



**ELDERBRIDGE AGENCY ON AGING  
 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
 Zoom Conference Call  
 Wednesday, February 22, 2023  
 10:30 a.m.**

**0.0 Call to Order**

Chair Randy Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

**0.1** The Advisory Council members, staff members, and guests introduced themselves. Also present were: Shelly Sindt, CEO; Stacia Timmer, COO; Amy B. Simpson, Executive Assistant; and Laura Allen, Volunteer Coordinator. Ethan Huizenga, Board Liaison was excused. A quorum was present with 21 members in attendance.

Vacant Audubon		Deb Sabin Franklin	Ph	Vacant Osceola	
Lisa Funk Buena Vista	Ph	Penny Tiffany Greene	Ph	Diana Elbert Palo Alto	Ex
Leane Bodle Calhoun	A	Robert Kempf Guthrie	Ex	Linda Saathoff Pocahontas	Ex
Michelle Klocke Carroll P	Ph	Becky Koppen Hamilton	Ph	Carol Auen Sac	A
Amanda Kaufman Cerro Gordo	Ph	Amy Callahan Hancock	Ph	Merry Landenberger Sioux	Ph
Randy Van Dyke Clay	Ph	Jan Olson Humboldt	Ph	Beth Gernhart Webster	Ph
Vacant Crawford		Dan Peterson Kossuth	Ph	Rick Burke Winnebago	Ph
Carol DeSchepper Dickinson	Ph	Lisa Rockhill Lyon	Ph	Sandra Olson Worth	Ph
Jessica Carlson Emmet	Ph	Vacant Mitchell		Tracy Crees Wright	A
Pat Gansen Floyd	Ph	Eric Erickson O'Brien	Ph	Ethan Huizenga Board Rep	Ex
Deb Kratchovil At-large	Ph	Carl Legore At-Large	Ph	Dan Skelton At-Large	Ex

**0.2** Items to be added to/deleted from the Agenda by Council Members and Staff  
No new items were added to the agenda.

**0.3** Adopt Agenda

It was moved by Lisa Rockhill and seconded by Merry Landenberger to adopt the February 22, 2022, meeting agenda. Motion carried.

**1.0** Council Affairs

**1.1** Approval of the October 26, 2022, Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Lisa Rockhill and seconded by Merry Landenberger that the October 26, 2022, meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried.

**1.2** Seating of new Advisory Council member, Penny Tiffany, Greene County

Chair Van Dyke asked Penny Tiffany to introduce herself to the Advisory Council. She had served on the Advisory Council in the past and is a retired nurse and is looking forward to serving again. It was moved by Lisa Rockhill and seconded by Sandy Olson to seat Penny Tiffany on the Advisory Council. Motion carried.

**1.3** Upcoming term renewals, and current vacant counties.

The meeting packet included a list of the members that are up for term renewal. CEO Sindt stated that all members on the list are up for renewal and are encouraged to serve another term as their participation is valued. Applications will be sent out and members will be seated at the May Advisory Council meeting for their new terms. The current vacant counties are Audobon, Crawford, Mitchell, and Osceola. Efforts are ongoing to fill those counties.

**1.4** Iowa Department on Aging transition to Iowa Health and Human Services

CEO Sindt reported that the state of Iowa decided to evaluate the current government structure and make it more efficient. The Iowa Department on Aging will be moved under the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services as of July 1, 2023. The merger will not significantly affect the Area Agencies on Aging. There will be more continuity across programs. The AAAs will remain 503(c)3 non-profits.

**1.5** Fundraising Committee Report.

Advisory Council member, Merry Landenberger serves on the Fundraising Committee and reported that the Committee met on February 8, 2023. It was determined that the online auction had a better response than the live event. CEO Sindt stated that the August fundraiser was a great event. There was a significant amount of staff time in planning the August fundraiser and securing auction items. Moving forward regional online fundraisers will be planned. Advisory Council members were asked to help in getting auction items from their respective counties. Committee members will be discussing having annual fundraisers at the next meeting. It was moved by Jessica Carlson and seconded by Rick Burke to approve the Fundraising Committee report. Motion carried.

**1.6** Review and Approval of Area Plan Update

COO Timmer reported that a rough draft of the Area Plan update was sent out to the Advisory Council members. The update is a blueprint as to what Eldrebridge will be doing to accomplish the three main goals of the 4 year Area Plan.

Gaps in service will be addressed as well as the strategies to fill those gaps. Staff and managers assist in gathering and analyzing the data to determine if strategies and gaps are being accomplished. The Area Plan Update will be submitted by April 1, 2023.

It was moved by Jessica Carlson and seconded by Rick Burke to approve the Area Plan Update as presented.

Aye: all (the motion was declared carried.)

**1.7** LifeLong Links Program Report

COO Timmer reported the following:

- The Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) FY24 contract preparation has started. Elderbridge partners with organizations to provide services to older adults, caregivers, and disabled community members. There are some counties that have limited services available. Advisory Council members were asked for assistance in their counties to recommend agencies that could provide services like Homemaker, Health Promotion, and Respite Care.
- There are 85 subcontractors that Elderbridge contracts with

**2.0** Board Liaison Report – Ethan Huizenga

CEO Sindt stated that there will be no Board Liaison report.

**3.0** Agency Report

**3.1** CEO Report – Shelly Sindt

CEO Sindt reported on the following:

- The Area Plan Update is the main focus right now.
- Recommended that the May 24, 2023, Advisory Council meeting be in person at the Algona Senior Center. Lunch will be at the Algona meal site.
- Council member Dan Peterson asked about fundraising in Kossuth County. Talking points will be provided that will help members educate businesses.
- Volunteer Appreciation Event – Surf Ballroom on April 24, 2023, in Clear Lake Iowa. Invitations will be mailed to Advisory Council members.

**3.2** COO Report – Stacia Timmer

- COO Timmer stated she has nothing further to report as she updated the Advisory Council on the Area Plan Update and the LifeLong Links.

**4.0** Community Relations

**4.1** County Updates – Feedback from Council Members

- Worth County – The senior center is undergoing changes. The activity Board is busy scheduling activities but attendance is low.
- Sioux County – struggling to get people to the congregate meal site.
- Kossuth County – the Algona Meal Site has 200 members and an average of 50 people come to activities that are scheduled at the senior center. Activities are scheduled every day in April.
- Chair Van Dyke stated on behalf of the Advisory Council that the staff and management of Elderbridge are greatly appreciated for the great work they do in the 29-county service area.

**5.0**     **Coming Dates**

- 5.1**     Next Advisory Council Meeting – May 24, 2023, 10:30 a.m., Algona Senior Center
- 5.2**     Next Board Meeting – March 21, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. Iowa Lakes Community College, Algona
- 5.3**     Virtual Caregiver Support Group with Ally Schwarzkopf – 3rd Thursday every month, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. by Zoom only
- 5.4**     Caregiver Support Group – Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City, the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. by Zoom
- 5.5**     Webster County Caregiver Support Group – 3rd Thursday of the month from, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Fort Dodge Public Library
- 5.6**     Clay County Caregiver Support Group – 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
- 5.7**     Coon Rapids Caregiver Support Group – 1st Tuesday of the month from 3:00 to 4:00 United Methodist Church, Coon Rapids
- 5.8**     Caregiver Conference – Spencer, April 20, 2023
- 5.9**     Caregiver Appreciation Events – Emmetsburg, April 27, 2023, and Mason City, June 21, 2023

**6.0**     **Adjournment**

**6.1**     Adjournment

          There being no further business before the Advisory Council it was moved by Dan Peterson and seconded by Pat Gansen the meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.