

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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

1:10 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

Danial Swem motioned to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2025 meeting, second by David Johnson. Motion carried.

III. Officer/Directors Reports

Jennifer, CEO:

Agency:

1. **FY24 Audit:** financial audit is still underway by McBride & Assoc. Matt Brickey, Carrie & Jennifer are working to finalize the financials.
2. **Mapping issues in MIP:** during this audit, Matt identified several mapping errors (created by Kelly.) Jennifer has vetted a consultant, Jarred Gilmore Phillips, to possibly hire for fixing the mapping issues. His rate is \$200/hour; time needed is estimated to be 15-20 hours.
3. **Fiscal Director:** position is still open; only one resume in last month – applicant lacked experience. Salary range had to be increased in order to draw in qualified candidates.
4. **DHSS Program Monitoring:** FY2024 monitoring is underway.

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5. **OAA Policies** (Older American Act): The new policies directed by the State continue to be worked on by Jennifer, Charlotte, Jeff & Stormy; such as Wait List & Prioritization; Client Grievance; and Client Reprimand policies, and numerous additional policies. However, because DHSS changed the GSN policy (Greatest Social Need) to meet the President & Governor's executive orders, we must now edit our newly created policies, intake forms, etc.
6. **Trucks:** the new box truck is ready in Chicago; we will pick it up to avoid delivery charges and will take the 2018 to be repaired/traded in. The 2012 settlement of \$18K, plus \$35K left on Meal Capacity and Infrastructure Grant can be used to replace the 2012.

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

1. **DHSS Budget:** the budget is **short** 15 million appropriations to cover March-June invoices; (meaning expenses incurred in Feb - June FY25.) The Missouri House passed the emergency appropriation bill, and the Missouri Senate Appropriations Committee voted with a "do pass" recommendation this morning. Next step is that it goes to the Missouri Senate.

** Even if the State gets the appropriations needed, if this Continuing Resolution is not passed by the Federal Government by the March 14 deadline, we still will not be reimbursed for March-April-May-June invoices. We will not be able to continue supporting all programs.*
2. **Contract Monitoring:** both SSGDF & Meal Capacity and Infrastructure contract monitoring passed with no issues.

Charlotte, Resource Director:

1. **Newton County Digital Literacy:** this program is going well; classes start this month with one in Neosho and one in Granby. Tablets are being purchased now.
2. **Senior Expo 2025 on 4/10/25:** this will be held at the Joplin Senior Center. Vendors are registered and we are now marketing the Expo to attendees. Thus far, this event has raised money for 1,000 meals for the nutrition program.
3. **Silver Haired Legislature:** AAAX & our delegates are gearing up for the 2025 conference in October. Some of the proposals being considered: Increase SNAP income/resource limits; Increase access to public buildings for individuals with disabilities (ADA); Increase oversight and accountability for nursing home inspections; Increase funding for MO RX to include ALL eligible Medicare beneficiaries.
4. **Give 5:** the next 4-week session begins April 2 in Joplin.

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Jeff, Program Operations Director:

1. Three current job openings to be filled:

Medicaid Reassessor Contractor – Branson West, MO

Cook's Helper – Joplin senior center (30 hours/week)

Custodian/Cook's Helper – Carl Junction senior center (30 hours/week)

2. Catered Meal Site updates:

- Seven operational meal sites – 452¹ meals served in February:

McDonald County: Mondays – Goodman > 62

Tuesdays – Pineville > 91

Wednesdays – Anderson > 45

Thursdays – Lanagan > 44

Fridays – Jane > 45

Barton County: Tuesdays – Golden City > 65

Newton County: Thursdays – Granby > 100

Pending meals site start-ups:

Diamond @ Memorial Hall; Seneca @ Assembly of God church

¹Lower meal site numbers in February are due to winter weather conditions

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

- Pineville United Methodist Church > 4th Tuesday each month: OFH food served 110 households on 2/25/2025 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:

February – 238

March – 215

April -- 232

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Stormy, Nutrition Director presented by Jennifer:

1. **Staffing Challenges:** over the past two weeks we have lost three kitchen staff members. Given that these are entry-level, part-time positions, recruitment and retention continue to be difficult. We are actively working to address these challenges and ensure smooth operations.
2. **National Nutrition Month:** occurring in March, all our centers are participating in this friendly competition. Given the funding cuts we are facing, this year's efforts to raise money for our centers is more important than ever.

\$3,817 has been raised in just the first week of March:

Joplin: \$1,603

Carl Junction: \$1,045

Lamar: \$700

Carthage: \$263

Webb City: \$140

Catered Meal Sites: \$66

IV. Other Business

None

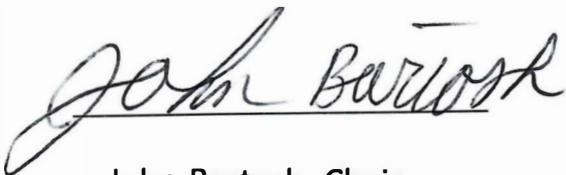
V. Guest Comments

None present

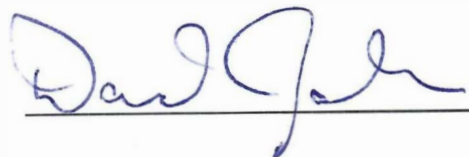
VI. Adjournment

1:42 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

**The next meeting will be April 8, 2025 at 1 PM
at the central office**



John Bartosh, Chair



David Johnson, Secretary