

TRI-COUNTY AGING CONSORTIUM
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING

Minutes

September 16, 2019 3:30pm

Members Present: Blake Mulder, Chair Dwight Washington Bryan Crenshaw
Ken Mitchell, Vice-Chair Jeanne Pearl-Wright Chris Swope
Aaron Stephens Patricia Spitzley Matt Bowen

Members Absent: Joan Jackson Johnson Robin Naeyaert Jody Washington

Staff: Marion Owen Sara Aikman Carl Buonodono
Kirsten Laing Joe Reeves Tammy Lemmer
Andrea Radel Casey Cooper

Guests: Jane Wallin, Advisory Council Member

Item #1. Call to Order:

B. Mulder called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

Item #2. Introductions:

Introductions were made by Board members TCOA Staff, and Guests.

Item #3. Approval of the Agenda:

Motion by B. Crenshaw, supported by K. Mitchell to accept the Approval of the Agenda. **Motion carried.**

Item #4. Minutes of September 2019 Meeting:

Motion by B. Crenshaw, supported by A. Stephens to accept the minutes for September 2019 Meeting. **Motion carried.**

Item #5. Public Comment:

N/A

Item #6. Directors Report – Marion Owen:

I. State and Federal Updates: The state legislature passed the FY 2020 budget and the Governor vetoed some of the line item budget items. The MI Choice program budget funding was approved and includes a \$40 million funding increase to cover the cost of an additional 1,000 more slots (people). The budget funding included a 5% increase to the rates paid to MI Choice agents for services. Project Choices is the MI Choice program at TCOA. How funds will be distributed is still being reviewed by MDHHS. TCOA is one of the smaller agency operating the MI Choice Medicaid program. We are the fifth highest out of twenty agencies in terms of funding. TCOA is planning on raising rates to home care agencies in order to improve their ability to deal with the direct care worker shortage and recruit and retain their staff by paying a higher wage. Rates paid to home care workers have been stagnant due to the inadequate

reimbursement from the State. TCOA is also adding Care Management staff (Nurse and Social Worker) to keep up with the additional people we will be adding. This should also include our waiting list.

There is no new revenue for the AASA funded services (includes home delivered meals, in-home services, respite for caregivers, legal and community services). Wait lists and underserving meals continues and is expected to grow along with the older adult population and need. Seventy-six counties around the state have senior millage and funds are used to reduce or eliminate wait lists for AASA funded services. See report on the Ingham County Millage below.

The federal funding for FY 2020 is in a Continuing Resolution (CR) until November 21.

II. Ingham County Millage: The Human Services Committee of the Ingham County Board of Commissioners has been discussing a senior millage and has involved TCOA. This came about because of the renewal discussions for the county Health Plan millage which has also funded mental health services. Members of the Committee have been supportive of a senior millage with Commissioner Robin Naeyaert leading this effort. TCOA has provided information on what the needs are and ballpark figures on the initial cost. Crucial are the programs which the most impact on helping older adults to remain at home and in the community. These include:

- In-home services (personal care such as bathing and respite relief for caregivers).
- Nutritious meals (Home Delivered and Senior Dine meals).
- Home repairs, and chore services such as repairs to maintain a safe environment and snow removal.
- Crisis/immediate need series such as housing, prescription drugs and utility assistance.
- Wellness services (including classes like Matter of Balance and assistance to senior centers with little financial support).
- Other services including legal services, nursing home ombudsman, community health worker and additional Information and referral/options counseling staff to keep pace with the population and need for accurate and timely information.
- Other services which may be essential.

Although there has been discussion to add senior services to the Health Plan millage, it was decided to have a separate millage for senior and increase the funding for mental health within the Health Plan millage. TCOA will keep the Board informed as it progresses or if it does.

III. Other: The Commission on Services to the Aging approved the TCOA Multi-Year Plan. Kate Long Tammy Lemmer, and Maron Owen presented the highlights of the plan to the Commission. Kate and Tammy were responsible for the Plan, the Plan was well received, and TCOA just received the written approval of the Plan.

MDHHS is mandating that all Board members complete the *Provider Screening Information Collection Tool* which was sent to all Board members. All organizations that are recipients of Medicaid funds must complete these forms. Community Mental Health has to do this as well. MDHHS staff have explained these forms are part of other initiatives to deal with waste, fraud and abuse.

Item #7. Provider Screening Information Collection Tool

B. Mulder and S. Aikman reminded the Board Members who hadn't yet submitted this form that they need to do so.

Item #8. Planning Advocacy & Development:

- A. FFI Allocation Resolution:** Casey presented the FY 2020 FFI resolution (copy of resolution included). Motion by A. Stephens, supported by M. Bowen to accept the FFI resolution. **Motion carried.**
- B. Dinner & Auction:** C. Cooper reminded Board member of the event details and opportunities to support it even if not able to attend.
- C. Advocacy Update:** T. Lemmer shared information about a cyber security and fraud prevention event hosted by Senator Peters at the Williamston Senior Center on October 1. She recently presented at an elder abuse forum hosted by Representative Filler in St Johns and will also be participating as a panelist at an elder abuse focused town hall with Representative Witwer and Attorney General Dana Nessel on November 4th at the Delta Township Library. The PREVNT elder abuse prevention grant has been renewed for a 3rd year.

Item #9. Finance:

- A. Financial Report August 2019:** J. Reeves discussed with the Board the August financial reports (see exhibit 9.A.1-16). Motion by B. Crenshaw, supported by A. Stephens to accept the August financial reports. **Motion carried.** B. Mulder inquired about Evidence Based funds going forward. A. Stephens inquired if direct mailing revenues are increasing every year. C. Copper responds positively that TCOA purchased a mailing list this year. Discussion followed.

- B. Audit Firm Recommendation from Finance Committee:** J. Reeves discussed the RFP and Finance Committee recommendations (see Meeting Summary):

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Clark Schaefer Hackett: | Maner Costerisan: |
| 2019- \$15,250 | 2019- \$16,100 |
| 2020- \$15,800 | 2020- \$16,700 |
| <u>2021- \$16,350</u> | <u>2021- \$17,300</u> |
| Total- \$47,400 | Total- \$50,100 |
| | |
| Rehmann: | Yeo & Yeo: |
| 2019- \$16,000 | 2019- \$18,900 |
| 2020- \$16,500 | 2020- \$19,500 |
| <u>2021- \$17,000</u> | <u>2021- \$20,100</u> |
| Total- \$49,500 | Total- \$58,500 |

The Finance Committee made the recommendation of Maner Costerisan. Motion by C. Swope, supported by B. Crenshaw to accept the recommendation for Maner Costerisan for FY 2019-2021. **Motion carried.**

Item #10. General Check Ledger Resolution:

A. September: Motion by C. Swope, supported by A. Stephens to accept the September Check Ledger Resolutions (exhibit 10.A). **Motion carried.**

Other Included Exhibits: None

Meeting was adjourned at 4:25 pm

NEXT MEETING: November 18, 2019 at 3:30