weekly EP updates.
- c. I have restarted my Facility visits: I completed two during a visit to Fargo to work with Peggy and event person at the West Fargo Conference Center at the Doubletree by Hilton earlier this month. This year’s Life Safety Bootcamp will be held there in November. I visited two Basic Care facilities: Maple View Memory Care and Touchmark at Hargroves. Two very good visits. I also had planned on visiting Kind-er Care as they were geographically convenient on my way out of West Fargo from the Doubletree. Melanie canceled at the last minute as she needed to take care of last minute tasks due to the incident there.  
I have a few local (Bismarck/Mandan Area), Watford City and Benedictine Living in Dickinson Skilled Nursing Facilities to visit yet, then I will be focusing on Basic Care and Assisted living facilities to complete my facility visits this spring/summer and early fall travel schedule.

## 10. **VP of Govt. Affairs Report**

- a. Legislative Update –
  - We have great champions in house & Senate
  - Amendments on 1012 have been well received
  - May 9<sup>th</sup> – last day of session
  - Conference committees start in next few weeks

- b. Medicaid at the federal & state level
  - Cut from 800 to 600 billion
  - AHCA was looking for the following
    - Cap on provider tax 6 to 5%
    - President Trump doesn't want to cut Medicaid
    - Cliff anticipates staffing mandate will get shut down
- c. Immigration
- d. Quality Incentive Program
  - Moving to withhold \$4 million
  - Work with providers to collaborate & design what this would look like

**11. Other Business**

- Tim mentioned about getting some NDLTCA name badges for those to wear to the capitol when there to testify.
- Stacy will order some that we can add name to as needed.

**12. Adjourn**

Meeting adjourned at 3:37pm

Respectfully submitted,

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Richard Regner, Secretary/Treasurer