

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

DATE: Monday, June 8, 2026

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 033

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brooke Slick, Tanisha McLaurin

STAFF PRESENT: Brian Nagler, Julie Kotajarvi, Melissa Sell, Alisa Richetti, Nicole Hecimovich, Renee Soroko, Lori Duclon, Karenn Kelly (virtual)

OTHERS PRESENT: Michaela Maas and Haley Halverson (Midstate Independent Living Choices), Amanda Flater and Kerry Walker (LSS Connections), Lauren Forseth and Jackie Guyette (TMG).

CALL TO ORDER – AGENDA ITEM A:

Paul Janty called the meeting to order at approximately 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM B1 – APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MAY 11, 2026, AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING:

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

AGENDA ITEM C – PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM D1 – BUSINESS ITEMS – IRIS OVERVIEW:

Brian Nagler provided a short presentation on Options Counseling. ADRC specialists provide consumers with education on making informed decisions about long-term care options such as housing, home and personal care, staying in their residence or pursuing a care facility, private pay and publicly funded long-term care programs (IRIS, Family Care, Family Care Partnership). ADRC specialists assist in completing long-term care program enrollments and referrals. **Melissa Sell** added that Medicaid eligibility is necessary for individuals enrolling in Family Care or IRIS once their private pay ability is spent down.

Brian shared a slide of information on Wisconsin IRIS enrollments by county dated 04/2025 with a total of 27,363 participants statewide. Winnebago County had 586 participants enrolled in IRIS at the time the map was published.

AGENDA ITEM D2 – BUSINESS ITEMS – IRIS CONSULTANT AGENCY PANEL:

Self-introductions were provided by Lauren Forseth and Jackie Guyette (The Management Group / TMG) Michaela Maas and Haley Halverson (Midstate Independent Living Choices), and Kerry Walker and Amanda Flater (LSS Connections). IRIS consultants explain the self-directed IRIS program to consumers, discuss options for meeting customer goals, assist with exploring resources and supports, and help consumers fill out paperwork. When IRIS receives a referral, an email is sent to their management team containing basic demographic information for assignment to a consultant. Three business days are allowed for a call to the participant, 14 days to conclude the initial visit, 30 days to develop an individualized service plan, and the goal is 60 days for enrollment.

Differences between Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) administering Family Care vs. IRIS Consultant Agencies (ICA's) are: 1) MCO participants choose from a list of MCO contracted agencies whereas IRIS is completely self-directed with participants contracting with agencies of their choice, 2) Nurses are assigned to only those IRIS participants requiring personal care, 3) IRIS participants have full budget authority as there is no case manager assigned. 4) IRIS is the payor of last resort which means that all Medicaid covered services such as personal care are paid by Medicaid rather than from participant's IRIS budget. Agency scorecards are available to the public. Risk assessments are completed when there are health or safety concerns. The participant's budget for IRIS is generated through long-term care functional screening calculation process. Estimated budget monies are controlled by a fiscal employment agency which IRIS consultants monitor through budget reports. IRIS participants may have an active POA and guardian. Enrollment/disenrollments numbers, job coaching, work requirements, and success stories were also discussed.

AGENDA ITEM D3 – BUSINESS ITEMS – DEMENTIA CARE SPECIALIST – ALISA RICHETTI:

Alisa provided the following dementia updates:

- Dementia Care Partner Conference was held on Friday. ADRC staff attended sessions on driving for the elderly and on the dementia evaluation method called DICE.
- New – Memory Café - will be starting monthly sessions at Heckrodt Wetland Reserve.
- Dementia Expert Teepa Snow is holding a free conference on Wednesday at the Weidner Center.
- Project Life Saver has been discontinued in Winnebago County. Alisa learned that the Oshkosh Police Department has sent back the Project Life Saver equipment due to underutilization. There was discussion later in the meeting regarding getting this program back on track.
- New - Powerful Tools Workshop is being held on Mondays from September 14 through the end of October, likely at the Oshkosh Public Library.
- New support group at the Valley VNA is being offered in conjunction with the Alzheimer's Association on the fourth Thursday of each month from 4:30 to 5:00.

AGENDA ITEM D4 – BUSINESS ITEMS – AGING RELATED UPDATES:

Brian Nagler shared aging and disability related updates with handouts for the wheelchair wash. **KristL Laux** asked that Elizabeth get in contact with Karen Powers for wheelchair wash door prizes. Copies of the ADRC newsletter were also handed out to those in attendance.

AGENDA ITEM D5 – BUSINESS ITEMS – DISABILITY RELATED UPDATES:

As above.

AGENDA ITEM D6 – BUSINESS ITEMS – LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

Brian Nagler spoke about the GWAAR newsletter article regarding contacting legislators to ensure proper funding for ADRCs, falls prevention, and home delivered meals.

AGENDA ITEM E1 – REPORTS – COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES:

Anna Malek reported the following: 1) Medicare has reduced the frequency of sending printed statements from four to six months. Anna submitted a complaint letter expressing this to be discrimination as individuals who choose digital statements receive theirs every four months. The response Anna received back was that no change will be made to the frequency of mailing statements. 2) Anna received an email that Wisconsin Act 115 passed on June 1st which is a new legal option for decision making for hospitalized individuals needing to go to a nursing home or CBRF who do not have a power of attorney established. Anna requested education on this as an agenda topic for an upcoming meeting.

KristL Laux reported the following updates: 1) *new* - Full Center Respite in Oshkosh is for individuals ages 5 to 25 with autism or other learning disabilities, programming is provided on daily living skills, 2) this area lacks wheelchair accessible boat launches, 3) UW extension mental health first aid training is available providing education on how to spot someone going into a mental health crisis.

James Ponzer updated on providing information to unions.

Harold Singstock commented on a handout distributed earlier in meeting that there is a Neenah Committee on Aging, Menasha Committee on Aging, and Oshkosh used to have an aging committee. Harold suggested that when there is a lot of information on reading material that thought be given to using a larger typeset for ease of reading. **Nicole Hecimovich** stated that this is a good suggestion which will be considered as various brochures are slated to be updated shortly.

Lori Duclon reported the following updates:

- Public Health is partnering with UW-O to test area beaches.
- National HIV testing day is June 27th.
- Walk with a Housing Authority Nurse has started and there are participants at each building.
- Be mindful that tick season has started and know how to remove attached ticks.
- Fall prevention event will be held August 18.
- Mind Over Matter women's incontinence prevention exercise classes will be held July 2, 16, and 30 at the Menasha Senior Center.
- Virtual Emotional CPR classes are being held 8:00 to noon July 20-22.

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

Brian Nagler reported the following May statistics: 598 unduplicated clients served by ADRC, 42 Family Care enrollments, 13 IRIS enrollments, 105 functional screens.

Nicole Hecimovich reported the following updates:

- May APS statistics: 92 hotline calls, 58 referred for investigation, 19 indicated dementia concern. There were also 14 guardianship calls, 10 financial concerns, and 6 concerns of possible neglect.
- FAST Team: APS staff have joined a FAST team (Financial Abuse Specialist Team) regarding responding to financial exploitation.
- EDRT Panel: Next week the team is participating in an EDRT panel (Elder Death Review Team) to investigate circumstances of elderly deaths with a prior APS report.
- Elder Abuse Awareness Month – Nicole passed out brochures regarding upcoming power of attorney (POA) presentations at local senior and community centers followed by appointments available to the public to complete POA paperwork. A bake sale is also being held to support elder abuse awareness efforts.

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

None.

AGENDA ITEM G – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

Next of Kin Act 115

Full Center Respite presentation

AGENDA ITEM H1 – NEXT MEETING DATE:

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

AGENDA ITEM I – ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned by **Paul Janty** at 4:30 p.m.

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