

WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging
Minutes of the Board of Directors Regular Meeting
August 20, 2026
107 Chicago Street, Brooklyn, Michigan

Members Present: Jenna Chmielewski, Curtis Gale, Bob Harvey, Brent Leininger (virtual attendance from Hillsdale, Michigan), Lisa Maletic, Aimrie Ream-Taylor, Ray Snell, Jim Van Doren, Keith Williams, Ken Wyatt

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff: Nichole Baker, Malloree Colburn, Anna Hayes, Alphonsus Ibe, Kara Lorenz-Goings, Michele Sanders, Greg Schira, BreAnnia Smith-Roberts, Claire Warner, Jeff Willet

Guest: Rosemary Abramovich

1. Call to Order, Opening Ceremony, and Roll Call of Members
Keith Williams called the WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging Board of Directors regular meeting to order at 2:04 p.m. on August 20, 2026. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance, Keith read the WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging Mission Statement, the executive assistant called the roll.
2. Approval of Agenda
Ray Snell moved to approve the agenda as presented, Aimrie Ream-Taylor seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
3. Guests
The guest, and WellWise Services staff members, introduced themselves.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Presentation: The Board Members reviewed a proposed budget for WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging for FY 2027.
6. Consent Agenda
Ray Snell moved to approve the consent agenda with the removal of the minutes of the June 18, 2026 regular meeting of the WellWise Services Board of Directors, Bob Harvey seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
7. Approval of Minutes
Aimrie Ream-Taylor moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2026 regular meeting of the WellWise Services Board of Directors as amended, Ken Wyatt seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
8. Reports
 - a. Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports (ACLS): No report
 - b. Agency Chief Executive Officer
The Board Members reviewed a report from Kara Lorenz-Goings and WellWise Services managers on activities for the past month. Kara noted the following:
 - The State Commission on Services to the Aging met at WellWise Services in July. The Commission also held a public hearing at WellWise Services following the regular Commission meeting.
 - WellWise Services staff attended the annual US Aging Conference in July. WellWise Services received the Innovation Award for the Agency's

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Navigation Home program, and staff lead discussions in several sessions including Safe Haven, and Assistive Technology.

- WellWise Services staff are continuing to work on the new multi-year plan, and reviewing provider proposals.
- The Agency received a 100% audit from the Bureau of Aging, Community Living, and Supports.
- Les Smith, a member of the Advisory Council, referenced the Community Transition Services story included in the report to the Board during the recent Advisory Council meeting. He noted Men With a Vision built the ramp for the participant featured in the story.

c. Advisory Council

The Board Members reviewed a report from the August 18, 2026 Advisory Council meeting. Rosemary Abramovich, Advisory Council Chair, highlighted the following:

- The Council decided to keep the current meeting day and time for FY 2027.
- The Council will work on building greater rapport with the Board, and interacting more with residents of the three counties.
- The Council members discussed rescheduling canceled meetings, and gave the responsibility of rescheduling to the Executive Committee.
- Three Council members volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee for FY 2027 Council officers.
- The Adrian Dominican Sisters and co-workers raised money throughout the year and donated the funds to the Lenawee Department on Aging.

9. Committee Business

Finance Committee: Bob Harvey reported the following from the Finance Committee meeting on August 18, 2026:

- The Finance Committee met on August 18, 2026 with Bob Harvey, Jim Van Doren, Brent Leininger, and Keith Williams attending in person.
- Kara Lorenz-Goings reported on various projects that were funded by the infrastructure grant, and the punch list for the Lower Level project. Kara confirmed that projects were completed within grant requirements and timeline.
- The Committee members reviewed the financial reports for the month ended June 30, 2026, and recommended full Board approval.
- Kara reported a reduction in Waiver rates and the possible impact on the proposed FY 2027 budget.

10. Unfinished Business: None

11. New Business

- a. Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports (ACLS) Audit: The Board Members reviewed a letter from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (attached) noting no findings in the recent audit.
- b. Board Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy: The Board Members reviewed the updated Board Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy, and Bob Harvey moved to approve the Board Conflict of Interest Disclosure Policy as presented, Jenna Chmielewski seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.

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- c. Bylaws Proposal: The Board Members reviewed a draft of amended Board Bylaws, and,
 Ray Snell moved to approve the Board Bylaws as presented, Bob Harvey seconded. Discussion.
 Ken Wyatt moved to amend the motion to include adding WellWise Services Board Chairperson to the last sentence of Article IV, Section 9, Ray Snell seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
 The Board Members carried the original motion to approve the Board Bylaws, as amended, with no one opposed.
- d. FY 2027 Meeting Schedule: The Board Members reviewed a draft of the meeting schedule for FY 2027 (attached), and.
 Jim Van Doren moved to adopt the FY 2027 meeting schedule as presented, Aimrie Ream-Taylor seconded. Motion carried with no one opposed.
- e. Provider Screening Information Tool: The Board Members received the FY 2027 Provider Screening Information Collection Tool to complete.
12. Board Member Comments and Questions
 Jenna Chmielewski: *Rock the Dock for a Cure* scheduled August 30, 2026, 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. at Eagle's Nest Bar & Grill to benefit Walk to End Alzheimer's.
 Aimrie Ream-Taylor: City of Adrian Police Department has scheduled a scam prevention and awareness presentation on September 3, 2026, 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., in the Adrian City Chambers.
 Ray Snell: Jackson County Commissioners voted to put a 911 cell phone fee increase on the November ballot to help fund new radios for first responders. The \$1.50 increase will also help fund 911 operations.
13. Adjournment: The Board Members adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m. after a motion by Jim Van Doren.

Next Board Meeting: September 24, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Signed by:



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Greg Schira, Executive Assistant

Signed by:



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Kara Lorenz-Goings, Board Secretary

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____.



STATE OF MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

AMY EPKEY
ACTING DIRECTOR

July 2, 2026

Kara Lorenz-Goings
Chief Executive Officer
WellWise Area Agency on Aging
107 Chicago Street
Brooklyn, MI 49230

Dear Ms. Lorenz-Goings:

On June 23, 2026, staff from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, State Unit on Aging (SUA), conducted an assessment of WellWise Services Area Agency on Aging (WWS AAA). Areas of operation covered during the assessment included the following: Area Agency on Aging Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Program Outcome Assessment Guide, FY 2026 Area Agency Assessment Guide, and a review of changes, improvements and/or corrections made since the previous assessment.

The SUA has completed the assessment and there are no findings or recommendations, and the assessment is considered concluded.

We appreciate the time and cooperation provided by you and your staff involved in the assessment. If you have questions, please contact your Aging Network Support (ANS) Section Regional Aging Representative, Ashley Ellsworth, at ellswortha2@michigan.gov or 517-294-9680.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Werner".

Scott Werner, Director
Operations & Aging Network Support Division

SW:ae

c: Keith Williams, Board Chair, WWS AAA
Nichole Baker, Chief Services Officer, WWS AAA
Jen Hunt, Manager, ANS Section
Ashley Ellsworth, Regional Aging Representative, ANS Section

WellWise Services Board of Directors and Advisory Council

Fiscal Year 2027 Meeting Schedule

Approved by the Board of Directors on _____.

Personnel Committee

Monday – 2:00 p.m.

October 19, 2026	January 18, 2027	April 19, 2027	No July Meeting
November 16, 2026	No February Meeting	May 17, 2027	August 16, 2027
No December Meeting	March 15, 2027	June 21, 2027	September 20, 2027

Advisory Council

Tuesday – 10:00 a.m.

October 20, 2026	No May Meeting (Area Implementation Plan Public Hearing occurs)		
November 17, 2026	June 22, 2027		
No December Meeting	No July Meeting		
January 19, 2027	August 17, 2027		
No February Meeting	September 21, 2027		
March 16, 2027			
April 20, 2027			

Finance Committee

Tuesday – 2:00 p.m.

October 20, 2026	January 19, 2027	April 20, 2027	No July Meeting
November 17, 2026	No February Meeting	May 18, 2027	August 17, 2027
No December Meeting	March 16, 2027	June 22, 2027	September 21, 2027

Compliance Committee

Thursday – 12:30 p.m. (quarterly)

November 19, 2026	March 18, 2027	June 24, 2027	September 23, 2027
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Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday – 2:00 p.m.

October 22, 2026	May 20, 2027
November 19, 2026	June 24, 2027
No December Meeting	No July Meeting
January 21, 2027	August 19, 2027
No February Meeting	September 23, 2027
March 18, 2027	
April 22, 2027	

Board, Committee, and Advisory Council Meetings take place during the *third full week of each month (third week of the month that begins with a Monday)*.

Annual Events

Staff Recognition	October 7, 2026	Annual Celebration	TBD
Holiday Open House	December, 2026	Safe Haven Benefit	June, 2027
Annual Meeting	May 20, 2027		