

ADRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 6, 2024
1:00 – 2:30 p.m.
Location: Law Enforcement Center Conference Room
311 Miner Avenue E, Ladysmith, WI

Members present: Kathy Halbur, Mike Hraban, John Smatlak, Rudy Walz, Vlad Sajka, Sharon Rollins, and Rob Ludwig
Absent: Bob Anderson
Others present: Jennifer Jako, Terri Mikyska, Kathy Walthers, Abigail Wendland & Angie Harvey
Appearing Virtually: Trisha Witham

Chair Mike Hraban called the meeting to order at 1:01 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: Vlad Sajka made a motion to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Sharon Rollins, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes (November 7, 2023): John Smatlak made a motion to approve the November 7th minutes as written, second by Rudy Walz, motion carried. Jennifer wanted to clarify from the November 7th minutes that it is the Wisconsin Disability Determination Bureau that is backlogged and has outsourced their work - not DBS/ADRC.

Public comment: None.

New ADRC Funding – Jen Jako: Jen reported that the State of Wisconsin has provided more funding for the ADRCs through the biennial budget. Barron County will receive an increased allocation of \$73,167 and Rusk County will receive an increased allocation of \$73,456 and with the increase in the Medicaid drawdown, both counties are looking at adding an additional FTE I&A position. This is annual GPR (General Purpose Revenue) funding going forward. This will need to go through committees in both counties before it is approved to hire.

Dementia Care Specialist Presentation – Trisha Witham: Trisha educated the board on the role a DCS plays in our agency and her scope of services. Her position has three major focus areas: ongoing training and support for ADRC staff to be dementia capable, create dementia friendly communities, and one-on-one support for caregivers and families living with dementia to prevent crisis. Trisha provided the board with a recap of 2023 work. She also provided her work plan and goals for 2024. She answered questions on Dementia 101, Lunch Bunch, Music & Memory and Time Slips.

2024 ADCR Scope of Services: Jennifer reviewed the purpose of the Scope of Services which provides the direction in which the ADRC functions and that there were minimal changes from 2023. The contract can be located on our website under “About” and then “Contract” for review.

Health Promotions Update & Caregiver Update: Alisa distributed handouts recapping the 2023 health promotion programs and the 2024 health promotions schedule. She informed the board that we resumed our in-person programs and along with our virtual workshops had 92 participants in 2023, which was increased from 2022. Alisa restarted the popular falls prevention Stepping On program in 2023 with good success. Alisa provided a flyer on the Confident Caregiver series for 2024 and highlighted the events happening throughout the year.

Advocacy: Jennifer informed them we are preparing for Aging Advocacy Day at the Capitol in May and will get more information out to the Board as it becomes available. The goal is to meet with legislators to advocate top needs and funding needs. Rusk County did a Town Hall with Independence Your Way event last year and is looking at planning one in May.

ADRC Reports: Contacts/Enrollments – Jennifer shared reports for the 4th quarter of 2023 with one for each county along with the combined.

Personnel – Jennifer reported Barron County is in the process of hiring a full-time EBS and it should be filled in March/April. Barron and Rusk are looking at adding another I&A position in each office with new State and Federal funding but still needs County Board approvals.

Director's Updates – We continue to prepare for State modernization projects in 2024 including a new documentation system, statewide resource database and marketing updates. This is the year to complete the 3-Year Aging plan and both counties are collaborating to send out a survey to gather input from our communities. Barron County has finalized our system for on-boarding volunteers and a handbook was updated. Concerns over the HSHS/Prevea closures were discussed.

Mike announced that this was his last meeting as he is not running for re-election of Rusk County Board and has enjoyed his time with the ADRC Board.

Agenda items for next meeting – update on HSHS/Prevea closures, Elections, Fiscal Year End.

Next meeting – May 7th in Barron

Adjournment – Sharon Rollins made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:36 p.m., seconded by Rudy Walz, motion carried.

Submitted by: _____
Rudy Walz, Secretary

Recording Secretary: Terri Mikyska

Minutes are not official until approved at the next meeting.