



WISCONSIN NURSING HOME SOCIAL WORKERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

WNHSPA Board Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2026 held at Holiday Inn and Suites in Rothschild/Mosinee, WI.

Board Attendance:

Fawn Senn Vice President	Marshfield Medical Center	Beaver Dam
Kayla Larson, SWY coordinator	ADRC of Iowa County	Dodgeville
Tena Seipel, Secretary	Pierce County DHS	Ellsworth
Teresa Clement, Treasurer	Maryhill Manor	Niagara
Kim Wuethrich, CEU coordinator	Pleasant View	Monroe
Tabitha Becker, President	ThedaCare Hospital	Appleton
Julie Severin	Rennes Health Center	Appleton
Matthew Passineau	Edgewater Haven	Port Edwards
Lisa Leahy	St. Croix Healthcare	New Richmond
Stephanie Gagnon	Oakridge Gardens	Menasha

Via virtual: Luleta Mena Avina Fond du Lac

Missing from the meeting is Grettchen Shimko DHS BOALTC Ombudsman, Madison

1) Call to order – at 7:06 pm.

2) Introductions— completed as we have some newer board members present.

3) Secretary's Report. The board reviewed the minutes from the board meeting held on January 13, 2026. Julie motioned to approve the minutes and Teresa seconded the motion.

4) Treasurer's Report: Teresa reviewed the treasurer report. Current balance of account is \$40,509.88. Teresa indicated that there is currently no credit card balance. Teresa indicated that there are currently 70 members and of them, 17 are new members. Lisa made a motion to approve the treasurer's report and Tabitha seconded the motion.

5) Committee Reports:

NASW: Kim represents WNHSPA on the NASW WI board. Kim indicated that all of their meetings have been virtual. Kim stated that Marc Herstand, Executive Director of NASW, WI is retiring in May 2026 after 33 years with NASW. Kim stated that recently passed the **Social Work Licensure Compact (2025 Assembly Bill 80 enacted as 2025 Wisconsin Act 232)**. Which allows licensed social workers in Wisconsin to obtain a multistate license, permitting them to practice across state lines in all other member states without having to acquire individual licenses for each of those states. **2025 Wisconsin Act 115** is a "next-of-kin" law that allows immediate family members to make health care decisions and authorize

post-hospital transfers for incapacitated patients. It authorizes next of kin to act as a "patient's representative" if an incapacitated patient has not completed a health care power of attorney or appointed a guardian.

Historian: Tabitha indicated she updated the board for display at the spring conference. Tabitha stated that there is a QR code on the board to increase our digital marketing options.

Membership/Marketing (Teresa): Teresa indicated that in 2025 we had 72 members. Teresa and Tabitha indicated the annual letters were sent out to SNF's and current members for annual membership. Current membership as stated above is 70 at this time.

Website updates (Fawn): Fawn stated she had Steve add a link on the website that is titled "education" and this is where all conference materials will be placed for attendees to access.

Scholarships (Tena): Reviewing the current bank balance, the board indicated that we have sufficient funds to offer a WNHSWA scholarship for 2026. Tena will send out scholarship materials later this spring and will also send the scholarship application packet to Kayla to place on Facebook and our WNHSWA website.

CEU's (Kim): Kim indicates she received CEU approval from NASW for the Spring conference. Kim asked for feedback with the new survey results format. Everyone present indicated it is much easier to read and is broken down by speaker which is also helpful to the speakers who request survey results.

Social worker of the year: Kayla indicated she will send out materials for SWY in June with a due date in early July so that the board can review the applicants at our July meeting to determine a winner prior to the fall conference.

6) Timeline: Reviewed the timeline.

7) Old Business: none.

8) New Business: Lisa Leahy indicated she will be retiring in December 2026 so she will not be running for her board position this fall. Lisa stated she will be 70 on her birthday in August and feels it is time to retire. Lisa's board position will be open this fall during elections.

Fall elections: Tabitha, Matt, Teresa, Kayla, Julie, and Luleta's positions will be up for reelection this fall. Tabitha will prepare the ballots for the fall election for those running as well as Lisa's position, which is an odd year.

Teresa requested to exempt board members from paying membership dues as this is the standard practice in several other agencies. Discussion held on the current bank balance and the savings to the association by having several board meetings virtually each year instead of in person. Teresa made a motion that current board members are exempt from annual

membership dues and the association pays for two nights hotel stay during the fall conferences. Lisa seconded this motion.

Spring 2026 conference will be held at the Holiday Inn and Suites in Wausau on April 17, 2026. Room rates at the Holiday Inn are \$129.00 for the spring conference.

Fawn reviewed the speakers and timeline for the conference tomorrow. Tabitha requested volunteers for introducing speakers as well as members to man the registration table tomorrow morning.

Julie prepared name tags for attendees at conferences for 2026. Teresa will provide registration names to Julie to complete this task.

Raffle baskets will be set up just outside the main conference room and board members will sell tickets for the baskets before the conference starts and during breaks. Will draw winners during lunch break or afternoon break.

Discussion held if we should look at doing some marketing at the Leading Age or FOCUS conferences instead of the Alzheimer's Conference as these appear to get more attendance from staff at SNF's and related agencies such as Hospice staff, CBRF's, Assisted Living's, etc. Tabitha will look into the costs of marketing at Leading Age and FOCUS and present to the board when she has the information.

Fall 2026 conference will be at the Wilderness Resort in WI Dells, WI on October 1-2, 2026. Friday's speaker will be from DQA all day. Thursday speakers/topics will be Jesse Horn motivational speaker, My Choice MCO, Rainbow Hospice--end of life, Ben Adams and Polly from the Dementia Stabilization Unit and Ethics and Boundaries will be offered.

Discussed options for Fall 2027 of the Wintergreen Hotel and Conference Center in WI Dells or the Marriott Waterfront Hotel and Conference Center in Oshkosh, WI. Fawn will try to get information from each site to compare prices and dates at our next meeting.

Will have sponsors again for the fall conference as it was well received and generated funds to go towards conference expenses. Fawn stated she has 3 gold sponsors (500.00 and they speak during lunch break) and 2 bronze sponsors (100.00) committed for fall conference.

9) Next Board Meeting: will be July 20, 2026 at 3:00 pm virtually. Tabitha will send out the meeting link closer to the meeting date.

10) Adjournment: at 8:32 pm. Kayla motioned for the meeting to adjourn and Julie seconded the motion.