

Nevada Association of County Human Services Administrators

Minutes

February 14, 2019

Members:

Mary Jane Ostrander, Carson City (phone)

Shannon Ernst, Churchill County

Tim Burch, Clark County (phone)

Shayla Holmes, Lyon County

Karyn Smith, Nye County

Niki Linn, Humboldt County (phone)

Desiree Barnson, White Pine County (phone)

Associate Members:

Mike Pawlak, Clark County (phone)

Jodi Qualls, Douglas County

Affiliate Members:

Jean Perpich, Carson City Public Guardian

John Gionni, Carson City Public Guardian

Dylan Frehner, Lincoln County Public Guardian (phone)

Guests:

Dena Schmidt, ADSD

Dagny Stapleton, NACO

Debbie Lee, CAHS (phone)

Item 1: Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:04am by Tim Burch.

Item 2: Introductions

Tim Burch asked those attending the meeting to introduce themselves and introductions were made.

Item 3: Public Comment

Tim Burch inquired as to whether there was any public comment. There was none.

Item 4: Verification of the Posting of the Agenda

Karyn Smith verified the agenda had been posted according to NRS.

Item 5: Review and Adoption of Agenda

Tim Burch called for a motion to adopt the agenda as submitted. Shannon Ernst made a motion to adopt the agenda as submitted. Shayla Holmes seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Item 6: State of Nevada Aging and Disabilities Services Update

Dena Schmidt stated that there were no major updates; however we haven't submitted the budgets yet. We are scheduled tentatively for March 6th & 18th. They will hear our budgets over the course of two days, which is unusual for us. The department started to hear some of our budgets. We presented SB18 in Senate Health and we're hoping to move that bill through. There was some confusion on the term "developmental disabilities" and "related conditions," etc. It is a clean-up bill to clarify our intent on that. They thought we were trying to reduce the program, when we were just trying to clarify on some terms that weren't in the bill. There was no opposition, just clarification.

Dena Schmidt also stated that we have several guardianship bills that we are tracking and monitoring right now. One of the bills we have a little concern over is the proxy decision making bill being heard on Monday. It allows a hospital or physician to delegate a proxy to have a person discharged from a hospital. We have concerns that can override the guardianship rules, so we will be watching to see how that plays out.

Shannon Ernst asked if Dena Schmidt can update us on all changes since we are reporting back every two weeks at the legislative meetings on any new updates. Dena stated that AB122, which requires the state to operate assisted living facilities in the rural counties, is another one they are keeping their eyes on since that is not something we normally do. One of the things is there is a set aside from the Tobacco Funds for \$200,000 a year for non-profits that received the housing tax credits to develop assisted living facilities. The only agency who ever utilized it was Nevada Hand, and they started two assisted living facilities in the Las Vegas area. They have not requested the funds since 2011, and the funds are rarely used. So we are reaching out to agencies to see if they are interested in these funds since there is a need there.

Shannon asked Dena some questions on legislative items. The first one was regarding SB121 which is looking at how we can do investigation before there are appointed guardianships. Shannon asked if they could keep their eyes on this bill which is very restrictive and needs medical facilities to be added to it. They want it so they can investigate before they get appointed for a temporary guardianship to see if it is necessary or not. Dena said she will look into it.

Item 7: State Updates Not Previously Provided

No updates.

Item 8: Regional Behavioral Health Efforts

Shannon Ernst said Jessica Flood, who is a representative from the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Services, is not here today to give updates. The Northern Nevada Regional Behavioral Health group met this week and was talking about trying to obtain funds to look into the procedures to make it a national model.

Item 9: Review and adoption of revised Bylaws

Shannon Ernst stated that the Bylaws revision started at our Annual Meeting and she has sent it out to everyone a few times since. Everyone provided their input, and today you have hopefully the final copy of the Bylaws for approval. It outlines that we can have a designee come into our place as voting members, brings the Public Guardianship group in as affiliate members to participate, and it outlines all of the fees. Shayla Holmes made a motion to approve adoption of the revised Bylaws. Karyn Smith seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

Item 10: Update on using Google Docs for meeting agendas and minutes

Shayla Holmes was nominated by Edrie Lavoie before she retired to share with the group on how to present Google Docs and how it works to everyone. She doesn't have a way to show it to everyone unless she uses Zoom. Shannon Ernst stated that we can table this for next month to schedule a Zoom call so Shayla can demonstrate to everyone at the same time. Shannon also stated that the whole purpose was to keep all of the historical information in one place. Tim Burch stated that the Secretary is the one who is responsible for maintaining the Google Docs and uploading everything. Shayla said she will work with Karyn Smith to get it set up and show her how to use it. Karyn stated that once she gets it set up, on the next agenda we can just explain where to access these documents at. Shannon stated she can still do a Zoom to show everyone if that is needed. Shannon Ernst made a motion to adopt Google Docs, where the Secretary will oversee the documents and make sure it's accessible for active members. Desiree Barnson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Item 11: Updates on monthly Maximizing County Medicaid Workshops

Shannon Ernst stated that it goes back to the meeting that Carson, Douglas, Churchill and Lyon had with Medicaid with Sarah Lamb to talk about how we can bring community health workers forward to be eligible for Medicaid reimbursement. We would have to have a state plan changed for this so we can do a budget. Shayla Holmes stated they attended the RNHN (Rural Nevada Health Network) meeting where they stated that the state did put forth a budget plan that didn't get amended or adopted. So at this time community health workers for this go around will not be Medicaid billable. It may have to do with them not being tied to a clinical setting like a physician.

Shannon stated those groups are non-profit and that one of the things is that they feel our commissioners don't understand our roles as community health workers and what our behavioral health efforts are. They were asking us how we bring it to NACO to push it back on the commissioners. Jean Perpich asked if they really didn't know what we were trying to do. Shannon stated that they thought only two or three counties were doing FAST and MOSTT. We were getting presentations of programs

Item 12: Recommendations to NACO for Human Services Director to serve as a representative on the Board for the Fund for Accident Care to Indigent Persons

Karyn Smith stated that Dagny Stapleton told her we have to recommend 3 names. Mike Pawlak was one; Karen Beckerbauer said that she would be interested. Mike stated until someone is reappointed, he will be staying on. He is interested in staying on; however he will encourage others to consider it.

Shannon Ernst recommended Mary Jane Ostrander as the third name since she works closely with Indigent Funds. So the names thrown in the ring are Mike Pawlak, Karen Beckerbauer and Mary Jane Ostrander. Shannon Ernst made a motion to nominate Mike Pawlak, Karen Beckerbauer and Mary Jane Ostrander to be recommended to NACO to serve on the Indigent Accident Funds Board. Karyn Smith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Item 13: Discuss letter of support for AB11 – Veteran Service Officers

Shannon Ernst stated during our Legislative Committee, they were looking at AB11 which looks at Veterans Service Representatives across the state. It was very confusing language, so their county manager and Dagny Stapleton reached out to their Veterans Services Representative to clarify. It came back that really if you have your own Representative now and are being reimbursed by the state; It's possible you would have to pay for that yourself. If you have state people already placed in your community by the state, such as Nye and Churchill County, they're looking on expanding those very busy areas to full time. So it's not to reduce the programs, but to actually expand it. It came back to Churchill's county manager that they are looking for a letter of support from this group for that bill AB11.

The Director said if we have any questions or concerns, she is happy to address those and is happy to meet with anyone. Shannon requested we provide a letter of support from this group for the bill AB11. Shannon asked that we draft that letter for Tim Burch to sign so we can submit it. Mary Jane Ostrander made a motion to provide a letter of support for AB11. Karyn Smith seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Item 14: Discuss contracting with a transcription service or person for meeting minutes

Karyn Smith said that we kept it on the agenda in case anyone knows of a service to help with the transcription of meeting minutes. We will keep it on the agenda until we hear of anything.

Item 15: Update on IRS Filing/Reinstatement

Mary Jane Ostrander stated that we have everything into the IRS, and we are waiting to see if they will reinstate us. At that time we will have our Tax Identification Number so we will be able to invoice for our dues. It could take another month or possibly longer if the government shuts down again.

Item 16: Treasurer's Report- December 2018

Mary Jane Ostrander stated we are accruing interest in our savings account about 23 cents a month. Someone (couldn't catch name due to background noise) from accounting is doing all of our IRS findings and getting us all where we should be, which was \$500. We spent \$600 towards the Department of Treasury in order to apply for reinstatement. We also paid Lyon County Human Services for the policy booklets that were handed out at the NACO conference. We transferred \$1500 from savings into our checking account, which leaves us with a balance of \$1,026.42 in our checking and \$4,818.09 in our

savings account. We have received one invoice from Nye County for the travel of Karyn Smith to the meetings. The invoice is for December and January in the total of \$1,236.88. Shannon Ernst made a motion to approve the December Treasurers Report. Shayla Holmes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Item 17: Treasurer's Report- January 2019

Tim Burch stated since that the Treasurers Report for January was mentioned in Item 16, we can continue the motion. Shannon Ernst made a motion to approve the January Treasurers Report. Shayla Holmes seconded the motion, and It passed unanimously.

Item 18: Setting of Annual dues

Tim Burch stated that this will be tabled until we get our IRS findings.

Item 19: Approval of Minutes from December 13, 2018 Meeting

There were no revisions. Shannon Ernst made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 13, 2018 meeting. Shayla Holmes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously

Item 20: Approval of Minutes from January 10, 2019 Meeting

Karyn Smith stated that Niki Linn contacted her to let her know on page 2 on Item 8, the correct spelling for Valerie Cauhape's last name. She will make sure it is changed to the correct spelling. Niki Linn made a motion to accept the January meeting minutes with the revision for Valerie's last name. Shayla Holmes seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Item 21: NACO Staff Update on Items Not Agendized

Dagny Stapleton stated that she has a couple things she wants to mention. NACO had a presentation on behalf of the Government Affairs Committee, and we shared with them the booklet you put together on the behalf of all the County Human Services Directors. We made sure they all had a copy and it was very well received and had a lot of questions regarding County Human Services. We also have been trying to educate legislators a little bit more on what counties do and have been including the counties role in providing for the indigent population. She wanted to let everyone know that each Legislative Session, DHHS sends us a list of assessments based on the proposed budget. They send us a list for each of the assessments that DHHS sends. NACO has been working with DHHS for weeks to try and get a final copy done so all of you and your county managers can see it. We aren't quite done with it yet. We hope to have it finalized by Friday, and I have a copy of the rough draft. Some of the counties will be seeing increases, and one of those programs will be the Medicaid Match program. When I do have the final copy, I will send a copy to this group so you all can see.

Dagny also asked if everyone remembers this summer when we had the discussion when DHHS tried to increase the Medicaid Match assessment inside the budget year by going to IFC and sending you guys a surprise millions of dollar increase bill. That situation got us engaged on this early so we can get the quantifications for the assessment. Caseloads are increasing for long term patients and what we're trying to do is pin down what those case loads will look like. We got some estimates and someone at DHCFP Medicaid gave us an estimate that is for the new population which includes the waiver cost. They project a 5% increase in caseload per year. Over the long range, that's about half of your Medicaid Match assessment which is significant.

Dagny asked if when you get the bills each month, do you go through the bill and see if the charges are accurate. Shannon Ernst stated she gets a bill every month. Mary Jane Ostrander and Shayla Holmes both stated they haven't received a bill since they switched to the quarterly billing program for several months. There was talk amongst everyone asking if they are billing everyone correctly, and it was suggested that we audit our bills to make sure it's being done correctly. Mary Jane stated that there is no way for us to know if we are being billed correctly at Medicaid rates. Shannon and Dagny both stated that we can look into getting an audit done as a long term goal. Shannon asked if the assessment list she received January 14th is now no good. Dagny said that everything is good except the Medicaid Match which isn't accurate, but not too far off. Dagny asked that everyone just keep a watch on their cases since they're all over the place with their numbers.

Item 22: Legislative Updates

Shannon Ernst urged people to send us anything you want us to add to our tracking with comment. A lot of people have been using them in their own counties to do their fiscal notes. The more you can help us that would be great. Dagny Stapleton asked everyone about bill AB133 that came out yesterday, which expands the definition indigent people to homeless or runaway youth up to 24 years old. It specifically requires every county to provide care support and relief to homeless or runaway youth. My question for everyone is does this expand our services we need to provide? It was up to 18 years old, but they expanded it to include up to 24 year olds. It is unknown if there is a bottom age range on this. Shannon stated she has this on her list to discuss at the Tuesday meeting. They will look into it in both regions and bring it to the table on Tuesday.

Item 23: Comments, Updates, Reports NACHSA Members Not Agendized

Jean Perpich asked if we are finding more people in the lower age range from 18-24 that are in need of guardianship due to mental illness. Shannon Ernst stated she is not seeing it in Churchill and that they are getting more that are mentally ill, but not in the 18-24 year old range. Karyn Smith stated that Nye County hasn't seen an increase in it as well. Mary Jane Ostrander mentioned that in Carson City it states that they have to be 60 years old or older in order to be taken under guardianship, but state laws override that. Karyn stated that Nye County states they have to be 60 years of age or older, and have to be living in a facility, however they have two people who are under 60 they've had for about 4 years, but they are residing in facilities. Shannon stated that most of her clientele are elderly or mentally ill, and more of them are coming to light due to our behavioral health outreach programs.

Item 24: Scheduling of Next Meeting

Karyn Smith stated that Mary Jane Ostrander has our NCAA meeting scheduled for March 5th. Mary Jane stated that Thursdays no longer work for her for meetings due to new obligations. She sent out a doodle poll, and the majority picked the first Tuesdays of the month. Tim Burch stated if we do the first or the third Tuesday, it would have to be in the afternoon due to board meetings he has. Mary Jane stated we can look at another day, to keep the NCAA and NACHSA meetings together. The NACO board meeting is the 4th Friday of the month. Karyn stated the second Tuesday of the month actually was the most voted on for the monthly NACHSA and NCAA meetings. The COC meeting is being held in Las Vegas March 12-13th.

Shannon Ernst proposed we have the next NACHSA meeting on March 12th @ 8:30am before the COC meetings @ 10:30am. Shannon also stated that NACO asked us to let everyone know that the annual

meeting for NACO will be on September 25th & 26th at the Nugget in Reno. We do want to have our annual meeting in Reno on September 25th that morning. Also, on July 12-16th is the National NACO meeting in Las Vegas at Harrah's. Karyn stated for the April meeting, we want to schedule the second Tuesday which is April 9th. We can hold the NACHSA meeting at 10am that day, and the NCAA meeting will be afterwards and that will be held at the NACO building.

Item 25: Future Agenda Items

There were no suggestions on future agenda items.


Item 26: Public Comment


There was no public comment

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the committee, Tim Burch called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Shannon Ernst made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:31am. Jean Perpich seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.

APPROVED: _____


Tim Burch, Chair
Nevada Association of County Human Services
Administrators


Karen Beckerbauer, Vice-Chair
Nevada Association of County Human Services
Administrators