Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 20, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.
Government Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Members present:	Patti Anderson, Cheryl Hakseth, Carsten Ellison, Bob Heil, Kathy Krug, Diane Vaughn, Deb Neuheisel, Kelli Rasmussen, and Carole Knoll
Absent:	None
Others present:	Jennifer Jako, Tristy Hopp, Darby Smith, Alisa Lammers, and Leanne Grover

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: Carsten Ellison made a motion to approve the agenda as written, Deb Neuheisel seconded, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes (August 18, 2026): Bob Heil made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Kathy Krug, motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Fiscal Report: Tristy distributed the September 2026 fiscal summary report and reviewed programs revenues and expenditures.

2027 85.21 Grant Application (vote): Jennifer announced that the annual DOT 85.21 Grant Application is now available for completion for Barron County. The budget consists of grant funds of $146,332 with a required match of 20% in the amount of $29,266. We utilize these grant funds to operate our AddLIFE Transit program. If approved to move forward, Jennifer reported a required public hearing would be held on Thursday, November 5th at 10:00 a.m. in the Veterans Memorial Auditorium. Deb Neuheisel made a motion to proceed with the application for Barron County's 85.21 Grant application, seconded by Diane Vaughn, motion carried.

Advocacy and legislative issues: Jennifer informed the board that the State of Wisconsin's bi-annual budget is being worked on. Top issues we are advocating for includes: Falls Prevention, Specialized Transportation, ADRC, and Home Delivered Meals Funding. Board members will be informed about advocacy opportunities such as Joint Finance Committee meetings and Aging Advocacy Day in 2027.

Staff Report & Program Updates: (a) Nutrition & Transportation Programs – Darby informed the board that recruitment for the Head Cook position continues. She also reported that nutrition program staff attended the annual fall regional staff training in Hayward. Darby informed the board that we were awarded our vehicle from 5310 Grant Cycle 50 that was submitted last year and she has started the ordering process. Darby also stated that AddLIFE will be giving free rides on Election Day November 3rd. (b) Caregiver & Health Promotion – Alisa shared that the annual Caregiver Conference was a great success with 50 people attending. They had an open house style event with resource vendors, health screenings, and educational breakout sessions. Alisa stated she is starting her 2027 Health Promotions programming and is looking to have a virtual Mind Over Matter workshop. Alisa reminded the board of the upcoming POA Party hosted by the Barron County Caregiver Collation on Oct 22 from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Rice Lake Senior Center. Alisa informed the board of all of the September Falls Prevention awareness month activities. (c) ADRC report – Leanne reported that open enrollment for Medicare Part D has started; all appointments are full. Leanne also informed the board that the Elder Benefits Specialists held their first group Medicare Part D Open

Enrollment event in partnership with UW-ECBC. This was a success; they have two more scheduled. Leanne also distributed and reviewed third quarter's activity report. (d) Director's updates –Jennifer shared that our annual Centenarian Celebration will be held on November 4th at Lehman's Supper Club. Jennifer updated the board on digital accessibility progress.

Future Agenda Items – 85.21 Grant Submission (vote) and 2027 meeting dates

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2026 at 9 a.m. at the Government Center Auditorium in Barron.

Adjournment - Meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Tristy Hopp, Fiscal Specialist

Minutes are not official until approved at next meeting.