

**IOWA COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
COUNTY BOARD ROOM
1:00 P.M.
February 6, 2009**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chair Margaret Peat at 1:00 p.m..

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Benish, Lorraine Drews, Lorraine Fristch, Gerald Dorscheid, Lorraine Jones, Eva Kraak, MaryClaire Murphy, Margaret Peat, Rosalie Zweifel

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT: Carol Brown

STAFF PRESENT: Judy Lindholm, Nancy Howard, Laura Crowley

OTHERS PRESENT: Randy Terronez

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Geri Peterson, Diane McGuire, Phyllis Reddell, Mildred Swedland

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER TO THE COA: Margaret Peat introduced Gerald Dorscheid to the Committee as our new member, a representative from the County Board – Arena Township.

CERTIFICATION OF MEETING: COA Director, Judy Lindholm reported that the meeting had been posted and certified as required by law. A motion to approve the certification was made by Rosalie Zweifel and seconded by Ron Benish.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MEETING MINUTES: Lorraine Drews made the motion to approve the February 6, 2009 Agenda. Rosalie Zweifel seconded the motion. Motion carried without negative vote. Ron Benish made the motion to approve the December Meeting Minutes, (there was no January COA mtng.due to bad weather). Lorraine Fristch seconded the motion. The motion carried without negative vote.

FINANCIAL REPORT: COA Director Judy Lindholm reported the expenses for January which include Vouchers 1000 to 1025 totaling \$21,583.05, and the income for January which include Vouchers 1023 to 1027 totaling \$2,119.80. Judy distributed copies of the Financial Report for the Month of January for members review.

BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS FOR 2009: Nothing new to report under this line item.

BENEFIT SPECIALIST REPORT: Nancy Howard passed out the December reports with shows some of the end of the year numbers. Nancy and Alvina had 455 unduplicated clients in 2008 which is quite a lot. The benefits gained were over \$200,000.00 – which is probably a conservative amount, a soft number. As an example a gentleman came in yesterday, our Benefit Specialists had done his Homestead Credit in 2008 and took that amount of money as a benefit gain, but when we talked this year, he had also gotten a new roof, energy assistance, food share and a telephone discount from the information (brochures) that we shared with him. January was a busy month, partly because we were closing out some of the cases in 2008, but we ended up with a lot of new cases from the Medicare Part D snafus that developed after the enrollment period. Judy noted that we had a local Pharmacist visited our Office today, to say how much he appreciated having the COA available and Nancy and Alvina as part of that Commission and what they do for the folks in our community.

COUNTY AGENCY REPORT: No Report

SUN AGENCY: Judy reported that there is a new hire – Financial Assistant – from Mineral Point. This person seems very enthusiastic, but it seems that if a full time position would come available we might lose her. Highland breakfast has been a big hit, and we may be trying it in Mineral Point also. We started it in Barneveld, and it is not doing as well as Dodgeville, we need to do more outreach. Lunch is still being served in these locations. The Rewey site is only open three days a week now, due to low numbers. Hopefully it will be back up to five days a week, when we can get the numbers up. The Rewey site is donated and the site manager volunteers her time.

AREA AGENCY REPORT: Mary Claire reported that their last meeting was December the 12th, and it was the last meeting, AgeAdvantage no longer exists. It is now called GWAAR. Advisory Council Report: Margaret Peat reported that it would be great if someone from this area would apply and be a spokesman. The commitment would be that each board members must be able to serve at least one, three year term, attend 6 – 8 board meetings per year and have access to a computer/email. Mileage is reimbursed and also your meals. These meetings pretty much take up the day.

CLOSED SESSION: Ron Benish made a motion to go into Closed Session. Eva Kraak seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Eva made a motion to return to Open Session. Mary Claire seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote.

MOTION TO APPROVE OR REJECT DRIVER ESCORT APPLICATION: Rosalie Zweifel made a motion to accept the application of John (Jake) Hughes as a Driver Escort. Carol Brown seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote.

OFFICE/TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANT REPORT AND TRAININGS: Laura Crowley passed out the December and January Transportation Report. The weather did

not cooperate in December and with the Christmas Holidays – we ended up cancelling 7 days. In January we had 5 cancellations, two for van repairs. We are trying to get as much mechanical work done as possible while it is under warranty. We have been having trouble with the lift and were informed by WI Bus (when they were fixing the lift) that we should have the ball joints looked at – so, we took the van to Hallada and had the ball joints repaired. We are now providing more units and our donations are up. The Taxi is doing very well – on various Wednesdays and Fridays, we have filled up entire sheets with 30 calls with several stops each. It is being used for a wide variety of things – Lands' End, hair appointments, banks, stores, to get to work, etc. Ron Benish added that he met Jan, and what a great impression she makes and what a great addition she is to the program. Lastly, Laura reported that one of our D.E. was involved in an accident. Jake Fitzsimmons was driving Ken Johnson to Madison and hit a patch of ice, slide and rolled several times. They were not injured and Jake called us right away to inform us of the accident. They were transported to Upland Hills and released.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND TRAINING:

Nothing to report under this area at this time.

ADRC REPORT: Judy reported that Laura will be moving into her office, in the interest of expanding the available space in our reception area. It currently is very crowded in the reception area with two people and whatever number of visitors there are to our Office.

Judy reported on the ManPower Status and distributed information showing the costs involved in the County hiring our new people and/or contracting the hiring through ManPower. It is more expensive to contract rather than to hire through the County, but there still seems to be some uncertainty, at this juncture, about whether or not there will continue to be an ADRC, because of the budget situation of the State. We have been in contact with the State, even as of a few days ago, they like what we are doing, and it appears to be a go. We're as certain as we can be in uncertain times. Some discussion followed regarding the handout that showed the costs of County employee vs. Contracted employee. Judy indicated that she is not sure that we are going to be able to afford/hire the ½ time person.

The STRAP/NEW FREEDOM Report: We are putting in for a new grant that will continue funding the Taxi for this year. Judy did not believe that there would be any money to expand services. Judy will be working with Grant Co. on a 53.11 grant, and that would then fund the program and then hopefully have the municipalities take over. The 53.11 grants are for government agencies and municipalities.

MISSION STATEMENTS: Examples of mission statements were passed out. Judy talked about giving binders to all members to keep their papers in order, and it was basically decided that they really did not want binders. Ron Benish suggested that we adopt the Mission Statement of the ADRC South and change the wording for our unit of Iowa County. A copy of this Mission Statement will be presented on March 6, 2009. Judy distributed By-Laws of the COA, and we will work on these at our March meeting. Also, the By-Laws of Ozaukee County for some ideas. Judy also passed out the Job and

Responsibilities list of the ADRC Board Members, so that we can look at that and decide if we want to adopt that as well.

Board Composition – under the Older Americans Act, we have to assure that 51% of our Board is over the age of 60. We have that covered. This Board will soon no longer be called the COA Board it will become the ADRC Board. We need to add someone that will represent the chronically mentally ill, the physically disabled and the mentally disabled. Currently a member can only service two consecutive 3 year terms. We are currently rotating our members into the Advisory Committee and then back onto the Board. We could continue this practice rather than enlarging our Board. The term stays with the person, not with the area. Ron asked Board to give permission to Judy to come up with list of those people that would best represent these various groups. Judy to come back to Board with any names that she may have at March meeting.

DRIVER ESCORT/VAN DRIVER REIMBURSEMENT: Judy is proposing that we set the minimum rate per mile at .40 – it is currently .35 for DRIVER ESCORT REIMBURSEMENT. The highs and lows of gas costs and the sliding scale of mileage rate (based on gas price) is what the per mile rate is based on each month. If gas costs were between \$1.50 - \$2.09 a gallon, a driver would get .40 a mile, and so forth on the sliding scale. .40 is the minimum that they will get per mile. A Dodgeville (city) trip is set at \$3.50 per trip. The average reimbursement last year was .55 per mile. A motion was made by Gerald Dorscheid to set the minimum rate for a DriverEscort at .40 a mile (start at \$1.50 - \$2.09) and the sliding scale would stay in effect. We will look at this again in six months (July). Lorraine Fritsch seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote.

VAN DRIVER REIMBURSEMENT: During last month, we have used the Vets Van quite a bit. We are currently picking up a client in Avoca who is on dialysis, his daughter who has MS and is in a wheelchair and the wife who is taking care of them. Our driver has to be in Avoca at 7:30 a.m. – goes to St. Marys – waits there for treatment and then drives home to Avoca and then back to Dodgeville. He has a 6 – 8 hr. day. He currently gets \$10.00 for this ride/day. Judy is requesting that we raise the stipend from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per trip. We only have one driver and all that he gets is the day rate. A motion was made by Lorraine Fritsch to increase the per trip rate for Van Driver from \$10.00 per trip to \$15.00 per trip. Rosalie Zweifel seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote. Judy indicated that we will be getting a new van in the fall that will replace this van. There followed discussion involving the location where the van is stored/mouse-soybean problem. We need to find a new place to store the new van.

ACTION OF FINANCIAL REPORT: After Board review of the vouchers, Chairperson Peat asked for a motion. Eva Kraak made the motion to approve payment of the vouchers, Ron Benish seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote.

COMMENTS FROM OTHER BOARD MEMBERS: Rosalie Zweifel discussed the SHARE Program. Mt. Horeb is now going to participate in the SHARE Program. Rosalie reviewed the monthly values – a \$28.00 value through SHARE Program that would probably run about \$40.00 at a grocery store. AARP at Stonefield on the 17th. SHARE is on the 21st. Eva mentioned a fund raiser at her church on the 22nd of

February, Sunday – St. Johns Lutheran @ noon in the school gym. The fund raiser is for the flood damage to the church. Eva discussed the gift cards that were distributed to residents of Avoca – gas cards and grocery card.

NEXT MEETING DATE: The next meeting will be Friday, March 6, 2009 @ 1:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Rosalie Zweifel made the motion. to adjourn, Ron Benish seconded the motion. Motion carried without a negative vote.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

Laura Crowley
Department Assistant, Commission on Aging.

DRAFT