

North Dakota Department of Health

LONG TERM CARE ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2019  
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present:

Darleen Bartz, Chief, Health Resources Section, ND Department of Health  
Bruce Pritschet, Director, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health  
Kathy Laxdal, Program Manager, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health  
Rocksanne Peterson, Recorder, Division of Health Facilities, ND Department of Health  
Craig Christianson, Chairman of the NDLTC Association, Sheyenne Care Center, Valley City  
Peggy Krikava, Education Director, ND Long Term Care Association  
Scott Foss, Board of Examiners for Nursing Home Administrators  
Karla Backman, State LTC Ombudsman, ND Department of Human Services  
Jamie Steig, Quality Health Associates  
Shelly Peterson, Executive Director, ND Long Term Care Association

Committee Members Absent:

Monte Engel, Division of Life Safety & Construction, ND Department of Health  
Carole Watrel, AARP  
Michelle Lauckner, Quality Health Associates  
LeeAnn Thiel, Administrator, Division of Medical Services, DHS  
Dr. Bruce Hetland, Bismarck Medical Director, Nursing Home Medical Directors Association  
Representative Gary Kreidt, ND House of Representatives (New Salem)  
Joan Ehrhardt, Consumer Representative  
Randal Albrecht, Consumer Representative

Welcome

A meeting of the Long-Term Care Advisory Committee was called to order at 1:05 p.m. on March 5, 2019. The meeting was held in AV 212 at the State Capitol.

Public Comment

No comments.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the December 18, 2018 Long Term Care Advisory Committee meeting were distributed and reviewed. Peggy Krikava made the motion to approve the minutes; Scott Foss seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Standing Reports & Legislative Update**

Legislative Update: Representative Gary Kreidt.

➤ No report.

North Dakota Long Term Care Association: Shelly Peterson/Craig Christianson.

- Shelly gave an update on the status of bills this legislative session that impact long term care. The provider assessment tax bill was defeated with the option to bring it back. Shelly spoke about the revenue forecast, and the need for the inflator. She plans to ask for further restoration of funding. Shelly also spoke about the house appropriations bill for funding technologies. Most entities in DHS had their operation budget cut. Darleen stated the Health Department had a good experience so far in the House on HB1004. Karla did a really good job testifying about the electronic monitoring bill. There has been a lot of debate on this bill. Over all Shelly feels it is going well.
- Peggy spoke about a Care for the Aging (carefortheaging.org) workforce initiative and career pathways. The initiative was launched in 2017 to address the growing shortage of long-term care professionals.
- The 42nd NDLTCA Annual Convention will be held May 7-10, 2019, in Bismarck, North Dakota. Peggy will send Rocksanne the discount codes.
- Craig spoke about the hardship the facilities have without the inflator. Shelly spoke about the 5-star rating and how the other states do it with the staff they have. Much of the costs are in staffing. A lot of administrators are asking Craig, what are they going to do. Many are stating they may go to the community for help.
- Darleen asked about the impact of the behavioral health bills. There was discussion about St. Luke's Home converting 20 beds to Gero-Psych and the North Dakota State Hospital decreasing by 20 beds. Scott stated that he is removing the special care (memory care) neighborhood from his facility. His environments are not set up for the psych patients and feels there is too much liability. Karla feels there is a gap, and no one wants to fill it. Shelly spoke about Behavioral Crisis Intervention System that has been used in Fargo. Shelly stated the discussion regarding gero-psych needs to continue with state hospital. Craig talked about how his patients/residents are admitted to his facility's gero-psych unit.
- Darleen asked about the home and community and based services bill. She stated there are two facilities looking at adding home services. Shelly recommends visiting with Chris about it. Shelly said the rural facilities are interested in the services.

Quality Health Associate of North Dakota: Jayme Steig.

- Jayme reported pilot project for late adopters, the use of antipsychotic medications, the QAPI process, the music and memory program, and provider education for dementia care. Heart of America Care Center, Rugby is the first facility where Michelle will be providing dementia care education.
- Jayme spoke about the program for late adopters. There is a group that does not want to engage. Darleen talked briefly about the increased sanctions on the late adopters. Kathy Laxdal will be reviewing the QSO memo regarding Enhanced Oversight and Enforcement of Non-Improving Late Adopters later in the meeting.
- Jayme reported they are working with HIN in providing education on how it works for care coordination.
- The Quality Forum will be held on May 23, 2019. It will be streamed live at 4 locations.

State Ombudsman: Karla Backman.

- Karla reported the electronic monitor bill is in the house; just waiting for it to pass. She stated that the ombudsman program is there to be the voice of the resident.
- Karla reported their division is fully staffed.
- There was a discussion regarding discharge tags.

Division of Health Facilities: Bruce Pritschet/Darleen Bartz

- Darleen gave an update on the Department of Health legislative bills and budget. She spoke of staffing cut backs for Health Resources and Health Facilities. The house gave Life Safety & Construction funding to hire a temporary plans reviewer as they are wanting to see a quicker turn around for plans reviews.
- Darleen talked about the bills Health Resources is tracking and monitoring. She also talked about the Medical Marijuana program and the bills related to it. The first Medical Marijuana dispensary opened on March 1, 2019, in Fargo.
- Bruce reported the average number of deficiencies for a health survey is currently 5.96. The top citation in the nation and the region is F0880; F0689 was the top citation for North Dakota. Ashley Medical Center Nursing Facility had a fire in their facility. They did a really nice job in getting the residents transferred and getting them help during the fire. The area facilities really stepped up to help the facility.
- Shelly asked if the DON can be the infection preventionist in a LTC facility with less than 60 beds. Darleen will check on it.
- Shelly asked about PASSR, Kathy explained the PASSR process and screening process.

Division of Life Safety & Construction: Darleen Bartz.

- Darleen gave the Life Safety & Construction (LSC) report for Monte. She reported the average number of deficiencies for an LSC survey is 2.96. The top citation in the nation and the region is K0353; K0918 was the top citation for North Dakota.
- At the last meeting Representative Kreidt brought forth the issue of needing more man power for LSC to review facility construction plans. He also brought forth the cost of small projects. Darleen stated that she has met with the LSC staff to discuss the process and length of time of reviewing construction projects.

**Other:**

QSO Memos – Kathy Laxdal:

- QSO 19-04-NH/HHA/CLIA Notice of Final Rule Adjusting Civil Monetary Penalties (CMPs) for Inflation
- QSO 19-06-ALL Emergency Preparedness – Updates to Appendix Z of the State Operations Manual (SOM)
- QSO 19-07-NH Enhanced Oversight and Enforcement of Non-Improving Late Adopters (Education needs to take place with the physicians).

Next Meeting Date and Time: Discussed June 6, 2019 or May 21, 2019 as options. An email will be sent out once the date is confirmed.

Future Agenda Items:

Crisis Intervention – Chris Jones/Pam Sagness

Behavioral Health Issues – Pam Sagness

State Hospital – Rosalie Etherington

Meeting adjourned 3:20 pm.