

**Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes**  
Tuesday, May 20, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.  
Government Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Members present: Patti Anderson, Kathy Krug, Diane Vaughn, Carole Knoll, Deb Neuheisel, Bob Heil, Stacey Wenzel, and Cheryl Hakseth  
Absent: Karen Novotny  
Others present: Jennifer Jako, Alisa Lammers, Darby Smith, Tristy Hopp, Trisha Witham, Leanne Grover, and Louie Okey

Chair Patti Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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

**Approval of the Agenda:** Diane Vaughn made a motion to approve the agenda, Kathy Krug seconded, motion carried.

**Approval of the Minutes (March 18, 2025):** Stacey Wenzel made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Cheryl Hakseth, motion carried.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Dementia Care Specialist 2025 Workplan:** Trisha informed the board on the role a Dementia Care Specialist (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 reviewed new programs and initiatives started in 2025. Memory Screens are available year around.

**Fiscal Report:** Tristy Hopp distributed the April 2025 fiscal summary report and reviewed the program's revenues and expenditures. Jennifer Jako distributed and reviewed the 2024 Year End Fund Balance.

**5310 Grant Application:** Jennifer shared the Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation provides a competitive 5310 Capitol Vehicle Grant for Counties to replace vehicles. This grant requires a 20% county match. We would like to apply to replace one of our AddLIFE vehicles. We would bring this application back to the Commission for approval in July or August. Discussion held, and agreement to work on the application when DOT opens it.

**Health Promotions:** Alisa gave an overview of the evidenced based workshops currently being offered. Stepping On workshops have a waiting list and she is hoping to expand to multiple locations across Barron County to meet those needs.

**Advocacy and legislative issues: Aging Advocacy Day, Budgets:** Jennifer Jako discussed Aging Advocacy Day that was held on May 13 and how our office is required to advocate for the needs of older adults. Five staff members and one community board member attended and were able to tell their stories and experiences. Top five issues we advocated about included: ADRC Funding, Transportation funding, Caregiver Support, Falls Prevention, and Home Delivered Meals. Jennifer Jako also discussed that we continue to keep informed about the federal and state biennial budgets this year.

**Staff Report & Program Updates:** (a) Nutrition & Transportation Programs – Darby shared with the board the 2025 March for Meals campaign which had a great turnout with support from our local community along with an outstanding number of community leaders who participated. Darby informed the board of the new pop

up dining site at the Barron County Highway Building during the monthly Men's Shed. Darby shared state data about meals served in Barron County in comparison to other counties across the State of Wisconsin. (b) Daybreak/Family Caregiver/Health Promotion Programs – Alisa Lammers reported that she has three new Daybreak enrollments and possibly a few more so enrollment has had an uptick. Alisa reminded the board of the upcoming annual 2025 Caregiver Conference event on Friday October 10<sup>th</sup> at Northwood Tech. (c) ADRC report –Leanne Grover informed the board that Fawn Armstrong from Rusk County has accepted our open EBS position and that we have an I&A Specialist on leave at this time. (d) Director's updates – Jennifer updated the board about the Annual Volunteer Recognition Picnic that is scheduled for June 19<sup>th</sup> at Anderson Park Pavilion in Barron. We have invited over 350 volunteers to this event. She also informed the board of the ADRC all staff training that is taking place on June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Ladysmith.

Future Agenda Items – 2026 Budget discussion & 5310 grant application

The next meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2025 at 9 a.m. at the Government Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Barron.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stacey Wenzel, Secretary  
Recording secretary: Tristy Hopp

Minutes are not official until approved at next meeting.