



North Dakota Long Term Care Association
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 6, 2025
8:30am – 10:30am
Radisson Hotel, Bismarck

1. Call to Order

Chair, Amy Kreidt, called the board meeting of the North Dakota Long Term Care Association Board to order at 8:34am on Tuesday, May 6, 2025.

Welcome & Introductions –

2. Roll Call

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

Members Present:

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

Members Absent: None

Others Present:

Nikki Wegner, NDLTCA President
Erica Cermak, VP of Government Affairs
Vanessa Raile, Emergency Preparedness
Stacy Irely, Office Manager
Kelly Cermak, Accounting Consultant from NDHA

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 March 27, 2025 MINUTES

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES BY KAYLENE KITELINGER/2ND BY BRITTANY NESS. 100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

6. Association Financials – 2025 Quarter 1

- a. Some of the numbers may be off due to when putting budget in quickbooks we were off on timing
- b. Compared to 2024 – Q1 – We closed the ICS Savings. The ICS Demand account is up. Investments are down, but we are seeing this all over at this time.
- c. Payroll expenses are up from 2024 with the addition of a new position.

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

7. Association Report-Nikki Wegner

a. Infrastructure loan board appointment discussion

- We would like to have a committee formed and named to work with Bank of ND
- Urgent as Bill says funds need to be expended within 24 months
- Committee name will be – LTC Infrastructure Loan Committee
 - Committee will not consist of those asking for funds due to conflict of competing
 - Volunteers to be on the committee – Amy Kreidt, Tim Kennedy, Blake Kragnes, Jac McTaggart, Kaylene Kitelinger. This will be a 2-year term

MOTION TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF THE COMMITTEE AND ITS VOLUNTEERS BY BELINDA MOEN/2ND BY BRITTANY NESS. 100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

b. Continuing discussion from July meeting on expanding membership-home care

- Home care is an essential and growing part of the long-term care continuum. Many NDLTCA members are already offering home care services—or exploring how to do so. At the same time, North Dakota’s independent home care providers are seeking a credible, affordable association to support their work.
- NDLTCA has deep, long-standing relationships with DHHS, legislators, and key decision-makers. Erica, our current VP of Government Affairs, previously served as Executive Director and lobbyist for the state’s home care association, bringing direct experience and credibility to this effort.
- Some legislators view our association as being at odds with home care. Expanding our membership helps correct that narrative:
 - It shows our support for the full continuum of care, including services that help people stay at home.
 - It unifies long-term care providers under one umbrella.

- It strengthens our policy voice and legislative influence.
- This is a strategic opportunity to lead with inclusion, build new partnerships, and reinforce our role as the voice for long-term care in all its forms.
- Dues could be set based on their revenue. Ex: \$3 million or higher may have a \$2000/year membership
- The Minnesota Home Care Association launched a pilot to engage North Dakota agencies in 2025, but it has struggled—raising only \$7,000 of its \$30,000 goal. The main barrier: membership dues were too high.
- Board member states we would need an At-Large Member to be on the Board and create some by-law updates
- ND has approximately 50-75 agencies and growing, more with individual home health. We have access to a list of home health and QSP providers

MOTION TO APPROVE THE ADDITION OF ADDING HOME CARE TO THE ASSOCIATION BY JAC MCTAGGART/2ND BY STEPHANIE EDLAND. 100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

Next Steps

- Develop and propose a tiered dues structure tailored to home care agencies,
- Gather feedback from home care providers and adjust our approach to meet their needs before reaching out more broadly, and
- Address any necessary changes to the bylaws with the bylaws committee.

8. VP of Government Affairs Report-Erica Cermak

The 69th Legislative Assembly adjourned in the early morning hours of April 30, 2025.

Although this was a challenging session, we can be proud of the advocacy shown by our staff and members. Thank you all for your efforts as we navigated a session filled with many ups and downs. While we didn't secure all we were asking for, we can be proud of the wins we did have and will continue to work towards the items that are still yet to be decided in the next legislative session.

The following is a summary of the bills we actively monitored, testified and advocated on behalf of:

HB 1012: HHS Budget:

Basic Care Final Provisions:

- 2/2 inflationary Increase
- \$5/day pass-through
- Directive to study & recommend a solution to correct the 6-month missing adjustment factor.

Skilled Nursing Final Provisions:

- During 25-26 biennium, DHHS to collaborate with NDLTCA to develop payment withhold structure for NFIP. and implement beginning July 1, 2027.

Dual Impact Basic Care/Skilled Nursing Final Provisions:

- Removed \$2 million for biennium to support implementation of behavioral health pilot project; was not included in final provisions.

HB 1154: Basic Care & SNF 4 year moratorium

Final Provisions:

- Passed as introduced

HB 1485: Basic Care Personal Needs allowance

Final Provisions:

- Final version passed with \$15 increase and annual inflator.

HB 1619: Low interest revolving loan fund for SNF & Basic Care

Final Provisions:

- Final amendment in Conference committee provides \$15 million @ 2% interest, non-revolving, retains language identifying project use for new build or renovations, 20 year terms.

HB 2271: Adult Residential provider rate enhancement and basic care payment system study.

Final Provisions:

- Directs DHHS to recognize actual cost of care in 2026 and recalculate payment rates in 2027. Providers will be required to submit a cost report to DHHS, directs DHHS & NDLTA to work together to address basic care payment system by June 30, 2027, specifically:
 - Appropriate methods for reimbursing property costs, options to calculate operating margin, methodology for applying annual inflationary adjustments, including whether an independent inflation index should be utilized; rate determination for specialized basic care services provided to individuals with a dementia-related diagnosis or head injury; and a new licensing structure that includes assisted living, basic care and adult residential facilities.
 - Legislative intent in HB 1012 discussions to address 6 month inflationary underfund.
 - Report findings to Legislative management by August 30, 2026

While there were many more bills that NDLTCA staff monitored and/or testified in favor or against, the above bills most directly impacted our providers. For a full list of the bills we tracked, please see the 2025 Legislative summary document here: [NDLTCA 2025 Legislative Report](#)

9. Education Director Report – will be given at the Membership Meeting

10. Emergency Preparedness Update-Vanessa Raile

- a. EOP Comprehensive Review Program – Funding grant terminated on 3/25/25
 - No new funding acquired at this time

- Juli Sickler Division director of PHEP and HPP programs for ND HHS has asked the regional EPR directors to do this project for facilities that were approved for this grant funded opportunity. They would only do the Emergency Preparedness portion of the program. Life Safety and CMS E-tags would not be included. She was to get the items that they would cover to me by 5/2. I have not yet seen her proposal. There would be no charge for their service.
 - Nikki and I are meeting with Tim Wiedrich to determine if there may be funding from HPP grant through a share program with Hospital association who uses Derek Hanson yearly for the hospitals to have this program
- b. HPP Funding is no in the President Trump Budget Proposal that just came out. The reasoning in the budget proposal is that the program has been wasteful and unfocused. It was suggested to push back to the states to fund. Nikki and I are meeting with Tim Wiedrich to have a plan B if the program is not funded through the federal government.
- c. I will be visiting facilities again this summer
- Complete an SNF that I have not visited in 2023 or 2024
 - Visited any Stand-Alone Basic Care facility that was not visited in 2024
 - Visit standalone Assisted Living facilities

I hope to finish facility visits this summer.

- d. There are 5 EP Sessions/Life Safety sessions at the NDLTCA Annual Spring Convention.

These were noted in a number of my weekly EP Update emails over the past couple of months.

11. Committees' Actions Approval

a. Workforce Committee - Blake

- Career XR got approved for 1 million, we are putting a pause on this
- Looking into another "People we Care About"
- We will look at both options

b. Resident Issues Committee

- Met on Friday, May 2, 2025 to pick the 2025 Frank Wedge Memorial Fund recipients
- We had \$190,000 to give out – so 19 facilities will receive \$10,000 each
- We used an online wheel spinner to choose the 2025 recipients
- Region I –
 - Rolette Rolette Community Care Center
 - Tioga Tioga Medical Center LTC
 - Williston Bethel Lutheran Nursing & Rehabilitation Center
- Region II –
 - Cando Towner County Living Center
 - Langdon Maple Manor Care Center
 - Larimore Good Samaritan Society - Larimore
 - Park River Good Samaritan Society - Park River
- Region III –

- Beulah Knife River Care Center
- Glen Ullin Marian Manor HealthCare Center
- Richardton Richardton Health Center
- Region IV –
 - Bismarck Baptist Health Care Center
 - Bismarck Benedictine Living Community-Bismarck
 - HarveySt. Aloisius Medical Center
- Region V –
 - Ellendale Benedictine Living Community - Ellendale
 - Jamestown Eventide Jamestown
 - LaMoure Benedictine Living Community of LaMoure - St. Rose Care Center
- Region VI –
 - Fargo Fargo Elim
 - Fargo SMP Health - St. Catherine North
 - Mayville Luther Memorial Home
- c. ND LTC-PAC – Chair Reier Thompson
 - PAC Account has \$32,897.99
 - \$1000 check to Matt Ruby is outstanding that was given to him at the Legislative Reception
 - Taste of Bismarck will be this evening – Mostly new venues
 - Summer Administrators will again do the Golf Tournament and Wine & painting event along with Chef Kennedy doing a Shrimp Boil
 - Fall Conference – Eide Bailly has offered to host. Looking at doing the Piano event again

12. 2024 Audit Results – Brad DeJong

- Investments are down
- Dues are down due to fewer beds
- Sponsorship was up
- Expenses in general operations was down
- Overall good balance

MOTION TO APPROVE THE 2024 AUDIT BY BLAKE KRAGNES/2ND BY TONIE STOEN. 100% YEAS. 0 NAYS. MOTION CARRIED.

13. Other Business

a. PAC – is it part of the Association?

- PAC is a fiduciary – a holding/pass through to the association
- A sponsor pays the Association for events – no concern from a tax perspective
- ND LTC-PAC – NO A (Association) Leave the A off, it is not the Association’s PAC
- Not needing a separate legal entity
- Example of doing a 50/50 paid to the Association – could use those funds for prizes
- Remove the Association from all mailings, signs, etc. Not an arm of the Association
- PAC Committee – Funds are used by board action so can share information

b. Active Participation – when attending any meetings, please try to have your camera on. In person is better, but if not, be active. Encourage other members to do this also.

Meeting adjourned at 10:07am

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Regner, Secretary/Treasurer