

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

BOARD MEETING MINUTES AREA AGENCY ON AGING, REGION X (aka: AAAX) February 11, 2025

1:00 PM Meeting Called To Order

I. Roll Call

John Bartosh, Jasper County-Board Chairman "present"
David Johnson, Barton County-Board Secretary "present"
Bryan Hall, McDonald County "present"
Daniel Swem, Newton County "present"

Staff Present:

Jennifer Shotwell, CEO
Charlotte Foust, Resource Director
Jeff Glines, Program Operations Director
Cindy Swadner

Guest attendees present:

None

II. Approval of Prior Minutes

Bryan Hall motioned to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2025 meeting, second by David Johnson. Motion carried.

III. Officer/Directors Reports

Jennifer, CEO:

Federal, State & Ma4 > MO Association of Area Agencies on Aging:

1. **Area Plan Draft:** first Draft public comment period ends 2/18/25; so far there've been no comments. Next comments are due 3/15/25.
2. **DHSS Budget:** the budget is short 15 million appropriations to cover March-June invoices; (meaning expenses incurred in Feb - June FY25.) The State is working with all AAAs and our legislators to get an emergency appropriation bill so DHSS can access these federal OAA dollars. If the emergency appropriation bill fails, due to lack of funding, 212 senior centers will be forced to close until resolved. Governor recommended it in his budget, but it is now mixed in with others, namely Medicaid; fearing it will get lost in the bill. Jennifer reiterated that AAAX has a 200,000 line of credit.

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3. **Federal Executive Funding-Freeze Order on Programs:** this has temporarily been halted by a Judge; AAAs fear that we are all at risk because the OAA (Older American Act) language has not changed since 1973.

Agency:

1. **FY24 Audit:** McBride & Assoc. auditors were on-site last week gathering information. The preliminary report is no money was found to be missing; JE & Bank Reconciliation errors were found April-June; Mapping errors were also found.

Jennifer stated that our software partner, MIP, can fix mapping – but is expensive. She is also vetting a consultant as a less expensive alternative – this person has 23 years of MIP experience with non-profit organizations.

2. **Worker's Compensation:** our update annual rate is out; **only .01 higher than last year.** This is being attributed to employees and added work-place safety training.

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3. **OAA Policies:** The new policies directed by the State are being worked on by Jennifer, Charlotte, Jeff & Stormy; such as Wait List & Prioritization; Client Grievance; and Client Reprimand policies, and numerous additional policies.
 4. **New Building Update:** the garage & fencing issues are in the process of being resolved; the elevation issue is still unresolved resulting in CSG (contractor) payment being withheld until satisfaction is reached.
 5. **Funding Policy:** Jennifer outline the new Funding policy she created for ALL Managers to follow.

Stormy, Nutrition Director presented by Jennifer:

1. **Lamar:** iCombi oven has been successfully installed and is now fully operational. This oven has proven to be an excellent investment, as it cooks efficiently and delivers consistently high-quality results.
2. **National Nutrition Month:** occurring in March, all our centers are participating in a friendly competition. Given the funding cuts we are facing, this year's efforts to raise money for our centers is more important than ever.
3. **Grocery Costs:** Jennifer & Stormy recently met with Don Smith from Springfield Grocer. He has generously offered to assist with grocery costs and also extended his support in menu planning, if needed. The relationship we have with Don is an invaluable partnership.

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Charlotte, Resource Director:

- 1. Newton County Digital Literacy Classes:**
Feb 20th @ Granby Community Center
Feb 24th @ the Neosho senior center
- 2. Senior Expo 2025 on 4/10/25:** will be at the Joplin Senior Center. Due to increased interest, we have extended booth space to 50. As of today, we have 33 vendors registered with additional vendors expected to participate.
- 3. Silver Haired Legislature / SHL Advocacy Day – on Jan 29th:** we had 3 delegates & our intern attend speaking with local legislators and meeting Gov. Kehoe.
- 4. *ACL CDSME:** grant ends April 30th. Ma4 & MARC are applying for a similar grant to start in June with a focus on behavioral health. This new program is expected to bring in more attendees by adding new workshops/classes.
*Administration for Community Living Chronic Disease Self-Management Education
- 5. MO Assistive Technology:** AAAX Resource Dept had a great meeting with this organization; highlight was demos for helpful items to assist seniors – all created from 3-D technology.

Jeff, Program Operations Director:

- 1. Two current job openings to be filled:**
Medicaid Reassessor Contractor – Branson West, MO
Homebound Meal Coordinator – Joplin senior center (40 hours/week)
- 2. Catered Meal Site updates:**
 - **Seven operational meal sites – 599 meals served in January:**
McDonald County: Mondays – Goodman > 44
Tuesdays – Pineville > 132
Wednesdays – Anderson > 65
Thursdays – Lanagan > 56
Fridays – Jane > 64

Barton County: Tuesdays – Golden City > 73

Newton County: Thursdays – Granby > 165
Potential meals sites: Jasper, Liberal & Diamond

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3. **MOBILE Food Truck via Ozarks Food Harvest (OFH):**

- Pineville United Methodist Church > 4th Tuesday each month: OFH food served 109 households on 1/28/2025 with Region X handling the logistics.

4. **1099 Medicaid Reassessors:**

- 13 Reassessors serving Barton, Newton, McDonald, Jasper, Pettis, Jackson, Taney & Stone counties. The minimum requirement to qualify for funding is 100 per month; the numbers served/expected to be reassessed are:

January - 248

February – 238

March – 215

5. **Auto Accident:** on 1/15/25, one of our drivers was in an auto accident while driving our 2012 Chev; it was totaled. This claim is now in litigation with person our driver hit. Our broker, Assured Partners, is handling this claim with our auto insurance carrier, West Bend Mutual Insurance.

IV. **Other Business**

None

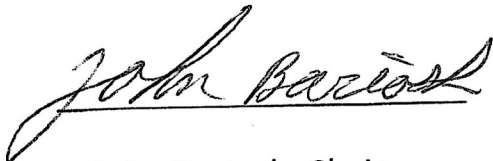
V. **Guest Comments**

None present

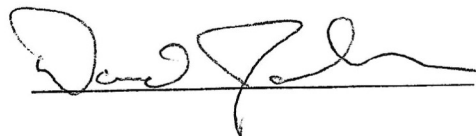
VI. **Adjournment**

1:42 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

**The next meeting will be March 11, 2025 at 1 PM
at the central office**



John Bartosh, Chair



David Johnson, Secretary