

Members Present: Tony Bair, Curtis Gale, Bob Harvey, Brent Leininger, Aimrie Ream-Taylor, Cynthia Richardson, Debbie Shepard, Keith Williams, Chris Wittenbach, Ken Wyatt

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff: Nichole Baker, Bill DeSmet, Kara Lorenz-Goings, Greg Schira, Julie Wetherby, Claire Warner, Jeff Willet

Guests: Ashley Ellsworth, Ward Wilson

1. Call to Order, Opening Ceremony, and Roll Call of Members

Chairperson Brent Leininger called a regular meeting of the WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors to order at 2:01 p.m. on August 22, 2024. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance, and the executive assistant called the roll.

2. Approval of Agenda

Tony Bair moved to approve the agenda as presented, Keith Williams seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

3. Guests

The WellWise staff members, and guests, introduced themselves.

4. Approval of Minutes

Tony Bair moved to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2024 Board Meeting as presented, Bob Harvey seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

Curtis Gale moved to approve the minutes of the July 18, 2024 closed session, the May 23, 2024, 2:26 p.m. closed session, and May 23, 2024, 3:17 p.m. closed session as presented, Tony Bair seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

5. Public Comment: None

6. Presentations

Compliance 2024 Claire Warner, Chief Quality Officer for WellWise Services, presented the role of the Board of Directors in the WellWise Services Compliance Program. The presentation included the seven elements of an effective compliance program, MI Choice Contract and Office of Inspector General Requirements, and Board Member requirements for compliance at WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging.

FY 2025 Draft Budget The Board Members reviewed a proposed FY 2025 budget for WellWise Services. The presentation included identified needs not included in the proposed budget, exempt staff grade & step system annual adjustment, new position requests, FY 2025 assumptions, growth and mission driven opportunities, a Safe Haven update, FY 2025 grant revenue, MI Choice Waiver budget assumptions, and requests for fund reserve usage.

7. Reports

a. Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports (ACLS)

Ashley Ellsworth reported the following:

- The State Commission on Services to the Aging approved the WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging FY 2025 Area Implementation Plan last Friday, August 16, 2024.
- The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services awarded \$1.6 million to the Area Agencies on Agency Association of Michigan from the Home and Community Based Services plan for Caregiver supports.
- ACLS is anticipating continuing resolutions for the FY 2025 federal budget, and will issue three months of funding at a time to the Area Agencies on Aging.

b. Agency Chief Executive Officer

The Board Members reviewed a report from Julie Wetherby and WellWise Services managers on activities for the past month. Julie added the following items:

- One commissioner noted the necessity of a diverse Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors membership during the State Commission on Services to the Aging meeting on August 16, 2024.
- A Community Listening Session focused on Options Counseling will take place on August 28, 2024, 1:30 pm at the Hillsdale County Senior Services Center.
- WellWise Services email account was hacked today so recipients need to be aware that messages may not be legitimate.

c. Advisory Council

The Board Members reviewed a report from the August 20, 2024 Advisory Council meeting. Ward Wilson thanked the Board and WellWise Services staff for naming him Volunteer of the Year, and reported that the Advisory Council reviewed the Advisory Council Bylaws recently approved by the Board, recommended that a proposal for a transportation voucher program be approved, welcomed new Council members Gordon Gauss and Sharon Wimple, and recommended the approval of the membership of Nancy Francis and Janis Montalvo. Ward also reported that Council member Les Smith is hospitalized and participated in the meeting from the hospital.

The Board Members discussed the transportation voucher proposal and requested additional data to support the request and a break-out of costs before further discussion.

Tony Bair moved to approve the application submitted by Nancy Francis for membership on the Advisory Council representing Hillsdale County, and the application submitted by Janis Montalvo for at-large membership, Curtis Gale seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

8. Unfinished Business: None

9. New Business

FY 2025 Meeting Schedule The Board Members reviewed a proposed schedule of meetings for FY 2025, and

Ken Wyatt moved to approve the proposed schedule of meetings for FY 2025 as presented, Chris Wittenbach seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

FY 2025 Budget Proposal

Bob Harvey moved to direct the Finance Team to continue with the proposed budget as presented, Tony Bair seconded. Motion failed.

Curtis Gale moved to amend Bob Harvey's motion to include the budget items discussed during the Board meeting and the \$100,000 for the transportation voucher program, Tony Bair seconded. Motion failed.

Keith Williams moved to direct the Finance Team to proceed with the proposed budget as presented, Chris Wittenbach seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

Keith Williams moved to direct the Finance Team to include \$75,000 from the fund reserve for Capital Call, and \$75,000 from the fund reserve for ACLS shortfall in the proposed budget as requested, Chris Wittenbach seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

10. Board Member Comments and Questions

Keith Williams noted that the Finance Committee Notes document distributed during the Board Meeting should read "YTD Net Income through June 2024" rather than May 2024.

11. Adjournment: The Board Members adjourned the meeting at 4:49 p.m. after a motion by Tony Bair and support by Debbie Shepard, with no one opposed.

Next Board Meeting: September 19 2024 at 2:00 p.m.



Greg Schira, Executive Assistant



Julie Wetherby, Board Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors on September 19, 2024.