

**NORTHEAST MISSOURI AREA AGENCY ON AGING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**

Shelbina Library, Shelbina MO

February 28, 2017

10:00 A.M.

CALL TO ORDER: Walt Bittle called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Boettcher, Beverly Cole, Cheryl Brammer, Twila Anderson, Ruby Dunbar, Dollene Sanders, Laura Burnham and Walt Bittle.

EXCUSED: Sue Johnson, Joyce Findley, Martha Redding, Sue Conover, Jean Patrick and Cheryl Hayes.

STAFF PRESENT: Pam Windtberg

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: The agenda was approved as presented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The November 28, 2016 minutes were approved as distributed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR UPDATE:

It was another busy open enrollment for Medicare Part D.

The 14th Annual Missouri Show Me Summit on Aging and Health is scheduled for September 12-15, 2017 at the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Columbia.

April 4th is Transportation Day at the capitol- information packets will be distributed.

We hope to be able to contract with one or two retired nurses for the Veteran's choice program.

The audit report will be made Board at the April Board meeting.

Innovative Data plans to have all Missouri AAA's switched to AgingIS by the end of the year.

Charity Hunter, DSS Disaster Coordinator spent the day in our office on 2/14/17. She was very helpful with suggestion on how to update our COOP plan as required

FINANCIAL REPORTS (Balance Sheet and Budgeted Statement of Revenues and Expenditures): Cheryl Brammer made the motion to approve the November, December & January financial reports as distributed. Seconded by Laura Burnham and carried by aye vote of all those listed above as present.

CHECKS WRITTEN REPORT: Approval of the November, December & January checks written reports as distributed.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: According to our legislative consultant, challenges to the restoration of funding include the reduction in the corporate tax, budget shortfalls and the possibility of further restrictions. Serious budget problems are predicted for the next years. Tax cuts next year are expected to result in an additional reduction of 600 million. It is believed that Medicaid block grants will bring further cuts, if passed.

A possible source of increased revenue is the Streamlined Sales Tax bill. This bill is proposed as a method of collection for Internet sales tax. The streamlined sales tax would capture an estimated \$20 million a year in intra-state Internet commerce taxes currently being lost. If the companion federal bill is passed, Missouri will be aligned to receive the inter-state tax, as well, bringing the projected increased revenue up to \$350 million a year.

On February 15 there was a hearing on the Senior Growth and Development Senate Bill 192. The senators were empathetic but are worrying about the budget. Catherine and the president of ma4 met with staff at the Lt. Governor's office on the senior growth and development bill. The reaction was that it was difficult because of the budget shortfall.

Raising the Medicaid eligibility to 27 points has been temporarily postponed. The Governor is issuing an amendment to the budget to restore \$41 million in funding to home and community-based services using tobacco money. Unfortunately the 3% cut in Medicaid provider rates is still in effect. Our contractors will receive .17.5 cents less per meal.

Additional good news is that there may be a floor substitute to the original bill that removes the language eliminating the circuit breaker tax credit for senior renters.

SSC REPORT: The annual meeting of the Senior Service Council was held on Friday, February 3, 2017. Diana Hendrix presented the Senior Service Council's recommendation to the NEMO AAA board to stop paying to

advertise the agency's phone numbers in any phone book. The AA already publishes, at no cost, the agency phone numbers in a variety of formats that are easily accessible. Laura Burnham made the motion to stop paying to advertise the agency's phone numbers in any phone book. Seconded by Ruby Dunbar and carried by aye vote of all those listed above as present.

SHL REPORT: Walt Bittle reported on the upcoming February 28 SHL Advocacy Day. SHL/ma4/AAA's will be providing information to our legislators about the senior growth initiative bill and the adverse effect of the proposed cuts on our clients and services.

C.A.R.E. REPORT: Bridget Morton, Executive Director of NEMO Senior Citizen's Services reported on the agency's nutrition, in-home service and disease prevention programs.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. USDA Meals/Medicaid Meals – November, December & January information provided.
2. Family Caregiver Support Program – November, December & January information provided.
3. FY 2017 Area Plan Update – we are currently working on our FY 17 area plan update as well as our new FY 18 area plan. It is a requirement that we survey board members, SSC members and clients about our services. Please complete the survey and leave it in your folder.
4. Financial Situation- Absorbing the proposed federal and state cuts is going to be very difficult for clients and providers. If the Medicaid eligibility points are raised from 21 to 27 large numbers of senior and disable persons will lose services. In addition to other proposed cuts, providers are facing a 3% cut in reimbursement rates. The 3% cut for Medicaid meal providers will mean a loss of 17.5 cents for each Medicaid meal. We are unable to meet the needs with our Older Americans act funding now so it will be impossible to meet the needs of the clients who lose their Medicaid services.

5. Update of Agency Grants –

6.

MIPPA- The 3rd state MIPPA grant ends September 30, 2016.

NAVIGATOR- our 3rd Navigator grant is scheduled to end on September 1, 2017.

Benefits Enrollment Counseling Grant (BEC)- ma4 received a second BEC Grant for June 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. ma4 also received a Regional BEC grant that started November 1, 2016 through September 29, 2017. These grants are overlapping. We are contracting for benefits screening and enrollment.

South Central Pension Rights Project (SCPRP)- The AA's continue to partner with this program to spread the word about the pension recovery project. Thanks to this partnership Missouri seniors have received \$4.3 million in pension and recoupment recoveries from 7/1/2010 to 6/30/2016.

6. Contractor Monitoring Update – We had to reschedule a few monitoring visits due to weather and broken pipes. We monitored two centers last week and we will be monitoring two centers at the end of March. The monitoring has gone well.
7. 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans – our menus are meeting the new guidelines.
8. MEHTAP Application – Our FY 2018 MEHTAP application is due on March 31, 2017. We are requesting \$85,000. For FY 17 we requested \$85,000 and received \$75,922. Cheryl Brammer made the motion to submit the MEHTAP application. Seconded by Dollene Sanders and carried by aye vote of all those listed above as present.
9. Dates & Polling Locations for Board/SHL Elections – Laura Burnham made the motion to hold elections at the senior centers during the week of May 1 – 5, 2017. Seconded by Dollene Sanders and carried by aye vote of all those listed above as present. Board members up for election- Cheryl Brammer and Walt Bittle. Board vacancies- Monroe, Ralls, Randolph and Shelby counties. SHL up for election- Dollene Sanders, Jackie Settlege, John Settlege, Bill Sanders, Joyce Findley, Carole Akery and Walt Bittle. All alternates are up for election.

10. By-laws Committee Report- Cheryl Brammer made the motion to approve the by-laws committee's recommendations for changes to Article II, Section 6, c. Seconded by Jim Boettcher and carried by aye vote of all those listed above as present.

11. Sidewalk Replacement – the City of Kirksville is requiring us to replace 256 square feet of sidewalk along Replacement Program for funding to help pay for materials. To be eligible for these funds we must meet all of the programs requirements. Jim Boettcher made the motion to allow the executive director to accept an appropriate bid. Seconded by Laura Burnham and carried by aye vote of all those listed above as present.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Twila Anderson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Twila Anderson, Acting Secretary