

**TRI-COUNTY AGING CONSORTIUM
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING**

Minutes

March 21, 2022, 3:30 pm

Members Present: Ken Mitchell, Chair Dwight Washington Mark Mudry
Blake Mulder

Members Absent: Chris Swope Randy Schafer Jeanne Pearl-Wright
Irene Cahill Bryan Crenshaw Brian Daniels
Patricia Spitzley Mayor Ron Bacon

Staff: Marion Owen Kirsten Laing Andrea Radel
Tammy Lemmer Marilyn Wiley Kate Long
Robin Webb Joe Reeves Tom Smith
Carl Buonodono

Guests: Becky Payne- Field Rep, Aging and Adult Services Agency, MDHHS
Zeenat Kotval – Advisory Council Member
Dane Porter – Maner Costerisan

Item #1. Call to Order:

K. Mitchell called the meeting to order at 3:38 pm. Due to lack of attendance, Quorum was not met, therefore no action items requiring votes were taken.

Item #2. Introductions:

Item #3. Approval of the Agenda:

Tabled until next meeting.

Item #4. Minutes of February 28, 2022 Meeting:

Tabled until next meeting.

Item #5. Public Comment:

B. Payne reported the new name of the Behavioral and Physical Health and Aging Services Agency. The former name was Health and Aging Services Administration. The name of the aging services is still Aging and Community Living Services. Becky will be attending a monitoring visit with Tom Smith in the coming week to evaluate our monitoring visits at Forster Woods. The State Multi Year Plan has been approved by the state Commission on Services on March 18, 2022. Trainings for AAA staff are scheduled ACLS, such as All-Star meeting as well as trainings on the use of ARPA funds, and a training on diversity, equity and inclusion coming up.

Item #6. Committee Appointments- Grievance Committee:

Tabled until next meeting.

Item #7. Conflict of Interest Forms:

J. Reeves gave an update on Conflict-of-Interest forms needed. Collected signatures for the Provider Screening Information tool. Signatures were gathered from attendees. New Board members will have to fill out entire form.

Item #8. Directors Report:

I. COVID-19 Update

- TCOA has made changes to Preparedness and Response Plan including making mask optional except when dealing with clients in-person in their home or in the office.
- The agency will resume opening to the public on March 25, 2022. Masks are optional but visitors will be encouraged to wear a mask for their protection.
- TCOA employees and visitors will no longer be required to fill out the attestation form.

II. State Budget Update:

- The FY 2022 Federal budget was passed and signed by the president last week. It didn't contain significant increases to the Older Americans Act programs, but there are still increases. Programs include Nutrition, Community-Based Supportive Services, Family Caregiver Supports and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program. there were increases in some other federal programs impacting older adults including the Section 202 Housing for the Elderly Program and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- The FY 2023 State budget Executive Recommendations have been released and budget hearings have started. There is an emphasis on expanding MI Choice (Project Choice at TCOA) and increase in direct care worker wages as well as increases in nutrition, community and in-home services. The AAA Association is advocating for a 10% increase in MI Choice, increase in direct care worker wages and funds for training. The Silver Key Coalition is advocating for increase funding for non-Medicaid home and community-based services funded through ACLS (Aging and Community Living Services) consisting of \$6.3 million for in-home services and \$1 million for home delivered meals. The Silver Key Coalition includes various senior organizations from around the state.
- ACLS is holding an informational meeting soon to provide specific guidelines on the ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funds recently released.

III. Other:

- TCOA recently received the final FY 2021 MI Choice Quality Withhold Payments and ranked 4 out of 20 agencies statewide. Several components relating to quality and outcomes, including over 30 factors are used to determine this rating.

- The Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (4AM and several other organizations and associations continue to express strong opposition to Senate Bills 597 and 598. The bills are an attempt to privatize all Medicaid mental health services by turning financial and oversight control to private health insurance plans. 4AM maintains that the mental health system currently operates through local Community Mental Health entities are locally based and locally governed, has demonstrated expertise with serving persons with complex mental health needs and is respected by their various partners in the community.
- Olde Michigianians Day will be held on May 11 and will be both virtual and in-person at the Capitol. Senior Action Week will occur May 9-13 with various events. The platform will be released soon.

Item #9. Audit presentation:

Dane Porter gave a presentation of the recently conducted financial audit. All records were presented fairly and accurately. Staff was very cooperative. There were no findings. Tabled until next meeting.

Item #10. Planning, Advocacy & Development:

A. 1st Quarter Services Report FY22:

K. Long presented the 1st Quarter Services Report highlighting the changes in the report.

B. MYP and Needs Assessment Survey Update:

K. Long gave an update on the Multi Year Plan as well as the Needs Assessment surveys. The needs assessments included several survey types: paper, forums, and by phone. Over 900 surveys have been received. The results show needs with food, housing and legal assistance.

C. Friends for Independence Update:

T. Lemmer gave an update on the changes to the FFI Committee. Currently in the process of updating the by-laws. These updates will be approved by the FFI Committee and then brought to the Board for approval.

Item #10. Finance:

A. Financial Reports January:

J. Reeves presented the January Financial reports. No actions taken. Tabled until next meeting.

Item #11. General Check Ledger Resolution:

A. February

No action taken. Tabled until next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:42 pm

Next Meeting Held on April 18, 2022 at 3:30 pm