

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

DATE: Monday, November 10, 2025
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 033

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brooke Slick, Tanisha Alvarado, Jim Lauer

STAFF PRESENT: Elizabeth Wagner, Brian Nagel, Julie Kotajarvi, Nicole Hecimovich, Alisa Richetti, Melissa Sell, Ashley Beattie-Lokken (virtual)

OTHERS PRESENT: Stacey Forest and Andrea Grassl of Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Carol Kasimor

CALL TO ORDER – AGENDA ITEM A:

Chairman Paul Janty called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM B1 – APPROVE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2025, AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING:

KristL Laux made a motion to approve the October 2025 minutes, seconded by **Anna Malek**. **Rob Paterson** indicated Agenda Item H1 needs the date corrected to November 10. Motion carried as amended.

AGENDA ITEM C – PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM D1 – BUSINESS ITEMS – LONG TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM – STACEY FOREST & ANDREA GRASSL:

- Stacey is the Regional Ombudsman for eight Southeast Wisconsin counties and Andrea is the Volunteer Coordinator for seven Northeastern Wisconsin counties with both serving as advocates for residents. Stacey and Andrea provided business cards along with brochures entitled *Long Term Care Ombudsman Program*, *Long Term Care Volunteer Ombudsman Program*, *You Have Rights*, and *Medigap Helpline*.
- The Long Term Care Ombudsmen Program provides services to individuals aged 60+ living in long term care settings including mediation, education, resident rights trainings, ethics and boundaries, POA / guardianship paperwork, Family Care and IRIS appeals and grievances, involuntary discharges and admissions notifications, hospital discharge planning, admission agreements, monthly monitoring of nursing home discharge logs, ADRC and agency referrals,

mediation for individuals facing discharge due to nonpayment, medical emergency/disasters, safety risks to residents, proper notification of discharges, and safe discharge placements. Many types of training can be provided to agencies including POA and guardianship training.

- Volunteer ombudsmen are trained to make weekly unannounced visits to facilities to inform residents of services available through the ombudsmen program, assist in making connections when complaints are voiced, and provide advocacy when appropriate. Confidentiality is upheld for residents. Facilities are provided with feedback to allow for remedy of issues before a complaint moves forward.
- Medigap Helpline staff are licensed insurance counselors who educate on available options and answer questions on Medicare, Medicaid, supplemental insurances, and medications.
- Disability Rights Wisconsin represents individuals under the age of 60 offering advocacy services.
- Contact information: Andrea Grassl-1-608-246-7023 / Stacey Forest-1-715-345-5229 / Long Term Care Ombudsman Program-1-800-815-0015 / Medigap Helpline-1-800-242-1060

AGENDA ITEM D2 – BUSINESS ITEMS – 85.21 TRANSPORTATION GRANT:

Elizabeth Wagner stated that a public posting was published in the Oshkosh Herald and on the ADRC website regarding the transportation grant. The total grant is \$433,472 with local match of \$86,694 which is split between Valley Transit and GoTransit. Postings will remain up for 14 days to allow time for public feedback.

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

Alisa provided the following updates:

- Brain health presentations were recently held at Fox View, Housing Authority apartments, Riverside, and Omro Library on brain health, prevention, along with memory screenings.
- Dementia care specialists recently attended a Madison training with Alzheimer's researchers who learned that approximately 30 percent is genetic, the remaining percentage can be mitigated through healthy food choices, physical activity, challenging our brain, sleeping well, socializing.
- Upcoming presentations on Brain Health: YMCA Neenah/Menasha.
- Recent classes and meetings: 1) Six-week Boost Your Brain and Memory Class at Omro Community Center, 2) Coffee Clutch at Omro, 3) meeting with Managed Care Organization provided information on dementia resources, 4) dementia focused crisis intervention training (CIT) was held in October with the Oshkosh Police Department.
- Annual Day with Lewy Body Conference was held in October at the Oshkosh Culver Center with 191 individuals in attendance. Many area agencies attended providing resources and information.
- Enhanced day respite program is in the planning stages at Valley VNA the first and third Fridays of February from 8:00-4:30. Includes snacks, lunch, activities, a CNA, plus caregiver support. Cost: \$75/session. Check upcoming newsletter for further details including January open houses.

AGENDA ITEM D4 – BUSINESS ITEMS – LONG TERM CARE PROGRAM OVERVIEW:

Elizabeth Wagner and **Melissa Sell** provided an overview of the Long Term Care Program. Elizabeth reviewed the packet of handouts entitled *Which Long-Term Care Program is Best for Me*, *Long-Term Care Programs in Winnebago County*, and *Services Included in Adult Long-Term Care Programs – Iris*,

Family Care, Partnership, and Pace. Note that the PACE Program is not available for Winnebago County residents. As of most recent updates, Elizabeth reported that long-term functional screenings continue to be required on an annual basis and November SNAP benefits were applied to cards.

AGENDA ITEM D5 – BUSINESS ITEMS – AGING RELATED UPDATES:

Nicole Hecimovich reported 101 adult protective services (APS) calls in October with 54 of those being assigned to a caseworker for follow up, 2 emergency protective placements, and 5 guardianships were completed. There have been 142 dementia cases so far in 2025. The Elderly Benefit Specialist (EBS) team is currently taking 6-19 calls and 2-3 walk-ins daily due to being in the middle of open enrollment for Medicare plans which lasts until December 7.

AGENDA ITEM D6 – BUSINESS ITEMS – DISABILITY RELATED UPDATES:

Rob Paterson stated that GoTransit is reviewing their numbers for bus ridership after 2:30 on Saturdays. Nicole agreed to follow-up on this topic and provide an update at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM D7 – BUSINESS ITEMS – LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

None.

AGENDA ITEM E1 – REPORTS – COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES:

Harold Singstock raised concerns that potential state and federal cuts are anticipated within the next several years, asking whether anyone is working on the issue. **Elizabeth Wagner** shared that there has been discussion locally and if necessary mandated services would need to be prioritized. **KristL Laux** reported that County Supervisors have been planning. She shared that Winnebago County budgets are fine for this year and next, there are additional funds in an unassigned general fund, and sales taxes could be raised by 0.05 percent if necessary. **Paul Janty** shared that a nearby county's Human Services leadership is gathering all stakeholders in county government to meet to discuss issues such as transportation. Elizabeth explained that similar groups have been brought together to work on issues.

Rob Paterson inquired into obtaining more information on IRIS. **Melissa Sell** shared that handouts with both general reading information and scorecards are available on the three program options.

Elizabeth Wagner reported she was informed by the County Ex's office that **James Ponzer** and **Liz Jones** will be on the agenda for the November County Board meeting.

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

Brian reported the following data for the month of October: Family Care enrollments=36, IRIS enrollments=13, transfers between MCOs=8, calculated long-term care functional screenings=35, and Brian conducted 13 staff evaluations. Brian will provide a presentation at a future committee meeting to share details of what Information and Assistance (I&A) workers do. Elizabeth added that a survey done by the State revealed favorable feedback on services received from Winnebago County ADRC. Plans for staff to be hired include an additional receptionist and a lead worker for the ADRC team.

AGENDA ITEM F1 – "COMMUNITY BEAT" – SHARING OF COMPLIMENTS/COMPLAINTS FROM COMMUNITY, CONSUMERS, PROVIDERS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM G – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

GoTransit busing after 2:30 p.m. on Saturdays – Nicole Hecimovich

AGENDA ITEM H1 – NEXT MEETING DATE:

Monday, December 8, 2025, 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM I – ADJOURN:

The meeting was adjourned by **Paul Janty** at 4:38 p.m.

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