

ADRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, November 5, 2024 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.  
Barron County Government Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium  
335 E Monroe Avenue, Barron, WI

Members present: Kathy Halbur, Bob Anderson, John Smatlak, Rudy Walz, Sharon Rollins, and Rob Ludwig  
Absent: Vlad Sajka and Mike Russell  
Others present: Jennifer Jako, Tristy Hopp, Alisa Lammers, Trisha Witham, Mary Updike, Kathy Walthers, Leanne Grover, Heidi Syvinski, Jeff French, and Louie Okey

Chair Kathy Halbur called the ADRC Governing Board Meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made.

**Public Notice Compliance:** Tristy Hopp stated we were in compliance with the open meeting Public Notification Laws.

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

**Approval of the Minutes (August 6, 2024):** Bob Anderson made a motion to amend the minutes from August 6th, striking the last sentence under Advocacy, second by Rudy Walz, motion carried, minutes approved as amended.

**Public comment:** None

**2025 ADRC Budget — Heidi Syvinski:** Heidi reviewed the 2025 budget breakdown showing expenses and revenues. Majority of the budget is dedicated to staff salary and benefits. Jennifer discussed the revenue sources including General Purpose Revenue (GPR), federal Medicaid drawdown, levy, and EBS Aging funding. Jennifer discussed the additional GPR funding received starting in 2024, improved Medicaid drawdown, and ADRC funding advocacy for the next State of Wisconsin biennial budget process. Sharon Rollins made a motion to approve the 2025 budget in the amount of \$1,858,254, seconded by John Smatlak, motion carried.

**Men's Shed Grant – Trisha Witham:** Trisha provided an overview of the new Social Isolation and Loneliness grant awarded by the State of Wisconsin. Barron County's grant proposal was to start a Men's Shed project (replicating Juneau County's Men's Shed) because we see over 80% of participants in our programs, events and workshops being women. Several male caregivers have voiced concern about their social needs not being met as caregivers or after that journey. The grant period is from June to March 2025. The first Men's Shed event was held on October 9<sup>th</sup> at the Pioneer Village Museum. 35 men attended with the youngest age being 54 and oldest is 91. Trisha is partnering with Darby having the Nutrition Program offering a pop up meal site during the Men's Shed event and offer free transportation through AddLIFE transit. The November meeting will be held at the Highway Crew Room to meet capacity needs.

**2025-2027 Aging Plan Goals - Jennifer Jako & Kathy Walthers –** Jennifer explained that every three years each county is required to develop an Aging Plan to receive federal Older Americans Act (OAA) funding and to communicate what our goals and intentions are for our OAA funded programs along with how we are meeting community needs. This process was completed throughout 2024. Jen reviewed

Barron County goals and Kathy Walters reviewed Rusk County's goals. Current and past Aging Plans can be found on our website [adrconnections.org/about](http://adrconnections.org/about).

**Advocacy Update – Jennifer Jako:** Jennifer informed the board that Wisconsin's Aging Advocacy Network (WAAN) is determining top advocacy topics as we look at advocating for the State's 2026-2027 biennial budget, but ADRC funding will be a focus area for sure.

**ADRC Reports:**

**Contacts/Enrollments – Mary Urdike:** 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter contact numbers were reviewed.  
Benefit Specialists – Medicare Part D Open Enrollment is in full swing with appointments already scheduled into December.

**Personnel – Jennifer Jako:** Jennifer updated the board that Mary is retiring in December and that Leanne Grover will be taking Mary's position as the ADRC Supervisor. Leanne's current position as EBS position has been posted. Rusk County has filled their DBS position and the 2<sup>nd</sup> I & A position is on hold at this time due to 2025 budgeting needs.

**Director Updates – Jennifer Jako:** Jennifer asked Alisa to give updates about Health Promotions. Alisa informed the board that she had a participant increase of 30 % from 2023 to 2024 with Stepping On being the biggest program. She is further working on expanding the Stepping On program in 2025 by piloting a Fall Prevention Coalition in Rusk County, which would include an EMS referral system and if goes well, expand that system into Barron County.

**Agenda items for next meeting – Men's Shed grant update**

**Next meeting** – is scheduled for February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025 in Ladysmith

Bob Anderson informed the board about the upcoming Rice Lake United Way Holly Auction in Rice Lake on December 4th, which supports several local programs. Bob Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:32 p.m., John Smatlak, seconded, motion carried.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rudy Walz, Secretary

Recording Secretary: Tristy Hopp  
Minutes are not official until approved at the next meeting.