

DEPARTMENT ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD

Cari Rebottaro
LDA Director

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MEMBERS

Russ Amo, President, Commissioner Terry Collins, Commissioner Ralph Tillotson, Gloria Bortnichak, Karol Bolton, Jeffrey DiCenzo, Darwin Vandevender, Cathleen Judkins, Carol Zawacki, Chris Peoples, Alan Dickerson, Julie Hackett, Burt Fenby

MEETING LOCATION

Old County Courthouse
301 N. Main St.
Adrian, MI 49221

Minutes: Thursday, May 22, 2025

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:00pm by President, Russ Amo

II. Roll Call

Present: Russ Amo, Commissioner Terry Collins, Carol Zawacki, Jeffrey Dicenso, Gloria Bortnichak, Darwin Vandevender, Burt Fenby, Alan Dickerson, Chris Peoples, Karol Bolton

Also Present: Director Cari Rebottaro, Deputy Director Dillon Donaghy, Adrian Senior Center Director Turi Meining, Administrative Assistant Carissa Zubke

Absent: Commissioner Ralph Tillotson, Catherine Judkins, Julie Hackett

III. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes: April 24, 2025

A motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Commissioner Collins. Alan Dickerson offered support. The motion was voted upon and passed.

IV. Department on Aging Director's Report

A. LDA - Director's Report

Budget: Director Rebottaro clarified where the amounts listed on the monthly highlight sheet come from and what they mean. Director Rebottaro explained the monthly statements that are sent out to clients who receive services and will provide an example of these at the June meeting.

Monthly expenses for the month of April were \$366,619 and 44.5% of the budget has been spent for this fiscal year.

Director Rebottaro presented a "Did You Know?" fact sheet about senior centers and how they are funded and how those funds are dispersed.

Home Services: Director Rebottaro and Deputy Director Donaghy explained the current waitlist and what that looks like from an LDA standpoint as well as other agencies across the state. Part of the waitlist challenge is that Home Care staff are matched with clients in their

area to reduce the cost of mileage. Director Rebottaro shared that the LDA is always looking for creative ways to fill out the staffing and better serve those in need of Home Care services.

B. Presentation: Turi Meining, Adrian Senior Center Director - Senior Centers Role to Aging In Place

Adrian Senior Center Director, Turi Meining, gave a passionate talk on not only what Lenawee County senior centers do but also what they mean to those who attend. She highlighted many activities that were able to keep participants social and engaged during the pandemic while highlighting many benefits that people do not associate with the centers, like physical exercise. There is something there for everyone to enjoy.

V. Existing Business

A. Centralized Kitchen

President Amo reminded everyone that progress pictures can be viewed every week on the Lenawee County website, lenawee.mi.us, and Granger updates them every Friday. Director Rebottaro shared that the coolers are in the building and the walls are painted. More equipment is coming in every day and the space is starting to take shape. She shared that the LDA has been completing an overhaul on inventory across the centers that will not be used and will be looking to have a sale to get rid of these items.

VI. New Business

Director Rebottaro spoke at length as to what the outlook for the SHIP program looks like. It has recently changed from MMAP to SHIP and is currently at risk of losing funding due to Federal and State budget cuts. This would result in fewer counseling options for Medicare-eligible older adults in Michigan as of October 1st, 2025. Director Rebottaro used this time to talk about the steps the LDA is taking to ensure stability in preparation for multiple scenarios down the road. She shared that things may have to change, but those conversations are happening now, rather than waiting for them to happen and react down the line.

VII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

VIII. Board Member Comment

Director Rebottaro shared that there would be a dueling piano event at the Adrian Senior Center in August with more details to come.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Terry Collins made a motion to adjourn, supported by Alan Dickerson, the motion passed. President Amo adjourned the meeting at 1:53pm.

Department on Aging Advisory Board
5/22/2025