



4.1

TRI-COUNTY AGING CONSORTIUM ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING

Minutes

April 17, 2017 3:30pm

Members Present: Kara Hope, Chair Ken Mitchell Bryan Crenshaw
Blake Mulder, Vice-Chair Dwight Washington Howard Spence
Kelly Arndt Jeanne Pearl-Wright

Members Absent: Teri Banas Kathie Dunbar Chris Swope
City of Lansing Vacancy Joan Jackson Johnson

Staff: Marion Owen Sara Aikman Carl Buonodono
Tammy Lemmer Joe Reeves Robin Webb
Andrea Radel Tom Smith

Guests: Nate Baldermann, Auditor- Rehman Robson
Mary Estes - Advisory Council Member

1. **Call to Order:** K. Hope called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.
2. **Introductions:** Board members welcomed.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** B. Mulder moved to approve the amended agenda, adding An Update on Monitoring visits-Tom Smith as item 8.B. J. Pearl-Wright seconded. Motion carried.
4. **Minutes of February 27, 2017:** B. Crenshaw moved to approve the minutes. K. Mitchell seconded. Motion carried.
5. **Public Comment:** N/A
6. **Directors Report: I. Budget/Funding:** As we stated in our communication with Board members recently, we have suspended adding any additional clients to Project choices due to inadequate funding received from the Michigan Department of health and Human Services Medicaid division. We have been reporting on this issue for over a year and the capitated formula is totally insufficient to cover the costs of client services essential to supporting them in their homes. We will continue to provide the services necessary to current clients of which there are 760. We discussed reducing reimbursement to providers, however, they are already



6. Directors Report: I. Budget/Funding (cont.): experiencing worker shortage due to financial challenges and the fact that we are unable to increase our payments in order for them to hire workers or pay more decent wages. There is a worker shortage across the country for direct care in-home workers. We also discussed reducing services but this is an option which is both contrary to Medicaid rules and it against the core values of TCOA. Reducing staff is also counterproductive in that most of the staff are necessary to protect the health and welfare of the clients who are already vulnerable. Suspending additional clients to the program is the least harmful. We will continue to pre-screen persons seeking the program and add them to the growing wait list. We are communicating with MDHHS and sharing the financial implications of the problems with their reimbursement system. They are reviewing the data and detail that we have submitted. There are other AAA's experiencing the same and we are working with them as well to advocate for a more equitable reimbursement methodology.

The state budget should be passed by the middle of May and it is still uncertain if the legislature will support all of the budget recommendations from the Governor. As you may recall, the Governor has recommended a \$3.6 million increase for in-home services and home delivered meals. In addition he has recommended a \$5 million increase for MI choice program but given the long waiting list for this program (we have over 400 on the list at TCOA and there are over 3,700 statewide), this will have little impact of making Michigan a "no wait state".

The continuing resolution for FY 2017 federal funding continues. However, Congress has until April 29 to deal with the budget. Although a shutdown is possible, most believe that this will not happen and that some sort of Omnibus budget is likely. What reductions in programs may occur is unknown. The FY 2018 budget is more problematic should the cuts currently in discussion occur. We are hearing cuts from 18% to 30% for discretionary funding which includes all programs that are not military or defense related.

II. Other: Older Michiganders Day is on May 17 at the Capitol lawn. Seniors from all over the state will be attending to listen to speakers and meet with their state elected officials. TCOA will once again provide the lunch for those with tickets. The platform has been complete and will be distributed to members as well as tickets for those interested in attending and receiving a lunch. The Platform for Legislature Action consists of several "asks" including increased funding for in-home service programs such as MI choice to eliminate wait lists, legislative attention to the direct care worker shortage crisis, supporting increased staff essential to handle Adult Protective Services cases of abuse, neglect and exploitation and expanding affordable and accessible transportation. The Platform and event are the result of a steering committee of aging and disability organizations from across the state who meet monthly.

The TCOA Annual Charity Golf Outing will be on June 13 at Forest Akers West. Reservations are coming in and if interested contact Casey cooper at cooperc@tcoa.org (517) 887-1377.

The Annual Run for the Ages will be held on May 20 at the Hawk Island County Park.

Registration is filling up and sponsors have increased as well. The event begins at 9:00 a.m.



7. FY 2016 Financial Audit Presentation: Nate Baldermann from Rehman Robson presented the FY 2016 Audit. Mr. Baldermann reported that the MERS pension recently updated mortality tables and as a result the assumptions changed impacting the long term basis of the pension fund. Another section was the Fund Balance sheet showing a decrease of \$1.7 million due to capitation rates not being able to cover the costs of services. Mr. Baldermann explained the one audit finding. This involved financial statement adjustments. Management will take the proper corrective action. Mr. Baldermann also expressed that TCOA staff were very easy to work with and cooperative. K. Mitchell motioned to receive the audit to file. B. Crenshaw seconded. Discussion followed. Motioned carried.

8. Personnel:

A. Recruiting/Employment updates- A. Radel gave updates on recruiting and employment. Including in the Board Packet were handouts that covered recruiting resources, county by county statistics (showing how TCOA compares to the counties TCOA serves), employee types, longevity, and a termination report with reasons for 4/1/16-4/1/17.

B. Monitoring Visit update – T. Smith a handout and highlighted a few of the results of the contractor monitoring visits. T. Smith reported that all subcontractors are in compliance with the State standards set for them.

9. Finance:

A. February Financial Reports- J. Reeves presented the February Financial reports. B. Mulder moved to accept the February Financial Reports. B. Crenshaw seconded. Motion carried.

10. General Check Ledger Resolution:

A. March: B. Crenshaw moved to approve the March General Check Ledger. B. Mulder seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm