

ELDERBRIDGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elderbridge Agency on Aging

Meeting Minutes

Zoom Conference Call

January 9, 2024, 10:00 a.m.

0.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Huizenga at 10:02 a.m.

0.1 Introduction of Board members, staff, and visitors.

President Huizenga called for introductions of visitors and staff. Staff members: Shelly Sindt, CEO; Stacia Timmer, COO, Jodi Presswood, CFO, Sandra Jackson, LifeLong Links Director, and Amy Simpson, Executive Assistant were present. Sandra Olson, Liaison to the Board, was also present.

0.2 Roll Call

Jill Hawkinson	Ph	Larry Pedley	Ph
Amanda Kaufman	Ph	Steve Kruse	Ph
Ethan Huizenga	Ph	Barry Anderson	Ex
Gary Caviness	Ph	Lori Hain	Ph
Linda Vaudt	Ph		

0.3 Items added to the Board Agenda by Board Members and Agency Staff

No new items were added to the agenda.

0.4 Adopt Agenda

President Huizenga called for a motion to adopt the January 9, 2024, Board agenda as presented. It was moved by Steve Kruse and seconded by Gary Caviness that the agenda be adopted.

Aye: all (the motion was declared carried.)

1.0 Board Affairs

1.1 Approval of December 12, 2023, Board meeting minutes

President Huizenga called for a motion to approve the December 12, 2023, meeting minutes. It was moved by Linda Vaudt and seconded by Steve Kruse that the December 12, 2023, meeting minutes be approved.

Aye: all (the motion was declared carried.)

1.2 Update on CEO Evaluation Process

President Huizenga reported that he has the questions ready for the CEO evaluation. A survey in Survey Monkey will be created and sent out to the Board members to complete. President Huizenga stated that CEO Sindt's evaluation will be on February's agenda. CEO Sindt asked about doing a self-evaluation and President Huizenga recommended that she do so since her job description had changed.

1.3 Update on County Board of Supervisors Visits

CEO Sindt reported that the visits have been completed except for Franklin County which is scheduled for January 22, 2024. All meetings went well with good interaction with the Boards of Supervisors. Positive feedback was received from the Boards of Supervisors concerning the work Elderbridge does in their respective counties.

1.4 Area Plan Update

COO Timmer reported that the Area Plan update is in the working stages now. Aging Disability Services (ADS) has provided a template for the plan and it has been simplified from previous years. The update will be due on April 4. CEO Sindt reported that work is being done on the new 4-year Area Plan for FY 2026.

1.5 Fundraising Committee Report

Chair Kruse reported the following:

- There have been no PayPal donations through the Elderbridge website
- No further attempts will be made to contact Culvers or the OP for fundraising.
- Looking into having a spaghetti feed at the Knights of Columbus in Mason City
- The next Applebee's fundraiser in Mason City will be on February 27. There is no date yet for the Fort Dodge Applebee's.
- Donations for the Slam Dunk Fundraiser have been steadily coming in. There are currently over \$6,000 in donations/sponsorships so far.
- 225 pledge cards have been distributed.
- Alliant Energy contacted Elderbridge to indicate the agency could apply for a sponsorship of \$2,500. Tammie McCready will help with the application.
- Items continue to be donated for the Slam Dunk Fundraiser and are placed on the 32Auctions website.
- On January 11, Chair Kruse and Tammie McCready will be accepting a \$5,000 grant from the Jasper Family Foundation for congregate and home-delivered meals.

It was moved by Larry Pedley and seconded by Lori Hain to approve the Fundraising Committee report.

Aye: all (the motion was declared carried.)

2.0 Finance Report – Jodi Presswood, CFO

2.1 Finance Report

CFO Presswood reported on the following:

- The auditors are in the Fort Dodge office the week of January 8.
- W2's and 1099's are in process and will be completed soon.
- Waiting for the final Notice of Grant Award (NGA) report and cumulative cash reports for the last fiscal year, and FY24. Once that information is received the budget/reports will be updated. The update will provide Elderbridge with a better idea of what 2024 will bring concerning stockpiled funds.
- All counties have received their County Reports and Elderbridge's Annual Report. Staff received positive feedback and questions from the Board of Supervisors visits.

- Cash is at a good level.
- CEO Sindt reported that the Medicaid assessments will be starting and those dollars will be coming in soon. The training of the staff to do the assessments will be paid for by the program.

It was moved by Linda Vaudt and seconded by Amanda Kaufman to approve the financial report as presented.

Aye: all (the motion was declared carried.)

3.0 Agency Program Reports

3.1 LifeLong Links Report – Sandra Jackson

- The first point of entry for the public when calling or visiting Elderbridge is the Information and Referral Specialists. Staff will assess the needs of the caller and make referrals to internal programs or other agencies for assistance. Calls are documented in Wellsky. CEO Sindt stated that Eldrbridge live answers the phone while most of the other AAAs do not.
- The rent reimbursement program has begun and the Service Specialists are busy helping clients with the application process.
- 5,381 calls were received in 2023.

3.2 COO Report – Stacia Timmer

- The I&A staff are busy with the rent reimbursement program.
- Staff are continuing to work on the Elder Justice Grant. An Elder Rights staff person for Mason City will be hired soon. The Spencer Elder Rights staff person is up and running with the program.
- Currently doing a data variance report. Looking at units and number of consumers for FY 22-23. Elderbridge has a lot above 10% because of the increase in consumers and units.
- BEC grant – had this grant previously. Focusing on specific assistance programs for Medicaid (LIHEAP and SNAP programs for instance). The Service Specialists will ask individuals questions to see if they qualify for those programs.

3.3 CEO Report – Shelly Sindt

- CEO Sindt praised COO Timmer and the Elderbridge staff for stepping up while she was off on medical leave.
- CEO Sindt sat in on an Aging and Disability Services fiscal meeting and cash flow has been going better since the transition.
- Governor Reynolds held a public budget meeting. Nothing was mentioned of older lowans, which was disappointing.
- A bill has been submitted for the new legislative session to add a dementia specialist at each AAA. The requested allotment is \$750,000.
- I4a has requested a \$600,000 increase in state elderly service dollars.
- Funding at the federal level – an agreement has been submitted for FY24. It has to go through the House and Senate for approval.
- The agency policy briefing is coming up in March in Washington DC. Representatives from Iowa will be attending the briefing. Elderbridge staff will

not be going this year due to the budget. The focus will be advocating to local state legislators.

- HHS has done a realignment assessment for service deliveries. One concern that might affect the AAAs is that HHS might want to do an administrative rule change to allow more than just the AAAs to be ADRCs. As long as the AAA funding is not reduced CEO Sindt will support it.
- Elderbridge had a monitoring visit from ADS to evaluate administrative contracts and legal aid and there were no deficiencies.

4.0 Community Relations

- 4.1** County Updates – Feedback from Board Members and the general public.
No feedback at this time.

5.0 Coming Dates

- 5.1** Next Board Meeting – February 13, 2024, 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
5.2 Upcoming office closures – Martin Luther King Day, January 15
5.3 Caregiver Support Group – Virtual or in-person meeting, the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. byZoom, Mason City area
5.4 Webster County Caregiver Support Group – 3rd Wednesday of the month from, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., First Baptist Church, Fort Dodge
5.5 Clay County Caregiver Support Group – virtual, 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
5.6 Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) Support Group – 2nd Thursday of the month, contact Deb Scharper at dscharper@theaftd.org, Iowa link: <https://www.theaftd.org/iowa/>
5.7 Slam Dunk Against Hunger Online Fundraiser – February 25-March 3, 2024
5.8 Advisory Council Meeting – February 28, 2024, 9:00 a.m. via Zoom.

6.0 Adjournment

- 6.1** Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board, it was moved by Steve Kruse and seconded by Lori Hain that the meeting be adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Aye: all (the motion was declared carried.)