

Minutes  
ADRC of Eagle Country Governance Board Meeting  
February 26, 2021

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The Aging and Disability Resource Center of Eagle Country Governance Board meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m., Friday, February 26, 2021 through video or phone call via Zoom. This meeting can be attended by dialing 1-312-626-6799 and using meeting ID: 847 1225 5110 when prompted.

**Members Present:** Judy Ellington, Bill Stehling, Bette Smart, Elling Jones, Jack Jasinski, Marie Rakow, Donald Stirling, Belinda Granger, Crystal Clark, Terry Wolkowski, Kerry Severson.

**Members Absent:** Pat Dearth

**Others Present:** John Grothjan, Roxanne Klubertanz-Gerber, Rob Fuller, Gina Laack, Susan Blodgett, Ingrid Kovars, Jim Pritzkow.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chairperson, Bette Smart, at 10:00 am.

**Approval Agenda and Posting:** Motion by Jack Jasinski, second by Elling Jones to approve the agenda and proper posting. Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Bill Stehling, second by Marie Rakow to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2020 Meeting. Motion carried.

**Citizen Comments:**

**Welcome from John Grothjan and Bette Smart**

**Board Education: Dashboard Review of 2020**

John Grothjan presented the 2020 Dashboard report for the Region. Report includes number of contacts staff have had with customers, home visits staff went on, number of walk in customers, number or referrals from nursing homes (MDS-Q), number of enrollments into Long Term Care programs, topics discussed with customers, and percentages of Medicaid Match Claimable time based on reporting staff do daily.

**Report from the Field: Jim Pritzkow**

Jim Pritzkow explained the process of transitioning a youth from child services into adult services. Jim also talked about a case he recently worked to get a youth onto adult long term care services. This case included Disability Benefit Specialist, Children's Services, Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, Human Services, Guardianship, and working across state lines. Through collaboration and careful planning the youth was able to seamlessly transfer from children's to adult services without any gaps in Medicaid services.

**Governing Board Education Calendar 2021**

John Grothjan presented a schedule of proposed board education topics for the year.

## **Regional Budget Report**

### **Regional Budget Update**

#### **Approve Regional Office, Dementia Care Specialist Expense Sheets**

Motion by Jack Jasinski, second by Kerry Severson to approve the January 2020 Regional Office and Dementia Care Specialist expenses. Motion Carried.

### **Advocacy Updates**

#### **ADRC Reinvestment**

Governor's Biennial Budget includes \$7 Million to the ADRC however at first glance it seems to be earmarked specifically to Caregiver resources, Dementia Care Specialist, and Tribal ADRC support. These areas that need additional funding but so far the underfunding of ADRCs across the state has not been addressed. Next steps will be getting legislators to introduce a bill to suggest additional funding to ADRCs into the budget. Regional director will suggest next steps as we hear of actions being taken to achieve this funding increase.

#### **The potential advantages of home care for aging populations**

Don Stirling talked to the board about an AARP article regarding Nursing Home residents during the pandemic. This has led to a ban on the creation of new Nursing Homes in Minnesota as well as some really creative movement to advance home care services and eliminate the need for nursing homes. Tom Balsley of the Office of Resource Center Development comes from Minnesota and might have some insight into this topic. John Grothjan to contact. Jim Pritzkow was able to speak directly to this issue. The goal of the ADRC is always to help individuals to have home care when safe for the individual. The direct issue with achieving this is that direct care workers are in very short supply. In home care remains a very difficult career with a low wage. There is a great need to make this a more desirable career with a livable wage. It has been shown that home care saves a great deal of Medicaid dollars when compared with having an individual in Nursing homes.

More education into what actions the regional board could take to help further this advocacy topic was requested.

### **Vaccination Updates**

ADRC staff and drivers are all being vaccinated.

Baraboo interested in hiring an LTE to work with the transportation department to set up community vaccination clinics and getting nurses out to those who are homebound.

Richland Center is working with Health and Human Services director and public health about transportation to get individuals vaccinated as well as outreach.

Prairie du Chien holds about two clinics per week based on when vaccines are available. The county has had a town hall meeting with the local legislators to advocate for vaccines. They are

experiencing large wait lists. There has been wonderful collaboration between county lines when there are shortages and surpluses in different counties.

Mauston ADRC staff fully vaccinated, volunteer drivers and meal site managers are being vaccinated as well. Juneau County has gone through 65+ list and has set up a testing and vaccine clinic.

**Approve Regional Director to sign 2021 Regional Office**

Motion by Don Stirling, second by Elling Jones to approve John Grothjan, Regional Director, to sign the 2021 lease for the regional office. Motion Carried.

**Approve Regional Director to sign 2021 Grant Agreement between State of WI Dept. of Health Services and ADRC of Eagle Country**

Motion by Jack Jasinski, second by Marie Rakow to approve John Grothjan, Regional Director, to sign the sign 2021 Grant Agreement between State of WI Dept. of Health Services and ADRC of Eagle Country. Motion Carried.

**Board Transitions in April**

Board terms were discussed.

**Regional and Office Updates**

Handout included.

**Policy Updates, Conflict of Interest, and Dementia Guiding Principles**

John Grothjan updated the board that the regional Conflict of Interest and Confidentiality policies have been updated to match ORCD policies. Dementia Guiding Principles will now be reviewed with staff as a part of the Dementia Care Specialist.

**Update on Pam Kul-Berg our New DCS, Next month meet and greet**

**Next meeting date:**

March 26, 2021 @10:00AM via Zoom

**Other Discussion and Suggested items for Next Agenda:**

Home care partnerships in Wisconsin.

**Adjourn:** Motion by Bill Stehling second by Don Stirling to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ingrid Kovars  
Regional Quality Coordinator

Reviewed by John Grothjan: