

ADRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 1, 2023
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Location: Mosaic Training Center
401 South First Street, Cameron, WI (Hwy 8)

Members present: Kathy Halbur, Mike Hraban, Bob Anderson, John Smatlak, Rudy Walz, Vlad Sajka and Rob Ludwig
Members absent: Sharon Rollins
Others present: Jennifer Jako, Terri Mikyska, Alisa Lammers, Heidi Syvinski, Fawn Armstrong, Abigail Wendland, Kathy Walthers and Louie Okey
Appearing Virtually: None

Chair Mike Hraban called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. Introductions were made.

Public Notice Compliance: Terri Mikyska stated we were in compliance with the open meeting Public Notification Laws.

Approval of Agenda: Bob Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Rudy Walz, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes (May 23, 2023): Bob Anderson made a motion to approve the May 23rd minutes as written, second by Vlad Sajka, motion carried.

Public comment: None.

2022 Year End Fiscal Report: Heidi Syvinski distributed the 2022 Year End Fiscal report outlining the revenues and expenditures. She explained the surplus was due to staff changes and Medicaid drawdown. County levy was returned as appropriate per county.

2024 Budget Discussion: Jennifer explained how we budget as a department and that each county develops their own budget. These budgets are then combined to submit to the State. For the first time in 25 years, the base General Purpose Revenue (GPR) funding was increased in the Governor’s budget. New allocations will not be available before the 2024 budget is due. Federal MA drawdown is based on time reporting by the EBS, DBS, DCS and I&A which came in at an average of 40.72% in 2022. Levy requests in both counties are expected to increase as nearly 80% of the budget is staff wages and fringe and those costs increase each year. This board will vote on the budget at our November 7th meeting.

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment Presentation – Fawn Armstrong: Fawn explained that Medicare Part D open enrollment runs every year from October 15th through December 7th. Every year there are changes in drug plans and EBS staff help customers navigate and choose the best plan. EBS staff send out letters to former clients to remind them to set up an appointment to review their plans if they choose. Questions were asked and answered. Benefit Specialists are the “Red Tape Cutters” that give people a local person and face to work on issues. EBS staff saw over 1400 unduplicated customers for Med D Open Enrollment in Barron & Rusk Counties.

Health Promotion Updates – Alisa Lammers: Alisa reported that we were able to get 8 new people trained as facilitators for the Stepping On Falls Prevention Workshops in both counties. There are 3 workshops scheduled for the fall. This is an evidence based program that requires expert speakers on many topics. This workshop is adapted for those living with low vision. A virtual Living Well with Arthritis workshop is scheduled for September. Alisa shared the results of the piloted “ABC of Virtual Learning” class that was offered in-person to bring people in and teach them how to connect to one of our virtual classes.

Caregiver Initiatives Update – Alisa Lammers: (a) WeCare Updates – Alisa reported the WeCare coalition was developed with Inclusa to help address the paid caregiver shortage. Next Wednesday, August 9th they are putting on a Walk ‘n Roll Event – 1 mile walk in conjunction with a job and resource fair at the

Rice Lake Cedar Mall from 5 – 7 p.m. (b) Recap of 2023 Confident Caregiver Series – Alisa and Trisha provided 4 events/classes to provide Barron and Rusk County family caregivers with education and resources. The Family Caregiver Boot Camp had 18 people attend, the Powerful Tools for Caregiver workshop had 6 caregivers attend, and the Caregiver Skills Fair had 8 attend. A Respite Care Association of Wisconsin grant provided free in-home respite services during these events, which 6 people utilized.

Advocacy: (a) Governor’s Biennial Budget – Jennifer shared how it related to our counties. The ADRC base funding increased by \$2.5 million year one and \$5 million year two, funding for APS (adult protection services) increased by \$1 million, AFCSP funding increased by \$250,000 and HDM received a \$250,000 increase. The increased funding to MCO’s continue to pay providers will continue. (b) Rusk County Senior Townhall - Kathy Halbur and Kathy Walthers shared the outcome of their Senior Townhall held right after the Dining at 5 meal where many Rusk County leaders attended to hear citizen input, including Senator Cory Tomczyk.

ADRC Reports: Contacts/Enrollments – Jennifer Jako: reports for the 2nd quarter of 2023 were distributed with one for each county along with the combined. No changes in trends. Discussion about nursing home bed availability for local caregivers was held.

Personnel – Jennifer reported Barron County is fully staffed. Kathy reported Rusk County has hired a full-time DBS and Abigail introduced herself.

Director’s Updates – No further updates at this time.

Agenda items for next meeting – 2024 Budget (vote)

Next meeting – November 7th at Barron Government Center

Adjournment – Bob Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:31 p.m., seconded by Vlad Sajka, motion carried.

Submitted by: _____
Rudy Walz, Secretary

Recording Secretary: Terri Mikyska

Minutes are not official until approved at the next meeting.