

Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging Governing Board

Minutes

January 22, 2024

The regular meeting of the Governing Board of Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging, 103 Eastside Blvd., Beatrice, NE and also available via Zoom was called to order at 1:00 pm.

Board Members present: Schoenrock, Gakle, Haskell, Hill, Krueger, Pohlman, Seitz, Swenson and Weiss

Board Members absent: Haxby, Crownover, Douglass and Harkendorff

Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging staff present: Frase, Williams, Neemann, McKeever, Noojin and Fossler

Public Guests: Milan and George Tomek, Karen and Larry Gilbert, Gary Krafta and Amy Hunzeker

Schoenrock chair, presided over the meeting and Fossler recorded the minutes.

MOTION to accept the Consent Agenda and Meeting Minutes of November 27, 2023 by Swenson; second by Hill; voice vote; motion carried.

FUTURE OF THE TABLE ROCK SENIOR CENTER

Six Table Rock community members were present, to discuss rumors of Senior Center closing. There have been inquiries into possibly moving it to a new location in Table Rock, to reduce costs. Discussion on raising cost of meals, (which had just been done in Sept.) and history of center and efforts of Director and Leadership Committee on reducing budgets in Nutrition program that began with SUA Monitoring in Febr. 2020 followed. We were told we had to cut our budget by \$25,000 a month. We continue to research cost-efficient ways to provide our services. Amy Hunzeker gave a history of the center's origin, whereas the building is owned by share-holders called the Development Corp. Discussion also centered around the utilities that currently reside in the Development Corp's name, and if they were in BRAAA's name the Agency would save the taxes listed, plus it is an audit finding for the Agency.

Weiss discussed his concerns from his visit to the Table Rock Senior Center today, which included the floor in kitchen and that the front door is not AD accessible. and talked with the manager and did a walk thru. Weiss noticed that the McKeever mentioned that she had gotten some stuff to put in the cracks around the doors of the north room to help keep the cold contained to that room. Hill advised the group to check into the Historical Society for funds to help improve the building such as grants. The building is listed on the Historical Registry.

BOARD MEMBERS RE-APPOINTMENTS – MARK SCHOENROCK

The re-appointed members to the board were discussed. Schoenrock and Pohlman were re-appointed for Jefferson County. Gakle and Hill were re-appointed for Gage County. Swenson was re-appointed for Thayer County.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – MARK SCHOENROCK

Nominations were opened for Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary. Motion to keep the Officers the same for 2024 by Swenson; second by Seitz. Haskell spoke up and said she would like to put her name in for Vice-Chairman. The motion was withdrawn by Swenson. Schoenrock stated that he would be willing to remain Chairman. Gakle was asked if she would like to remain Secretary and she said yes.

MOTION for Mark Schoenrock to remain Chairman by Haskell; second by Swenson; voice vote; motion carried.

MOTION for Vicki Haskell to become Vice-Chairman by Weiss, second by Krueger; voice vote; motion carried.

MOTION for Marlene Gakle to remain Secretary by Seitz; second by Krueger; voice vote; motion carried.

Officers for 2024:

Chairman – Mark Schoenrock

Vice-Chairman – Vicki Haskell

Secretary – Marlene Gakle

TRANSIT REPORT – DOUG NEEMANN, TRANSIT MANAGER

A copy of the Transit report was distributed to all members prior to today's meeting via email. Doug gave an overview of the contents of the report.

NUTRITION REPORT – CARMEN MCKEEVER, NUTRITION MANAGER

A copy of the Nutrition Report was distributed to all members prior to today's meeting via email. Carmen gave an overview of the contents of the report. McKeever will also be starting a Bingo Size program in the centers.

CHOICES UNIT – HOME AND COMMUNITY OPTIONS – VERJEAN NOOJIN, CHOICES MANAGER

A copy of the Home and Community Options report was distributed to all members prior to today's meeting via email. Verjean gave an overview of the contents of the report. Noojin mentioned that Shelley Whitwer who is our Stepping On Instructor is going to complete a Tai Chi class so she can teach it at the centers. Whitwer also will be doing a follow up class for Stepping On. Verjean is also pursuing Hypertension Training for the Title IIID programs. The Infectious Disease policy will also be updated and distributed.

MOTION to accept the Transit, Nutrition and Choices Reports by Weiss; second by Krueger; voice vote; motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORT – BETH WILLIAMS, FISCAL OFFICER

A copy of the Fiscal Report was distributed to all board members prior to the meeting. Beth explained the figures on the reports.

MOTION to accept the Financial Report by Krueger; second by Hill; voice vote; motion carried

MOTION to accept the November and December 2023 Bills by Weiss; second by Hill; voice vote; motion carried.

UPDATE ON HEALTH INSURANCE – BETH WILLIAMS, FISCAL OFFICER

Williams discussed the Health Insurance hand out that we are proposing to keep our current health insurance company

MOTION to approve to remain with our current health insurance company by Haskell; second by Hill; voice vote; motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – CARLA FRASE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Executive Director's notes were distributed to all members via email. The following are highlights of her report.

- November 28 – Grand Re-Opening in Fairbury/lunch with the Mayor and all contributor in attendance; Lana Likens represented the Welcome to all
- November 28 – SENDD Nov RBC Meeting – unable to attend
- November 30 – Leadership met to discuss new procedure regarding infectious illnesses of staff
- December 7 – NIRMA Roundtable, New Years Resolutions, great HR updates on office culture, personnel handbook, etc.
- December 8 – APS/AAA meeting, re: Homelessness, and determination of vulnerable, and emergent situations, shelters have low tolerance of ADL's
- December 8 – Alzheimers Disease and Other Dementia Advisory Council Meeting, establish the committee, election of chair and vice-chair and next meeting suggestions
- December 12 – Ne4a meeting

- December 12 – ADRC Leadership Team Meeting
 - December 13 – NACO HHS Committee, virtual
 - December 13 – Met with Care Management, ADRC, AD Waiver staff for monthly meeting
 - December 19 – ADRC Consumer Review Meeting via web-ex
 - December 19 – Mandatory, per NDOT for Supervisors and Directors
 - January 3 – Agency Annual review of Health Insurance w/Amber Anderson
 - January 4 – HR Roundtable, continue on New Years Resolutions of HR
 - January 8-9 – Agency closed for Administrative Day for sub zero weather with -35 degree wind chills
 - January 9 – Ne4a meeting via zoom
 - January 9 – AD & TBI Waiver-TCM/Service Coordination Directors Meeting
 - January 10 – Work w/Syracuse City clerk asking for a reduction of rent in Syracuse, sent Beatrice MOU for information and discussion
 - January 10 – January MAC Workgroup meeting
 - January 11 – Health Living Program
 - January 11 – Met w/Dave Conde, heading up a series of community forums in Fairbury, wanted to discuss our Agency/services, ask if interested in attending and participating as a panel member at a future forum
 - January 12 – Agency closed due to extreme cold, snow, white out
 - January 16 – met w/Christina Lyons, Daily Sun, regarding article on Agency/services with focus on Respite care/lifelines
- Future Meetings:
- January 23 – ADRC Leadership Team Meeting
 - January 23 – Advisory Council Meeting at Beatrice Sr. Center
 - January 24 – Nutrition Coordinators Meeting
 - January 25 – 2024 Senior Farmers Market Nutrition program meeting
 - January 29 – Caregiver Program by SUA
 - January 31 – HCBS Waiver
 - January 31 – Care Management Quarterly Meeting, SUA
 - February 1 – NIRMA Roundtable
 - February 2 – Ne4a and USAging discussion via zoom
 - February 5 – CMS/AAA Association Quarterly Meeting
 - February 7 – HHS Region 7 Virtual Office Hours
 - February 9 – APS/AAA Systems Meetings
 - February 14 – Find Your Community Match, Community Connections at the Vintage Venue
 - February 15 – Monitoring Visit w/SUA
 - February 20 – Ne4a meeting and Senator Reception

MOTION to accept the Executive Director's Report by Krueger; second by Weiss; voice vote; motion carried.

NEXT GOVERNING BOARD MEETING will be on Monday April 15, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging, 103 Eastside Blvd., Beatrice and via Zoom.

MEETING ADJOURNED at 3:06 p.m. by Schoenrock.

RECORDING SECRETARY

Tracie Fossler