

**MEETING OF THE
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COMMITTEE**
Minutes

DATE: Monday, March 9, 2026
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 033

MEMBERS PRESENT: Paul Janty, Harold Singstock, Jim Lauer, Jim Ponzer, Rob Paterson, KristL Laux, Anna Malek, Elizabeth Jones (virtual)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brooke Slick, Tanisha Alvarado

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Nagler, Lori Duclon, Elizabeth Wagner, Renee Soroko, Julie Kotajarvi, Nicole Hecimovich, Ashley Beattie-Lokken (virtual)

OTHERS PRESENT: Larry Lautenschlager – DHS Board, UW-O student, staff from Covey – Lexi Hull, Toni Aaron, Sadie.

CALL TO ORDER – AGENDA ITEM A:

Chairman Paul Janty called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM B1 – APPROVE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2026, AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING:

Jim Ponzer made a motion to approve the February 2026 minutes, seconded by **KristL Laux**. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM C – PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A university student reported being in attendance to observe a public meeting.

AGENDA ITEM D1 – BUSINESS ITEMS – Covey Presentation – Lexi Hull, Toni Aaron, and Sadie:

- Covey is a non-profit organization providing services to people with developmental and intellectual disabilities in Winnebago and Outagamie Counties.
- History – Covey started in 1954 as the United Cerebral Palsy Association, rebranded to Covey in 2017. Programming serves members ages 8+.
- What is a covey? A small group of birds that stay together throughout their lives for protection, comfort, and, as a group, are stronger, safer and able to do things they could not do alone.
- Respite Home – Offers temporary respite in a homelike environment, open 24 hours/day, offering support ranging from a few hours up to 28 consecutive days. Supportive services are based on individual skills and strengths such as medication management, meals, and laundry.
- Adult Family Homes – Four homes which are permanent residences for adults with disabilities.
- Horizons Program – Adult day services with goal-focused supports such as exercising, community volunteering, and day trips.

- Connects Program – Community-based events which are both social and skill-based such as inclusive artistry program, YMCA cooking/baking classes, and Friday night bowling. Grant-funded or self-pay options.
- Let's Talk About It – Professional workshops on educational topics such as healthy relationships and safe sexuality.
- I Can Bike – Five-day camp helping children with disabilities learn to ride a two-wheeled bike independently.
- Meaningful Meals – Events are held at area restaurants meant for engaging in social activities and learning about inclusivity.

Q&A:

- What is the difference between your adult group home and a CBRF? The difference between AFHs and CBRFs (adult family home and community-based residential facilities) are the rules and regulations that guide those facilities. AFHs allow fewer residents than CBRFs.
- Does Covey have any plans to develop a residential community for individuals with disabilities such as being done in southern Wisconsin? Covey facilities are located mostly in different communities rather than on one campus. Although not currently working on creating such a campus, Covey staff are open to hearing the needs of the community to identify and potentially fill gaps. A large group of parents in the Appleton area are seeking the building of a pocket community.
- Does the Connect Program have a separate Neenah calendar? The calendar is for all communities. Covey is beginning to offer activities in locations other than Oshkosh and is actively working on transportation issues. The website calendar is kept updated with activities changing monthly. All are welcome to participate. Family Care or IRIS funding accepted depending on activity.

AGENDA ITEM D2 – BUSINESS ITEMS – ADRC VIDEOS:

Due to technical difficulties, ADRC videos will be viewed at an upcoming meeting.

AGENDA ITEM D3 – BUSINESS ITEMS – AGING RELATED UPDATES:

Elizabeth Wagner announced that **Alisa Richetti** was featured on an NBC 26 news story for the virtual dementia trainings which are offered free to the public. Current training dates and times are listed on the county website.

AGENDA ITEM D4 – BUSINESS ITEMS – DISABILITY RELATED UPDATES:

Elizabeth Wagner is working on scheduling time with a VPI staff to discuss a possible presentation at an upcoming board meeting. Elizabeth also is awaiting a reply to an email she sent to Remarkable/Lakeside Packaging to speak with them as well.

AGENDA ITEM D5 – BUSINESS ITEMS – LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

Elizabeth Wagner shared a recent article from the GWAAR newsletter regarding SNAP FoodShare benefits including steps on advocating to State senators. Elizabeth will continue to monitor bills pertinent to the committee.

AGENDA ITEM E1 – REPORTS – COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES:

Jim Lauer shared the idea of having an ADRC video run at the County's booth at the County fair.

Nicole Hecimovich shared the following updates:

- Staffing – New Disability Benefits Specialist **Megan Leonard-Bisenius** started February 23rd. Case manager position between Adult Protection Services (APS) and Crisis has been posted.
- APS Statistics – February total of 67 APS calls, 30 of which were assigned, 9 dementia related concerns at call initiation. March already has 34 APS calls, 21 of which were assigned, 5 dementia related concerns at call initiation.
- Outreach – Elder abuse presentation on the 23rd and five ADRC units are presenting to the DOJ on the 26th. Plans have begun in the planning for Elder Abuse Awareness month in June.

Lori Duclon reported the following updates:

- ADRC referrals – more referrals have been received from the ADRC in working with people who were assessed and waiting for Family Care / Medical Assistance to go through. Assistance with resources, visits, and medication set-ups can be provided.
- 2-1-1 Referral – Lori reported a 2-1-1 referral for a fall.
- Public Health Happenings newsletter has some articles which overlap with the ADRC's newsletter.
- Influenza A – has been peaking and other viruses have been settling down a bit.

Anna Malek reported attending the following educational offerings:

- Evergreen – presentation about their Fox Crossing development in Neenah located at the former Kimberly-Clark executive building.
- Bella Vista – Anna reported the long-term senior care presentation at Bella Vista was excellent.
- Senior Resource Fair.
- Beckett's – seminar on emergency transportation included a free lunch.
- Senior Center – *Avoiding Probate* class was attended by 40 people and *Plants of the Year* gardening class maxed out at 60 people.

KristL Laux spoke regarding two disabled individuals; one unable to find caregivers and the other unable to locate affordable housing despite having filled out housing paperwork weeks ago. Potential resources were discussed by staff including the HELP team, ADVOCAP volunteer driver program, Housing Authority, and Public Health depending on the individual's needs.

AGENDA ITEM E2 – REPORTS – DATA REPORT & DAY TO DAY – BRIAN NAGLER:

Brian reported 30 enrollments to Family Care and 13 to IRIS in the month of February. Functional screenings increased in February to 47 assigned in Oshkosh and 19 in Neenah. Staff are meeting on quickly shifting work assignments to help even out workloads. Staff will be attending training regarding time reporting changing from an Excel spreadsheet over to PeerPlace software. A student intern will be assisting the ADRC management team.

AGENDA ITEM F – "COMMUNITY BEAT" – SHARING OF COMPLIMENTS/COMPLAINTS FROM COMMUNITY, CONSUMERS, PROVIDERS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM G – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

- ADRC videos
- IRIS presentation
- GO Transit updates

AGENDA ITEM H1 – NEXT MEETING DATE:

Monday, April 13, 2026, 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM I – ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned by **Paul Janty** at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Julie Kotajarvi and Deb Thill, Human Services Department/jk/dt