

**ADRC COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
February 12, 2020**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairperson Tom Kelly, Vice Chair Steven Schreier, Carol Pederson, Nancy Watry, Dr. Walt Gager, Jim Winkler, Ed Hammer

COMMITTEE MEMBERS EXCUSED ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Joel Gottsacker, Dawn Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT: Dawn Winquist, Citizen member applicant

Call to order: Chairperson Tom Kelly called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on the first floor of the Health & ADRC Building, 100 W. Keenan Street, Rhinelander, WI. The meeting has been properly posted in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law and the facility is handicap accessible.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Hammer/Gager to approve today's agenda with the order of items at the Chair's discretion. All ayes; motion carried.

Public comment/communications: Dawn Winquist introduced herself and informed the committee that she recently retired from the State of Wisconsin where she worked for six years. She previously worked for Oneida County Department of Social Services for 29 years. Ed Hammer expressed that he is at the end of his second term on April 30, 2020. He stated that he really enjoyed his time on the committee. Tom Kelly also added that he is also at the end of his term on this committee as of April 30, 2020.

Minutes of January 8, 2020: Motion by Watry/ Gager with minor correction to approve the January 8, 2020 ADRC Committee minutes. All ayes; motion carried.

Date/time/location of next meeting: The next meeting will be Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 9 a.m. on the first floor of the Health & ADRC building.

ADRC Committee Member applications review and County Board appointment recommendation: There were three applications submitted for citizen member representation. Schreier asked if question if two appointments should be made, one for the current vacancy and one for the vacancy that will be left at the end of Hammer's term. Committee members agreed. Motion made by Schreier/Hammer to appointment Dawn Winquist to fill the current vacancy and Joan Hauer to replace Hammer as Citizen members and to move forward to County Board next week with their recommendation. All ayes, motion carried.

2020 Department Budget Update: Gottsacker gave an update on the budget. The budget that county board approved is still in force, but is not actually workable in that form based on where the cuts were made by Finance. The resolution to move staff to 40 hours was not approved at the LRES committee and so the amended budget approved by the ADRC committee will not go to the Administration Committee. At the LRES Committee meeting, Charbarneau recommended that the 40-hour workweek not be decided until such time as the ADRC/DSS merger discussions have concluded. Watry inquired why Charbarneau changed her stance since at the ADRC Committee meeting Charbarneau attended last year she appeared to support the move to 40 hours. Schreier stated that Social Services has already been approved for a 40-hour workweek, so this action does not make sense in light of that. Informational only no action taken.

ADRC/Social Services Proposed Merger Discussions: Gottsacker reported that he continues to meet with Charbarneau and Rideout on a weekly basis. They will begin looking at organizational charts next. To date, discussion around cost savings has been in administrative support positions through attrition. Schreier stated that fiscal concerns should not be the driver of these types of changes, but rather the client and the level of service.

Committee members voiced concern and general disagreement with a merger citing the upcoming move from waitlist to entitlement for Family Care; the time and effort it took to integrate Aging & ADRC services; and differences in the models of service delivery between the ADRC and DSS. Winkler and Watry expressed frustration that the committee of jurisdiction is being left out of the discussion and decisions are being made at other committees. Gottsacker informed the committee that a full merger would not take place until 2021 at the earliest.

Informational only, no action taken.

Building Maintenance monthly report: Gottsacker reported that there have been no significant issues with building maintenance. Buildings & Grounds staff have been responsive to requests, generally in a timely manner. Kelly reported that Public Health is concerned by the large piles of snow diminishing the size of the staff parking lot and also impeding drivers. ADRC staff keep a close eye on the sidewalks and entrance in inclement weather and will spread de-icer if necessary. Building cleanliness has been good. Informational only, no action taken.

Northwoods Transit Connections Update Schreier gave the update. January ridership is down a little from last year. It was decided to modify a route to Phelps to every other week in order to create a new route in the Boulder Junction and Manitowish area. Phelps was used primarily for the food pantry. Transit is moving forward on a lease at the building formerly occupied by Nicolet Staffing near the intersection of Highways K and 47. Schreier noted that Transit could have potentially lost staff if the Eagle River location had been chosen due to increased commutes. He also stated that the Rhinelander location is more centrally located and makes sense since Rhinelander

has the highest ridership. The property includes a large garage that can house five to six of the buses. Informational only, no action taken.

Vouchers, purchase orders and line item transfers: Gottsacker presented the vouchers, purchase orders, blanket purchase orders and line item transfers for approval. Motion made by Gager/Pederson to approve the vouchers, purchase orders, blanket purchase orders and line item transfers as presented. All ayes, motion carried.

Monthly Reports: Staff and program reports and unmet needs: Gottsacker presented the monthly reports. There is activity to push the legislature to increase the state funding for Elder Benefits Services as the funding has been flat for many years. Informational only no action taken.

Legislative Update: Gottsacker reported that there is no new Federal legislation of note at this time; the Older Americans Act passed in the Senate and is waiting to get picked up in the House for reconciliation. Gottsacker provided written testimony by GWAAR staff Janet Zander regarding guardianship training and stiffer penalties for elder abuse and exploitation. Informational only, no action taken

Future Agenda items for next meeting: Budget update, citizen member update and all usual items.

Public comment/communications: None

Adjournment: 10:19 AM

Dawn Johnson

Committee Chairman

Committee Secretary