

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
NEBRASKA CENTER FOR NURSING
MARCH 21, 2014

New officer elections for the Nebraska Center for Nursing Board were held in January 2014. Nominations were received by the Office of Nursing by e-ballot January 8-17, 2014. There were fifteen members on the Board at the time of the election. Fifteen members participated in the election. Brandi Netzel, the LPN Member on the Nebraska Center for Nursing Board, had resigned in December 2013.

There was only one nominee for Chair: Liane Connelly. There were two nominees for Vice-Chair: Linda Stones and Pamela Uhlir. There was only one nominee for Secretary: Alice Kindschuh. Connelly received fifteen votes for Chair. For Vice-Chair, Stones received eight votes and Uhlir received seven votes. Kindschuh received fifteen votes for Secretary.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Nebraska Center for Nursing Board was called to order by Liane Connelly, Chair, at 9:38 a.m., March 21, 2014, at Cornhusker State Industries, 800 Pioneers Boulevard, Room C, Lincoln, NE. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Board members, news media, and other interested parties in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Connelly announced the location of an available copy of the Open Meetings Act within the room. Connelly thanked Linda Stones for having been Chair of the Center for Nursing Board for the past two years.

ROLL CALL

The following Board members were present to answer roll call:

- Liane Connelly, RN, *Chair* -- Nurse educator recommended by the Board of Regents, University of Nebraska
- Kayleen Dudley, RN -- Governor appointed member
- Nolan Gurnsey, RN -- Governor appointed member
- Cindy Hadenfeldt, RN -- Member recommended by the State Board of Health
- Peg Kennedy, RN -- Hospital industry representative appointed by the Governor
- Alice Kindschuh, RN, *Secretary* -- Member recommended by the State Board of Health
- Linda Stones, RN, *Vice-Chair* -- Governor appointed member
- Pamela Uhlir, RN -- Governor appointed registered nurse
- Mary Wendl, RN, *Secretary* -- Governor appointed member

The following Board members were not present to answer roll call:

- Carman DeMare, APRN-NP -- Member recommended by the State Board of Health (*arrived at 10:00 a.m.*)
- Cheryl Echtenkamp, RN -- Governor appointed member
- Nick Faustman -- Long-Term Care representative appointed by the Governor
- Diane Hoffmann, RN -- Nurse educator recommended by the Nebraska Community College Association
- Anna May, RN -- Governor appointed registered nurse
- Aubray Orduna, RN -- Nurse educator recommended by the Nebraska Association of Independent Colleges & Universities

A quorum was present and the meeting convened.

The following staff members from the Department were also present:

- Karen Bowen, RN, *Executive Director*
- Niki Eisenmann, RN, *Practice Consultant*
- Juan Ramirez, *Independent Consultant*
- Shane Bailey, *Board Coordinator*
- Teresa Hampton, *Attorney (arrived at 10:05 a.m.)*

These minutes were approved by the
Nebraska Center for Nursing Board.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Connelly informed the Board of the need to rearrange items requiring a quorum on the agenda due to the anticipated loss of a quorum in the early afternoon. The planned meeting with representatives from the Nebraska Action Coalition (NAC) was going to be postponed to another meeting.

MOTION: Uhlir made the motion, seconded by Kindschuh, to adopt the agenda with modifications.

Voting Yes: Connelly, Dudley, Gurnsey, Hadenfeldt, Kennedy, Kindschuh, Stones, Uhlir, and Wendl.
Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: DeMare, Echtenkamp, Faustman, Hoffmann, May, and Orduna.
 Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

MOTION: Kennedy made the motion, seconded by Stones, to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2014 meeting with modifications.

Voting Yes: Connelly, Dudley, Gurnsey, Hadenfeldt, Kennedy, Kindschuh, Stones, Uhlir, and Wendl.
Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: DeMare, Echtenkamp, Faustman, Hoffmann, May, and Orduna.
 Motion carried.

COMMUNICATION**National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers' Annual Conference**

Bowen informed the Board of the annual conference of The National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers' annual conference which is to be held in Hartford, Connecticut, June 12 & 13, 2014. The theme of the conference is "Strengthening Nursing Practice." For some unknown reason, there won't be a poster presentation from participating states at the annual conference. Bowen stated she will not be attending the conference. The budget of the Nebraska Center for Nursing permits Ramirez plus two board members to attend the conference. Last year, Ramirez, Connelly, and Stones had attended the annual conference in Arizona. Bowen distributed the conference agenda plus information on the keynote speakers. The Board was asked to send an email to Bailey by March 31st, indicating their interest in attending the conference.

MOTION: Stones made the motion, seconded by Wendl, for the Board to support sending Ramirez plus two board members to attend the annual conference in Connecticut.

Voting Yes: Connelly, Dudley, Gurnsey, Hadenfeldt, Kennedy, Kindschuh, Stones, Uhlir, and Wendl.
Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: DeMare, Echtenkamp, Faustman, Hoffmann, May, and Orduna.
 Motion carried.

Vote for a Representative from Deans & Directors to Be on the Center's Foundation

Bowen informed the Board that they needed to vote for a new representative from the Nebraska Assembly of Deans and Directors to be on the Center's Foundation. The current representative from Deans and Directors is leaving due to her term expiring. Kathryn Girard from Deans and Directors had expressed interest in serving on the Foundation. Girard is the current Chair of ITT/Breckinridge School of Nursing & Health Sciences in Omaha.

MOTION: Stones made the motion, seconded by Gurnsey, for the Board to approve Kathryn Girard of the Nebraska Assembly of Nursing Deans and Directors to be on the Nebraska Center for Nursing Foundation.

Voting Yes: Connelly, Dudley, Gurnsey, Hadenfeldt, Kennedy, Kindschuh, Stones, Uhlir, and Wendl.
Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: DeMare, Echtenkamp, Faustman, Hoffmann, May, and Orduna.
 Motion carried.

10:00 a.m. *DeMare arrived to the meeting.*

Budget Update

Bowen informed the Board that the Center for Nursing typically operates on \$60,000/year. The Nebraska Board of Nursing is allowed by Nebraska regulation to give funds to the Center for Nursing. In January of this year, the Board of Nursing moved to give \$60,000 to the Center for Nursing. Travel, hotel accommodations, meals, and Ramirez's contract are all deducted from the Center's annual budget. Bowen has contracted with UNL for a student to conduct data entry from paper surveys. Ten percent (10%) of nurses still use paper surveys rather than electronic surveys. Discussion arose on the subject of the budget and the need to increase funding so the Center can effectively operate and accomplish its work. Board members suggested increasing the percentage of funds received from licensure fees. Bowen stated that the Center for Nursing does not have the authority to increase the percentage received from licensure fees.

10:06 a.m. *Hampton arrived to the meeting.*

Connelly asked for the topic of funding and strategies to be on the next meeting agenda. Kindschuh reported that the Foundation is having difficulty in asking for funds because they currently do not have a project they can stand behind. Kennedy stated that the Nebraska Action Coalition and the Center are competing for the same funds.

PRESENTATION: THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT

Teresa Hampton, DHHS Attorney, gave a PowerPoint presentation on The Open Meetings Act to the Board. The topics of teleconference meetings, meeting agendas, and having a quorum were covered in the presentation.

10:55 a.m. *The meeting recessed.*

11:04 a.m. *The meeting reconvened.*

COMMUNICATION

Review Legislative Mandate of the Center

The Board was provided copies of the Statutes Relating to the Nebraska Center for Nursing Act (2010). Bowen briefly referred the Board to the Legislative mandate of the Center—its goals, duties and purpose.

PRESENTATION: LOGO & WEBSITE

Bailey shared with the Board proposals (cost estimates) for logo and website design from four designers: Ebbeka Design, Pickering Creative Group, Snitily Carr, and Chip Thompson Design. A fifth group had been contacted, the Office of the Chief Information Officer of Nebraska, which had provided a proposal for website design only (their graphic designer had recently left their team). Logo design costs ranged from \$600 to \$5,000. Website design costs ranged from \$3,500 to \$18,070 (not including maintenance

and hosting fees). Bailey informed the Board that, in the event the Center did not have the funds available to pay a designer to create a new website, he had started creating a “mock website” via Weebly. Bailey explained that Weebly is one of two of the top most highly acclaimed website builders within the U.S. The other website builder is Squarespace which Bailey had started to work with but discovered that they only allow two weeks for a free trial. Weebly has an unlimited free trial which allowed Bailey to create the “mock website.” Weebly costs \$8 to \$25 per month. (\$25 is for a website that has e-commerce: the ability to sell items from the website.) Weebly has 24/7 customer service and it will allow the Center to use its current website domain name (www.center4nursing.com). Bailey presented the created website to the Board via computer and projector. The “mock website” was created to be easy to navigate, with separate webpages devoted to recruitment, data/reports, rural nursing, information on the Center (its history, board members, Foundation, and sponsors), announcements, and resources for nurses which can help with the Center’s goal in retention. Board members expressed appreciation and interest in the “mock website.” Board and staff members asked for more information about Weebly on the following: 1) the cost breakdown, 2) method of payment (credit card or invoice?), and 3) whether or not there is a limit on storage, Gigabytes? Bailey stated he would consult with Weebly and will provide answers at the next meeting. Dudley and Uhlir expressed interest in joining the Website Group.

Due to the length of time it would take to read through all the proposals, Stones made the suggestion for the Website Group to read through the proposals and make a recommendation at the next meeting. Bailey and the Website Group will provide an update at the next board meeting.

12:05 p.m. *The meeting recessed for lunch*
 12:10 p.m. *The meeting reconvened.*

CENTER FOR NURSING FOUNDATION

Gurnsey, Foundation President, informed the Board that the Foundation is re-launching the *Nurses Who Make a Difference* campaign. This campaign is intended to recognize and reward nurses who make a positive contribution. Nurses will be nominated through an application process. Gurnsey has written up an application. On March 25, 2014, Gurnsey will send out the applications and will announce the campaign through a press release. The deadline for nominations will be April 21, 2014. Winners will be notified the following week. Gurnsey is looking at having an awards banquet in a central Nebraska location (Kearney or Grand Island), possibly at the Heartland Event Center. It was estimated that it would cost \$3,000 to put on the event. Attendees would need to pay for the event. Dinner would be catered in at a cost of \$25-\$30 per plate. The awards banquet was suggested to be held at 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. on May 9, 2014. Basic set-up would be done at the event.

The Board discussed the events. Educators on the Board stated that the week of May 9th tends to be busy due to nursing program graduations. It was suggested that the banquet could possibly be held later in the year. Board members also suggested that instead of holding a banquet, board members could show up at the winners’ homes or worksites and present the award to them in person.

It was suggested that one nominee from each congressional district should be selected. It was then suggested that two nominees from each congressional district should be selected.

MOTION: Stones made the motion, seconded by Kindschuh, for the Board to recommend that the Nurses Who Make a Difference campaign is to recognize two nurses from each congressional district.

Voting Yes: Connelly, DeMare, Dudley, Gurnsey, Hadenfeldt, Kennedy, Kindschuh, Stones, Uhlir, and Wendl. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Echtenkamp, Faustman, Hoffmann, May, and Orduna. Motion carried.

MOTION: Kennedy made the motion, seconded by Stones, that the Board not exceed \$1,000 to support the Nurses Who Make a Difference awards banquet.

Voting Yes: Connelly, DeMare, Dudley, Gurnsey, Hadenfeldt, Kennedy, Kindschuh, Stones, Uhler, and Wendl. Voting No: None. Abstain: None. Absent: Echtenkamp, Faustman, Hoffmann, May, and Orduna. Motion carried.

12:39 p.m. *Dudley and Kindschuh left for the remainder of the meeting.*

Bowen said that photos of the winners could be published in the *Nebraska Nursing News* newsletter.

Discussion turned to other Foundation matters. Connelly reported on how there had been discussion about the Passport Project at a recent meeting of the Nebraska Assembly of Nursing Deans and Directors. Some members of Deans and Directors had voiced their opinion to drop support of the Passport Project. Alegent Health will not accept the Passport Project. Connelly will speak to Deans and Directors about the matter. Wendl informed the Board that the Foundation was not awarded the grant from Union Pacific Foundation.

PRESENTATION: DISTRIBUTION OF NURSES WITHIN NEBRASKA

Ramirez gave a brief PowerPoint presentation to the Board. The presentation consisted of graphs and maps illustrating the workforce distribution of LPNs and RNs throughout Nebraska by county. Data on nursing workforce distribution within urban and rural areas and by healthcare setting was also presented.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Due to the loss of a quorum and the need for other board members to leave early, the strategic planning session was cut short. Connelly asked for the following items to be included on the agenda for the May 30th meeting: 1) the Website Group to report on the website and logo proposals, 2) the face-to-face meeting with the NAC to be held in the morning, 3) focus on the budget and strategic planning, 4) report from the Foundation on the *Nurses Who Make a Difference* campaign, and 5) the Executive Committee to address who will be attending the annual conference in June.

Bowen will email a list of the Center for Nursing's accomplishments over the years. Bowen will also send out information on budgets and structuring from other state centers for nursing.

It was briefly discussed how Nebraska has the only state nursing workforce center that is not working with its Action Coalition.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Shane Bailey
Board Coordinator