

AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

February 22, 2021

Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Office  
3215 Eaglecrest Drive NE, Grand Rapids MI 49525 ZOOM Meeting

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UNIT OF GOVERNMENT	MEMBERS PRESENT (VIA Zoom)	MEMBERS ABSENT
ALLEGAN COUNTY	Stuart Peet	Rick Cain
GRAND RAPIDS, CITY	Milinda Ysasi Jane DeVries	
IONIA COUNTY	Dennis Sitzer	David Hodges
KENT COUNTY	Carol Hennesy Nancy Nielsen	
LAKE COUNTY	Betty Dermyer	Marilyn Burns
MASON COUNTY	Ron Bacon Kim Halladay	
MECOSTA COUNTY	Sharon Bongard Bill Routley	
MONTCALM COUNTY	Linda Weger	Michael Beach
NEWAYGO COUNTY	Kenneth DeLaat Cindy LaBelle	
OSCEOLA COUNTY	Tim Michell	Richard Karns

**Staff Present:** Emily Armstrong, Lacey Charboneau, Anne Ellermets, Suzanne Filby-Clark, Dawn Gable, Anne Hackathorn, Katie Lucas, Bridget McGovern, Jackie O'Connor, Lauren Poll and Dan Travis.

**Guests:** Becky Payne – Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA)

## **I. Roll Call and Agenda Approval**

Chair Bill Routley called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm. Jackie took roll call. A quorum was present.

Linda Weger moved and Ken DeLaat seconded the motion to approve the agenda.

## **II. Minutes of the November 23, 2020 Meeting**

Ron Bacon moved and Linda Weger seconded the motion to approve the November 23, 2020 minutes. Motion carried.

## **III. Reports**

### **A. Advisory Council (AC) Report**

Bob Sundholm was not in attendance so no report was given.

### **B. Financial Report**

Dan reviewed the January Financials

Report 1- Balance Sheet – New line under Assets titled Investment Local CDs 12-24 months. The projected deficit for this fiscal year is already represented in the Fund Balance at \$205,000.

Report 5 – Summary Expense Report – Administration is on target at 33% of the fiscal year. All Service Partners are at 31% primarily representing the various Purchase of Service Partners expenses.

Dan discussed the Conflict of Interest Agreement and asked Board members to complete form and return form to him before the March Board meeting. The form was not included in the packet so Dan emailed it to all members.

Dan and Dawn Gable, Controller, presented the FY 2020 Financial Assessment Report for Service Partners. One Service Partner did not pass the FY20 financial assessment.

### **C. Medicaid Waiver/Care Management Program**

Suzanne Filby-Clark, Deputy Director, discussed the Care Management Program during the COVID-19 pandemic. Most of the AAAWM client deaths were individuals who resided in congregate settings such as Adult Foster Care and Home for the Aged.

#### **D. Supportive and In-Home Services**

Anne Hackathorn, Contract & Funding Specialist, reviewed the highlights of the FY 2020 client and unit service data. If Board members would like service data specific to individual counties, contact Anne at [AnneH@aaawm.org](mailto:AnneH@aaawm.org) or 616-222-7003.

Katie Lucas, AAAMW Care Manager, shared two client stories and emphasized the positive impact AAAMW and the services received had on the clients.

#### **E. Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program**

Lauren Poll, Kent County MMAP Site Coordinator gave the update on the open enrollment period this fall. Number of personal contacts were down 33%. There were no in-person meetings and no events this year that typically occur because of COVID-19. Some of the older volunteers also did not feel comfortable only providing assistance by phone.

#### **F. Public Relations and Communications**

Emily Armstrong, Public Relations and Communications Specialist, talked about the marketing report for the past 3 months. As part of the Strategic Plan, this report showed increasing community awareness of the services available and coordinating with Service Partners to optimize service delivery. Emily feels the WZZM partnership was very successful. WZZM topics included targeting caregivers and then service highlights.

#### **G. Executive Director's Report**

Jackie welcomed new Board members:

- Ionia County – Commissioner David Hodges
- Mason County – Kim Hallady
- Montcalm County – Commissioner Michael Beach
- Osceola County – Commissioner Timothy Michell

Jackie encouraged everyone to send the Conflict of Interest form back to Dan.

Federal funding for FY 2021 has not been awarded due to Continuing Resolutions and no reduction is anticipated from FY 2020. Over \$1 million in CARES Act and Older Americans Act carryover funding is expected. FY 2021 State funding remains the same as FY 2020. Direct Care Worker (DCW) premium pay continues through February, hoping that legislators will make this wage increase permanent. This wage increase continues to be a top advocacy priority for FY 2021.

#### IV. Other

##### A. Aging and Adult Services Agency:


Becky Payne reported that AASA is looking for ways to assist with vaccine distribution. AASA has received the full year budget and will send out to Area Agency on Aging around the state soon.

##### B. Public Comments

No public comments.

##### C. Next Meeting Date:

Bill Routley stated the next Board meeting will be on March 22, 2021. Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

  
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Bridget McGovern, Recorder

  
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Richard Karns, Secretary