

TAYLOR COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

Wednesday, March 9, 2022 – 12:45 P.M.

County Board Room, Third Floor, Taylor County Courthouse

Members Present: Adams, Albrecht, Dubiak, Hein, Helmert, Hrdina, Richling, Wojcik

Members Absent: Campos

Also Present: Jenn Viergutz and Michelle Brehm, Commission on Aging and Ted Wojcik, Public

Call Meeting to Order: Chairperson Albrecht called the meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.

Jenn Viergutz, the new Commission on Aging Director introduced herself and was welcomed by the committee.

Approve the Minutes of the December 20, 2021 Meeting: Hein moved to approve the minutes of the Taylor County Commission on Aging meeting of December 20, 2021; second by Richling. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Approve the Agenda: Wojcik moved to approve the agenda with eleven items; second by Helmert. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Public Input: None

Review / Approve COA and Director's Monthly Expenditures: Following review and discussion, Adams moved to approve December, January and February COA Monthly Expenditures in the amounts of \$36,917.50, 32,529.38 and \$36,197.77, Director's December Expenditures totaling \$17.86 and Accounting Specialist January and February Expenses totaling \$31.02 and \$19.02 respectively, second by Richling. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Director's Report:

- Gail Sauerman has been hired as the Elder Benefit Specialist. Director Viergutz stated she is excited for Gail to start. Her first day of employment will be March 21st.
- Nail care at the senior dining sites is resuming. It is scheduled every other month at Gilman, Medford, Rib Lake, Stetsonville and possibly Goodrich in the future if there is interest.
- AARP tax preparation will continue through March. It has been well received with only a few openings left.
- The United Way and Medford Area Middle School have partnered to donate 32 decorated bags filled with toiletry items and small activities for home delivered meal recipients. The bags will be distributed throughout the county.
- In coordination with the Home Show there will be a Taylor County Health & Safety Fair on March 26th at Medford Area Senior High School. The Commission on Aging will have a booth highlighting services offered.
- The Gilman IGA which provides meals for the Gilman Senior Dining Site has closed. Director Viergutz spoke with the owner who said the store is for sale but the goal is to continue to provide meals until the end of the year. One backup plan is for the Stetsonville site to provide meals for Gilman on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Director Viergutz has also reached out to Clark County for ideas as well.

- The Commission on Aging Facebook page has been updated. The goal is to post once per week to highlight programs and volunteers. The Rib Lake site has recently been featured.
- Director Viergutz has completed the Serve Safe training. She has visited all seven nutrition sites and has completed rounding with each site manager. Her goal is to visit each site once per month.
- There is concern about losing drivers due to gas prices. Driver guidelines and expectations also need to be revised. The s.85.21 trust is at the maximum amount allowed. Ideas to spend the excess need to be addressed.
- The 2021-year end financials are close to being completed. It has been challenging.

Committee Member Recruitment:

Director Viergutz stated there is one open position for a COA committee board member. Ads to recruit a new member have been placed in the newsletter and The Star News. The deadline to apply is March 31, 2022. Although Helmert's term ends this year, Campos stated in an email that he wishes to end his time on the committee. Following discussion and approval from Helmert, Dubiak moved to approve Helmert completing Campos's term (1 year); second by Richling. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Albrecht requested a thank you card and certificate be sent to Campos to thank him for his service.

Continuation of Virtual Meetings:

Discussion took place regarding the continuation of virtual Commission on Aging committee meetings. Hein moved to suspend virtual meetings and resume committee meetings at the Multi-purpose Room, 845 East Broadway, Medford: second by Hrdina. All Ayes. Motion Carried.

Other Business:

- An Aging and Disability Resource Center update was given by Dubiak:
 - Director Terese Poe has retired and John Bersinger is currently filling the position part time.
 - ADRC funds are running low. This is due in part to new hires and health insurance costs. They are hopeful the state will help cover any deficits.
 - The Potawatomi Tribe is considering leaving the ADRC to go on their own. More should be known following a meeting later this month.
- Hein spoke about Classical Stretch that airs on Public Television. He said he enjoys the program and has been in contact with the station asking if the show can be aired later in the day. Hein also talked about a discussion with the Rib Lake Police Department regarding snow on village sidewalks and the possibility of high school students helping with snow removal and other tasks.
- Adams thanked members who served on the interview committee to hire a director.
- Director Viergutz asked the committee to acknowledge Michelle, JoAnn and Jenny in the office for covering and continuing great customer service.

Set Next Meeting Date: The next meeting of the Taylor County Commission on Aging will be April 13, 2022, 1:00 P.M. **at the Multi-Purpose Room in Medford.**

Adjourn Meeting: With no further business, Helmert moved to adjourn; second by Hrdina. All Ayes. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:43 P.M.