

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

DATE: Monday, December 8, 2025
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 033

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Brooke Slick, Tanisha Alvarado

STAFF PRESENT: Director Bill Topel, Elizabeth Wagner, Brian Nagler, Nicole Hecimovich, Julie Kotajarvi, Lori Duclon, Ann Kriegel, Ashley Beattie-Lokken (virtual)

OTHERS PRESENT: Dan Braun of Oshkosh Senior Center (virtual), Steve Tomasik (Go Transit), Michael Robinson

CALL TO ORDER – AGENDA ITEM A:

Chairman Paul Janty called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Human Services Director Bill Topel shared news of his upcoming retirement on 01/02/2026 along with highlights of his career. Larry Lautenschlager and Rob Paterson provided self-introductions.

AGENDA ITEM B1 – APPROVE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 10, 2025, AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER COMMITTEE MEETING:

KristL Laux made a motion to approve the November 2025 minutes, seconded by Anna Malek. Motion carried.

AGENDA ITEM C – PUBLIC COMMENTS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM D1 – BUSINESS ITEMS – OSHKOSH SENIOR CENTER – DAN BRAUN:

Dan Braun provided the following information on the Oshkosh Senior Center.

- Mission – To enrich the quality of life for adults 50 and older.
- History – started in 1975, moved to various locations, 1993 constructed OSC South Building, 2000 purchased OSC North Building, 2025 celebrated 50 years of service.
- Support is provided through Friends of Oshkosh Senior Center, tax levy, donations, and fees.
- Staff/volunteers – 6 full-time staff, 4 part-time, 81 volunteers who provide 13,000+ hrs./year.
- Participants – 2130 unique participants in 2024 totaling 55,482 visits with 61.95% attending fitness programming, 15.51% social, 15.92% educational, 4.58% outreach/support, and 2.04% meetings.

- Programming includes arts/crafts, exercise/fitness, health/wellness, social/cultural/educational, and Winnebago Senior Tours.
- Volunteers – serve in a variety of capacities. In 2024, 81 volunteers gave 13,000 hours of service.
- Community Partners include Network Health, UW-O, ADRC, ADVOCAP, McCleer Law Office, Oshkosh Recreation Department, and various local medical partners.
- Plans to Grow – 2026 – Expanded hours, language art classes, pickleball, increased space rentals.
- Q&A – Do you have transportation available for homebound? Through a partnership with the city's transit division, city residents can receive a discounted cab ride. Bus rides are complimentary through Go Transit.

AGENDA ITEM D2 – BUSINESS ITEMS – PUBLIC BENEFITS UPDATES:

Economic Support Division Manager Ann Kriegel stated that November SNAP/Foodshare payments were sent out and December appears to be as scheduled. Wisconsin is among several states involved in a lawsuit due to the Federal government requiring immigration information on members in order for States to receive funding. Tentative changes to Medicaid work requirements will mostly impact only childless adults ages 54 to 62 who are not disabled. The ages for minors to be allowed in work programs will be changed from 17 to 14. SNAP recipients currently complete 6-month report forms and annual reviews.

Bill Topel explained the annual SNAP reapplication process along with cost related concerns over how the new rules being imposed by H.R.1 will impact states with county-run administration of SNAP.

Ann highlighted the handout shared with the Human Services Board containing SNAP benefit statistics: an average of 17,000 individuals in Winnebago County receive monthly SNAP benefits, about 8,500 households. Of the families with children and adults, 65% have at least one individual employed, average monthly earned income is \$583. Average monthly SNAP benefits is \$307 per individual, \$2.6 million total Winnebago County.

AGENDA ITEM D3 – BUSINESS ITEMS – AGING RELATED UPDATES:

Elizabeth Wagner reported newsletters from GWAAR and the State will be upcoming shortly. **KristL Laux** expressed concerns that many in the community are unaware of ADRC services. Elizabeth detailed marketing strategies that the ADRC has been utilizing, asking members to let her know of any outreach groups which could benefit from a presentation on ADRC services. **Jim Lauer** spoke of a recent article in the Appleton Post Crescent entitled *Outagamie County ADRC can answer questions seniors have as needs change*, members discussed doing a similar article in Oshkosh area newspapers, and **Elizabeth Jones** added the idea of printing yard signs. Members discussed the printing and distribution of ADRC Resource Directories noting that many prefer a paper copy and the advertisements cover printing costs.

AGENDA ITEM D4 – BUSINESS ITEMS – DISABILITY RELATED UPDATES:

Brian Nagler reported that ADRC services include information and assistance, long term care options counseling, and eligibility processing. Brian provided a PowerPoint presentation overview on eligibility processing. The long-term care functional screen is utilized in eligibility processing to determine eligibility for Wisconsin's Long Term Care Medical Assistance programs – Family Care and IRIS. A diagnosis is required to start the functional screening process and a long-term care functional deficit in ADLs/IADLs (instrumental/activities of daily living) is necessary to qualify. Target groups of mental

health or substance abuse cannot be the sole diagnosis, and intellectual disability target groups require a diagnosis or IQ less than 75. Each functional screening takes at least five to six hours of staff time to conduct the visit, obtain the diagnosis, entry of screening information, followed by enrollment counseling. Staff are allotted 30 days to complete processing of applications. **Julie Kotajarvi** will send copies of the PowerPoint presentation, pamphlets, and ADRC business cards to committee members which can be handed out to the public.

AGENDA ITEM D5 – BUSINESS ITEMS – LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:

Elizabeth Wagner stated she has not heard any new updates. **KristL Laux** stated she reached out to Kristin Dassler-Alfheim's office requesting someone from her office attend an upcoming ADRC Committee meeting to answer questions on funding. KristL is awaiting an email response.

AGENDA ITEM E1 – REPORTS – COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES:

Nicole Hecimovich gave the following updates: 1) A position is being posted due to the retirement of a Disability Benefits Specialist. 2) Medicare open enrollment closed as of yesterday. 3) **Alisa Richetti** is working on the memory screenings and memory cafes schedules for 2026. 4) The Leaf No One Behind event was held in November providing yard cleanup for 15 older adults in Oshkosh. 5) In November, APS team had 68 total calls, 33 of which were assigned, 2 went to protective placement, 4 went to guardianships, 7 follow-ups so far in December.

Lori Duclon reported that Public Health has had an increase in referrals with the respiratory season being here and shared general self-care and prevention when ill. There is still time to receive a flu vaccination with the flu season peaking in January and February.

Ashley Beattie-Lokken reported that over 300 people attended wellness classes this year with the most attendance being at Tai Chi and Strong Bodies classes. Nutrition and mental health resources will be added along with ways to increase social connectedness. Attendance of the Strong Bodies classes has increased with the transfer of classes from Marian Manor to the Hyde Center.

In reference to the November minutes, **Jim Lauer** inquired if members of the ADRC committee wish to attend a session with fees if there is a free pass or reimbursement from the County (E.g. \$75/respite session fees). **Elizabeth Wagner** stated that if a committee member wishes to view such a session in the sense of learning more about programming and is not attending the session to receive respite that can be arranged.

Larry Lautenschlager reported the County Exec and County Board will be involved with the hiring of a new Human Services Director.

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

Brian Nagler reported the following stats for November: 1365 charted contacts, 35 enrollments to Family Care, 14 enrollments to IRIS, 30 long term screens.

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

None.

AGENDA ITEM G – ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA:

None.

AGENDA ITEM H1 – NEXT MEETING DATE:

Monday, January 12, 2025, 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