

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

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

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

Guests: 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 2:02 p.m. on September 19, 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 amended to include Swain Park Donation under New Business, 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 August 22, 2024 Board Meeting as presented, Bob Harvey seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
5. Public Comment: None
6. Presentation: Teresa Smith, WellWise Services Volunteer and MMAP Regional Coordinator, presented information about the Michigan Medicare Assistance Program, including the following items:
 - 3,147 beneficiaries have been served, 2,013.85 hours have been spent counseling, and counselors have saved beneficiaries \$934,375 to date for FY 2024.
 - Annual enrollment period will be October 15 – December 7, 2024; volunteer counselors will be available onsite and by phone.
 - A counselor will be available every day at WellWise Services, and will also be available on certain days in other locations in the three counties, such as Departments on Aging and Senior Centers.
 - Senior Medicare Patrol is keeping track of a significant number of Medicare scams.
7. Reports
 - a. Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports (ACLS)
Julie Wetherby reported the following:
 - The remaining Annual Implementation Plans will be presented to the State Commission on Services to the Aging tomorrow in Lansing.
 - The ACLS is still waiting on notification regarding the federal budget to determine funding to the Area Agencies on Aging.

- The ACLS is reorganizing how the MMAP (Michigan Medicare Assistance Program) is sponsored. The State will issue a request for proposal for options counseling and MMAP counseling will be included in the RFP.
- Current State funding goes through March 31.

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:

- Marj Hobe, Michigan Medicare Assistance Program volunteer, received an award from AARP this month.
- Glen Ashlock and Kara Lorenz-Goings have been recognized in a professional journal for their work in developing a caregiver app.
- Martha York has been honored by Jackson Magazine as a Health Care Angel.

c. Advisory Council

The Board Members reviewed a report from the September 17, 2024 Advisory Council meeting. Ward Wilson, Advisory Council Chair, reported the following

- Council Member Les Smith attended the meeting in person after attending virtually for several months due to illness
- The Council members discussed MiGen and donor development
- Council Member Rosemary Abramovich reported on Michigan Senior Advocates Council (MSAC) activities. Dillon Donaghey will represent WellWise Services on the MSAC going forward.
- A committee was formed for FY 2025 officer nominations
- Lou Ann Bryant from Lenawee County has retired from the Council.

8. Committee Business

- a. Personnel Committee: Keith Williams reported that the Personnel Committee met on September 16, 2024 with Curtis Gale, Brent Leininger, Cynthia Richardson, Keith Williams, Chris Wittenbach, and Ken Wyatt attending in person.
1. The Committee members reviewed a request for an additional Options Counselor position and recommended approval by the full Board.
Keith Williams moved to approve the request for an additional Options Counselor position at the rate of \$24.87 per hour for a total cost of \$72,706 for ten months, including benefits, Aimrie Ream-Taylor seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
 2. The Committee members reviewed a request to add the new position of Clinical Educator and recommended approval by the full Board.
Keith Williams moved to approve the request to add the new position of Clinical Educator at the cost of \$53,238 for six months, including benefits, Ken Wyatt seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
- b. Finance Committee: Tony Bair reported that The Finance Committee met on September 17, 2024 with Tony Bair, Bob Harvey, Brent Leininger, and Chris Wittenbach attending in person.
1. The Committee members reviewed a revised draft of the WellWise Services FY 2025 Budget, a description of a transportation voucher pilot program, and a request to use up to \$50,000 from operating reserves for an Unmet Needs supplement. Bill DeSmet narrated the changes from the draft

presented to the Board in August. The members of the committee recommended approval of each item.

Tony Bair moved to approve the revised FY 2025 budget with the addition of the transportation voucher pilot program, and the unmet needs supplement request, Bob Harvey seconded. Discussion regarding including the transportation voucher pilot program and allocation of \$50,000 to Unmet Needs in the budget. Motion failed after a roll call vote: Tony Bair-yes, Curtis Gale-no, Bob Harvey-yes, Brent Leininger-yes, Aimrie Ream-Taylor-yes, Cynthia Richardson-no, Chris Wittenbach-no, Keith Williams-yes no, Ken Wyatt-no.

2. The Committee members reviewed a history of Board stipend amounts, and the amount of the stipend with an annual 3% increase, and recommended increasing the stipend to \$62.00.

Tony Bair moved to increase the Board and Advisory Council stipend to \$62.00, Chris Wittenbach seconded. Motion failed after a roll call vote: Curtis Gale-no, Bob Harvey-no, Brent Leininger-no, Aimrie Ream-Taylor-no, Cynthia Richardson-no, Chris Wittenbach-yes, Keith Williams-no, Ken Wyatt-no, Tony Bair-no.

3. The members of the Committee reviewed the financial reports for the month ended July 31, 2024, and recommended approval.

Tony Bair moved to approve the Statement of Financial Position, the Income Statement, the Income Statement by Program, the Grant Spend Down Analysis, and Julie Wetherby's credit card statement for the month ended July 31, 2024, Bob Harvey seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

4. Keith Williams moved to approve the FY 2025 budget with a \$100,000 exclusion for transportation, Chris Wittenbach supported. Motion carried after a roll call vote: Bob Harvey-yes, Brent Leininger-yes, Aimrie Ream-Taylor-yes, Cynthia Richardson-yes, Chris Wittenbach-yes, Keith Williams-yes, Ken Wyatt-yes, Tony Bair-yes, Curtis Gale-yes.

- c. Compliance Committee: Curtis Gale reported that the Compliance Committee met on September 19, 2024 with all members present.

1. The Compliance Officer presented her report.
2. The Committee members continued reviewing the Board Bylaws, and tabled further review until the next Committee meeting.
3. The next Committee meeting will take place on October 24, 2024 at 12:30 p.m.

- d. Executive Committee: Brent Leininger reported that Executive Committee met on August 29 to discuss Julie Wetherby's contract with her.

1. The Committee will meet after the Board Meeting today to continue contract negotiations.
2. Without an approved revised contract, Julie's existing contract language dictates that she will receive a salary increase effective October 1 the same as the other exempt Agency staff received on the wage schedule earlier this year.

9. Unfinished Business: None

10. New Business

- a. FY 2025 Meeting Schedule The Board Members reviewed a proposed change to the schedule of meetings for FY 2025, and
Curtis Gale moved to reschedule the Compliance Committee meeting and Board Meeting on June 19, 2025 to June 18, 2025, Chris Wittenbach supported. Motion carried with no one opposed.
- b. Swain Park Donation: The Board Members discussed WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging donating to the Kiwanis Club of Brooklyn Swain Park Playground Renovation Project, and
Keith Williams moved to donate \$1,000.00 to the Swain Park fundraising campaign, Ken Wyatt seconded. Motion carried with Brent Leininger and Cynthia Richardson opposed.

11. Board Member Comments and Questions

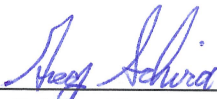
Aimrie Ream-Taylor: Thank you to WellWise Services for approving staff member Cami Emerson's participation in Leadership Lenawee.

Keith Williams requested the report that prompted the transportation proposal, and a list of agencies that currently provide transportation. Keith proposed exploring whether or not WellWise Services can support those agencies to provide intercounty transportation, and continuing the discussion at the next Board Meeting.

Ken Wyatt inquired how far back to go in providing previous addresses for the WellWise Services Employee Criminal History & Sex Offenders Registries Check Certification. (Jeff Willet and Claire Warner responded to include addresses within the last twenty years and to include at least the state.)

12. Adjournment: The Board Members adjourned the meeting at 3:48 p.m. after a motion by Tony Bair and support by Bob Harvey, with no one opposed.

Next Board Meeting: October 24, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.



Greg Schira, Executive Assistant



Julie Wetherby, Board Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors on October 24, 2024.