

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

Members Excused: Bob Harvey

Members Absent: None

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

Guests: Ashley Ellsworth

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 November 21, 2024. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance, Brent read the WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging Mission Statement, and the executive assistant called the roll.

2. Approval of Agenda

Tony Bair moved to approve the agenda as amended to include Statements of Contract Award for the period October 1 – December 31, 2024 under New Business, Ken Wyatt 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 October 24, 2024 Board Meeting as presented, Cynthia Richardson seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

5. Public Comment: None

6. Presentations

Claire Warner, WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging Chief Quality Officer, presented a report on the Clinical Quality Assurance Review (CQAR) for FY 2024.

WellWise Services Officers presented the Fiscal Year 2025 Strategic Plan and FY 2025 SWOT analysis as well as a summary of Fiscal Year 2024 Strategic Plan progress.

7. Reports

Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports (ACLS): Ashley Ellsworth reported the following:

- The federal government is currently operating under a continuing resolution that is in effect through December 20, 2024 for the Fiscal Year 2025 budget. The ACLS has issued Statements of Grant Award for remaining balance of federal funds and a month of state funding through December 30, 2024.
- The Commission on Services to the Aging has approved new criteria for Annual Implementation Plans and will issue instructions for completing the AIPs to the Area Agencies on Aging.
- The reauthorization bill for the Older Americans Act has passed in the U.S. Senate and needs to pass in the House of Representatives before Congress adjourns for the year. The bill will be reintroduced in 2025 if not passed and the current authorization will remain in effect in the meantime.

a. 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:

- WellWise Services has organized a coin drive this year to benefit Holidays at Home.
- Michigan Health Endowment Fund has awarded WellWise Services a two-year grant for replicating the Safe Haven program.
- WellWise Services will receive funding until September 30, 2025 for development of the caregiver resource center.
- State RFP for centralized options counseling has been renamed General Fund Opportunity GFO. WellWise Services exploring partnership with organizations such as Departments on Aging, and will know if awarded the bid by the end of January.

Julie addressed the following items brought forward by Board Members:

- Michigan Medicare Assistance Program demographics provided in the report are tracked by the software.
- Veteran Directed Care program participants are referred to WellWise Services by the Veterans Administration hospital. Board Member Tony Bair noted that Old National Bank sponsors a program that provides homes to homeless veterans using a list provided by the VA.

b. Advisory Council

The Board Members reviewed a report from the November 19, 2024 Advisory Council meeting. Julie Wetherby highlighted the silent auction fundraiser for Holidays at Home in which the Advisory Council members participated, and the community needs discussion that took place during the Council meeting .

8. Committee Business

a. Personnel Committee: Keith Williams reported that the Personnel Committee met on November 18, 2024 with Curtis Gale, Brent Leininger, Cynthia Richardson, Keith Williams, Chris Wittenbach, and Ken Wyatt attending in person, and

1. The Committee members met in closed session to discuss an attorney opinion.
2. The Committee members continued reviewing the CEO performance evaluation tool.

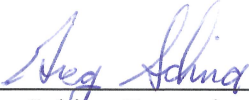
b. Finance Committee: Tony Bair reported that the Finance Committee met on November 19, 2024 with Tony Bair, Bob Harvey, Brent Leininger, Debbie Shepard, and Chris Wittenbach attending in person, and

1. The Committee members reviewed a Fiscal Year 2025 Development Report showing general donations, and event contributions to WellWise Services programs.
2. The Committee members discussed provider rates.
3. The Committee members reviewed the financial reports for the month ended September 30, 2024 and recommended approval.

Tony Bair moved to approve the Statement of Financial Position, the Income Statement, the Income Statement by Program, and the Grant Spend Down Analysis dated September 30, 2024, and Julie Wetherby's credit card statement for the month ended September 30, 2024, Curtis Gale supported. Motion carried with no one opposed.

9. Unfinished Business: None
10. New Business
- a. Board Subcommittee for Review of Non-federal and/or State-supported Programs and Donor Fund Activity
Curtis Gale moved to table discussion until the January Board meeting, Chris Wittenbach supported. Motion carried with no one opposed.
- b. Statements of Contract Award: The Board Members reviewed Statements of Contract Award 2025-2 for Older Americans Act funds for the period October 1 – December 30, 2024, and
Tony Bair moved that the SCA in the amount of \$91,056 for the Jackson County Department on Aging, \$67,705 for the Lenawee County Department on Aging, \$31,411 for the Hillsdale County Senior Services Center, \$3,016 for Catholic Charities, and \$12,551 for the Michigan Advocacy Program Legal Services of South Central Michigan through December 2024 be approved, Chris Wittenbach seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
- c. The Board Members entered a closed session to address attorney client privileged information after a motion by Tony Bair and second by Ken Wyatt. Roll call vote: Brent Leininger-yes, Aimrie Ream-Taylor-yes, Cynthia Richardson-yes, Debbie Shepard-yes, Chris Wittenbach-yes, Keith Williams-yes, Ken Wyatt-yes, Tony Bair-yes, Curtis Gal-yes.
- d. Aimrie Ream-Taylor moved to accept the recommendation of the WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging attorney, Chris Wittenbach seconded. Motion carried after a roll call vote: Aimrie Ream-Taylor-yes, Cynthia Richardson-no, Debbie Shepard-yes, Chris Wittenbach-yes, Keith Williams-yes, Ken Wyatt-yes, Tony Bair-yes, Curtis Gale-no, Brent Leininger-no.
11. Board Member Comments and Questions
Curtis Gale: Happy Holidays to all.
Debbie: Happy Holidays to all.
Keith Williams: Appreciates serving on a board where open, civil discourse is possible. Happy New Year to everyone.
Brent Leininger: Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year. Memorial service for Bob Harvey's wife will take place Saturday at 11:00 a.m. at Abundant Life Church on US Highway 127.
Julie Wetherby: The WellWise Services Holiday Open House will take place on December 12, 2024, 2:30-5:00 p.m.
12. Adjournment: The Board Members adjourned the meeting at 4:05 p.m. after a motion by Tony Bair and support by Cynthia Richardson, with no one opposed.

Next Board Meeting: January 23, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.



Greg Schira, Executive Assistant



Julie Wetherby, Board Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors on January 23, 2025.