

## NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY SERVICES PROGRAM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 26, 2022

2:00 p.m.

Wausau Board Room

Present: X Kurt Gibbs X<sub>(WebEx)</sub> Deb Hager X Lance Leonhard  
X Robin Stowe X Cate Wylie

Staff Present: Jill Meschke, Dr. Rob Gouthro, Jennifer Peaslee, Jarret Nickel, Bobby Splinter, Janelle Hintz, Marne Schroeder, Tom Boutain (Phone)

Others Present: Dejan Adzic, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Stacey Morache (Phone)

### Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 2:04 p.m. by Chair Gibbs.

### Public Comment

- No public comment

### Approval of the December 7, 2021, December 20, 2021, and January 10, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

- **Motion**/second, Stowe/Wylie, to approve the December 7, 2021, December 20, 2021, and January 10, 2022 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes. Motion carried.

### Operational Functions Required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution

- None

### Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

- CEO Report – J. Meschke
  - The Medicaid rate increases (about 15%) for the biennial budget have been approved and are moving through financial statements. Medicaid rate adjustments for Mount View Care Center are in process. With these rate adjustments we are anticipating approximately \$55,000 additional this year. Increases will also be seen in residential services as well as behavioral health services. We also had a gross charge rate increase across the board.
  - The CMS vaccination mandate is effective January 27, 2022. We have only a few new employees to verify vaccination status with and do not anticipate issues with staffing at this time.
- Organizational and Program Dashboards – J. Meschke
  - Targets that are appropriate for 2022 are being identified. Input to any changes in the data provided on the Dashboards from the Committee is welcomed. Leonhard noted that year to date turnover was approximately one-third of the staff and complimented staff for managing through those challenges.

- December Financials – J. Meschke
  - December financials are preliminary and may be revised following the 2021 audit. Preliminary loss in December is \$754,000 with a year-to-date loss of \$4.8 million. Net patient revenue shortages and staffing costs exceeded plan for several reasons i.e., unplanned absences due to Covid made up by overtime and agency expense, several approved market adjustments relating to increased wages across direct care positions, and hospital diversions. Noted is that the number of diversions has improved however, the cost of diversions continues to exceed plan. We are working on adjusting this dashboard measure to reconcile with budget.
  - Several one-time revenue sources were received i.e., \$1.5 million in Covid Relief Funding and \$3 million in nursing home supplemental payment.
  - Financial review by program was also provided.
  - Cash balances have decreased about \$170,000 since November with several large cash outlays occurring in January i.e., first half of HSA payments
  - K. Gibbs noted that the Marathon County Board approved the process to request ARPA funding and encourage NCHC to complete the online request form.
  
- Discussion and Next Steps for Recruitment of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer
  - Press release was sent on Fri, January 21 after receipt of J. Meschke’s resignation effective March 31, 2022.
  - The Committee asked Meschke and the Executive Management Team to provide their recommendations, along with any challenges they see, to the Committee on moving forward to fill each of these roles. The Executive Committee will meet with the Executive Management Team on Mon, January 31 at 1:00 p.m. to discuss.
  - Leonhard noted an anticipated revised Tri-County Agreement will be approved by March; recruitment with revised job duties would follow. The Committee needs to understand reasonable expectations of financial performance which the counties have not matched for a number of years and include a conversation about replenishing reserves.
  - Meschke added that knowing and understanding expectations of the Committee is important in looking at what the role will be and having someone be successful especially as it relates to financial performance. Having unclear expectations in the role of CEO comes with a lot of risk.

#### Discussions of Potential Revisions to Tri-County Agreement

- **Motion** by Stowe to go into closed session, pursuant to Wis. Stat. Sections 19.85 (c), (e) and (f), for the purpose of considering performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, for conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, and for preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person involved in such problems, to wit: consideration of specific NCHC employees and personnel data in the context of potential revisions to the Tri-County Agreement. Second by Wylie. Roll call taken. All indicated aye. Motion carried. Meeting convened in closed session at 2:30 p.m.
- **Motion**/second, Leonhard/Stowe, to reconvene in open session at 6:16 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.
- **Motion**/second, Stowe/Leonhard, to continue with Attorney Andy Phillips at the new law firm of Attolles Law, S.C. understanding that he was the individual who helped the Committee at Von Briesen and is assisting with redrafting of the Tri-County Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Announcements

- Committee will continue with the redrafting of the potential Tri-County Agreement.
- Next meeting is Monday, January 31, 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

#### Adjournment

- **Motion**/second, Wylie/Stowe, to adjourn the meeting at 6:20 p.m. Motion carried.