

**Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA)
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
Aging & Adult Services Agency (AASA) Virtual Meeting
Friday, August 20, 2021**

Meeting MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Commission Chair Schlueter.

ROLL CALL

The commission roll call was taken, and a quorum was present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Under the direction of Chair Schlueter, commissioners and guests recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Bob Schlueter, Mark Bomberg, William Bupp, Georgia Crawford-Cambell, Nancy Duncan, Walid Gammouh, Marshall Greenhut, Tene Milton-Ramsey, Joy Murphy, Michael Pohnl, Bob Schlueter, Dennis Smith, Shirley Tuggle, and Kristie Zamora.
Ex Officio commissioner present: Dona Wishart.

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED

Guillermo Lopez and Sue Franklin

AASA STAFF PRESENT

Presenters/facilitators: Scott Wamsley, Brenda Ross, Kelly Cooper, Cindy Masterson, Cindy Albrecht, Lacey Charboneau, Laura McMurtry, Becky Payne, Tari Muñiz, Michelle McGuire, and Steve Betterly.
Attendees: Ryan Connelly, Amy Hall, Marla Price, and Kayla Smith.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commission Chair Schlueter requested a motion to approve the CSA agenda with the removal of the AASA Legislative/Communications report.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pohnl and Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion. The agenda, as amended, was approved by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CSA MEETING MINUTES

Commission Chair Schlueter requested a motion to approve the July 16, 2021, CSA meeting minutes without amendments.

A motion was made by Commissioner Duncan and Commissioner Zamora seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by voice vote.

COMMISSION CHAIR OPENING REMARKS

Commissioner Schlueter welcomed all to the meeting and honored two outgoing commissioners with the following remarks.

- Linda Strohl was appointed in 2016 and reappointed in 2018. She served as the one and only nutrition contractor for Region 4. Her passion for the work of the commission was obvious and she was always very steadfast in her commitment to service. The CSA will present Linda with a plaque in honor of her work.
- Dona Wishart, outgoing commission Chair, had passion, sincerity, and the respect of everyone she met. She is someone who stands out because of the person she is. People turn to her for honest answers and kind criticism. She is a huge part of the network in Michigan. Dona served under four governors – Engler, Granholm, Snyder, and Whitmer. She served under five AASA Directors – Lynn Alexander, Sharon Geyer, Kari Sederburg, Alexis Travis, and Scott Wamsley. She viewed her position as an opportunity to always learn something and never assumed anything about relationships, rather she always worked to build relationships. Her respect for and focus on the wellbeing on Michigan’s communities and community members are second to none. The CSA and AASA presented a plaque to Dona thanking her for her service.

Commissioner Wishart was granted the opportunity to address the commission.

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO AASA PROGRAMS, SERVICES, POLICIES, OR ISSUE IMPACTING OLDER AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

- Mark McWilliams, representing Disability Rights Michigan (DRM) addressed the commission regarding a Medicaid policy currently out for comment--MSA 2132-HH--and shared the DRM’s position.

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING (SAC) UPDATE

Commissioner Kristie Zamora, SAC Chairperson, provided an update on the work of the council.

- For her update, Chair Zamora provided a brief overview of the mission of the SAC for the benefit of the new members.
 - 40-member workgroup
 - Represents needs and interests of local communities
 - Charged annually with developing a report as result of a research topic assigned by the CSA.

CSA ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Commissioner Duncan, Advocacy Committee Chairperson, provided an update on the work of the committee.

- The state budget for October 1, 2021, has not yet been passed. Legislative Conference Committees will be meeting to discuss the budget after Labor Day.
- In April, the CSA shared key funding priorities for the coming year.
 - Wage increases for Direct Care Workers
 - Increased Mi Choice waiver slots
 - Funding to address home and community-based wait lists for Area Agencies on Aging (AAA).

- The CSA recently sent the same communication to the legislative appropriations committees to remind them of the funding priorities.
- Supplemental requests related to coronavirus have not yet passed.
 - Significant financial resources for AAAs to provide nutrition services, supportive services, senior access to vaccines, and long-term care ombudsman services.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp requesting commission support for the Advocacy Committee to communicate with the legislature regarding pending supplemental federal funding for Area Agencies on Aging. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

- Elder Abuse Task Force, convened by the attorney general, focuses on prevention of elder abuse. Over 30 organizations are represented. The task force is monitoring pending bipartisan legislation for guardianship protection.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg requesting commission support for the Advocacy Committee to communicate support of the Elder Abuse Task Force guardianship bills with the legislature. Commissioner Bupp seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

- The committee will be meeting with MDHHS Director Hertel on September 9, 2021, to discuss recommendations related to the direct care workforce and ways to collaborate on recruitment and retention.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT

Scott Wamsley provided the following updates:

- The Annual Implementation Plans being considered at this meeting and next month set up the service delivery for the network for the next fiscal year. They are a requirement of the Older Americans Act. It is commission approval of these plans and other programs and grants that sets the services in motion.
- AASA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion plan has recently been finalized and will be implemented into the policies and work of the aging network.
- Almost through the first year of the three-year State Plan on Aging. Updates on progress will be provided to commission soon.
- First full year of the National Core Indicators Aging & Disability project beginning soon. This project surveys participants on their experiences with home delivered meals and in-home service programs. Targeting 800 surveys and information to promote this effort will be shared soon.
- Direct Care Worker (DCW) Advisory Committee continues to meet and discuss wage increases, trainings, credentialing, and the Advocacy Committee's efforts.
- Continuing to develop the direct care worker registry to assist in connecting workers with employers. Working with the DCW Advisory Committee to develop

language for the website.

- Continuing to consider development of a virtual senior center. This effort will not supplant any efforts currently in place at the AAA/local levels.
- AASA staff Jen Hunt and Brenda Ross have accepted positions with MDHHS Public Health Administration and will be transitioning to their new roles on Monday, August 23, 2021. They have greatly contributed to the AASA office's success, and their professionalism is appreciated.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

Cindy Masterson, AASA Operations and Aging Network Support Division Director, provided AASA budget updates.

- Federal Notice of Award received in the amount of \$2.6M for ARP funding for improving or enhancing existing adult protective services processes, improve data collection, provide goods and services, training, and administrative costs. Grant period is August 1, 2021, through September 30, 2023. When added to federal grants, total pending amount is approximately \$53.2M in federal authorization.
- Conference committees will begin to meet after Labor Day to discuss FY 22 state budget.
- On Wednesday, August 18 the House of Representatives passed the Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education (Labor-HHS-Education) appropriation bill as part of a seven-bill spending package (H.R. 4502). Not enough detail is available currently to determine level of funding. The Senate is currently on recess, it is uncertain when its appropriations committee will release the Senate version of the Labor-HHS-Education bill.
- Continuing outreach to Advancing States to monitor the FY 22 federal budget to see if it will be passed by September 30 or if there will be a continuation budget.

BUSINESS ITEMS

a. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for UPCAP Area Agency on Aging, Region 11

Cindy Albrecht, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. There are no outstanding issues from the most recent assessment of UPCAP AAA conducted on July 21, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for UPCAP Area Agency on Aging, Region 11. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

b. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region 4 Area Agency on Aging

Lacey Charboneau, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. There are no outstanding issues from the most recent assessment of R4AAA conducted on July 14, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gammouh to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 20211 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region 4 Area Agency on Aging. Commissioner Greenhut seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

c. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region VII Area Agency on Aging

Steve Betterly, Technical Assistance & Quality Improvement manager, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. An assessment of the agency's operations occurred on August 16, 2021, and no outstanding issues were identified. Virtual public hearings on the AIP were held in the region on June 21, and June 22, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zamora to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region VII Area Agency on Aging with the addition of a technical amendment. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

d. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Senior Resources of West Michigan, Area Agency on Aging Region 14

Becky Payne, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. There were no outstanding issues form the most recent assessment conducted on July 7, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Senior Resources of West Michigan, Area Agency on Aging Region 14. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

e. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Region 1A

Laura McMurtry, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. An assessment of the agency's operations occurred on August 2, 2021, and no outstanding issues were identified.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gammouh to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Region 1A. Commissioner Milton-Ramsey seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

f. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc., Region 8.

Laura McMurtry, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. An assessment of the agency's operations was scheduled for July 21, 2021, and no outstanding issues were identified.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan Inc., Region 8. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

g. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Valley Area Agency on Aging, Region 5

Becky Payne, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. There are no outstanding issues from the most recent assessment conducted on July 26, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Zamora to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Valley Area Agency on Aging, Region 5. Commissioner Pohnl seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

h. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc., Region 9

Lacey Charboneau, AASA Field Representative, provided an overview and stated this plan has been reviewed against criteria adopted by the Commission

on March 19, 2021, as well as the FY 2022 Estimated Cost Allocation Worksheet established by AASA. There are no outstanding issues from the most recent assessment conducted on July 12, 2021.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gammouh to approve Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc, Region 9. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

i. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 22 Prevent Elder and Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Exploitation, Neglect Today (PREVNT) Grant Funds

Cynthia Farrell, Manager, Supportive Adult Services Section, provided an overview stating the purpose of the grant is to decrease the likelihood of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of elder or vulnerable adults by implementing evidence-based and evidence-informed tools and systems. This will reduce strain on public assistance. The projects will be required to fall into one of six defined areas that were provided to commissioners in the business memo.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pohnl to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 22 Prevent and Vulnerable Adult Abuse, Exploitation, Neglect Today (PREVNT) Grant Funds. Commissioner Greenhut seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

j. Request for Approval to extend Fiscal Year 2021 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) State Health Insurance (SHIP) and Area Agency on Aging (AAA) grants into FY 2022

Tari Muñoz, MIPPA grant manager, provided an overview stating the purpose of the grants are to award the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance program (MMAAP, Inc.) for conducting outreach, education, and enrollment efforts into the Medicare Low-Income Subsidy and Medicare Saving Programs. The anticipated carryforward amount for unused funds in this fiscal year is \$165,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp to approve the Request for Approval to extend Fiscal Year 2021 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act State Health Insurance and Area Agency on Aging grants into Fiscal Year 2022. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

k. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and State Health Insurance (SHIP) grants

Tari Muñoz, MIPPA grant manager, provided an overview stating the purpose of the grants are to award the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance program

(MMAP, Inc.) for conducting outreach, education, and enrollment efforts into the Medicare Low-Income Subsidy and Medicare Saving Programs. The grant totals \$957,585 with \$14,979 being used by AASA for administrative costs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gammouh to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and State Health Insurance (SHIP) grants. Commissioner Bomberg seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

i. Request for Approval to extend Fiscal Year 2021 Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act (MIPPA) Aging and Disability Resource Collaboration (ADRC) grant into Fiscal Year 2022

Tari Muñiz, MIPPA grant manager, provided an overview stating the purpose of the grant is to award several agencies for conducting outreach, education, and enrollment assistance efforts for Medicare Part D, Low-Income Subsidy, and Medicare Savings Programs in the amount of \$26,500. Anticipated carryforward amounts were provided to commissioners in the business memo.

A motion was made by Commissioner Smith to approve the Request for Approval to extend Fiscal Year 2021 Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act (MIPPA) Aging and Disability Resource Collaboration (ADRC) grant into Fiscal Year 2022. Commissioner Milton-Ramsey seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

m. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act (MIPPA) Aging and Disability Resource Collaboration (ADRC)

Tari Muñiz, MIPPA grant manager, provided an overview stating the purpose of the grant is to award several agencies for conducting outreach, education, and enrollment assistance efforts for Medicare Part D, Low-Income Subsidy, and Medicare Savings Programs. Fund distribution amounts were provided to commissioners in the business memo.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 Medicare Improvement for Patient and Providers Act Aging and Disability Resource Collaboration. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

n. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program Grant Funds

Michelle McGuire, AASA staff, provided an overview stating the original grant agreement with Michigan Advocacy Program expires on September 30, 2021.

The recommended award reflects funding for the first six months of the fiscal year. A six-month extension to complete the request for proposal process.

A motion was made by Commissioner Tuggle to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2022 State Long Term Care Ombudsman Program Grant Funds. Commissioner Pohnl seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

o. Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 COVID-19 Immunization Support Grant Funding Adjustments

Steve Betterly, Manager, Technical Assistance & Quality Improvement Section, provided an overview stating on February 19, 2021, CSA granted approval to award federal funds from a COVID-19 Immunization Grant to AAAs to support immunization efforts. Approval is requested to extend the project period from September 30, 2021, through September 30, 2022, for any AAA having a balance at the end of FY 21. Additional reallocation requests were provided to commissioners in the business memo.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp to approve the Request for Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 COVID-19 Immunization Support Grant Funding adjustments. Commissioner Greenhut seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved by roll call vote 13-0-0.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next *virtual* Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Friday September 17, 2021, at Hilton Garden Inn, 633 N. Canal Rd., Lansing, MI 48917.

Please note, these meeting are open to the public and anyone wishing to attend may do so. Those needing technical assistance should contact Kelly Cooper at CooperK6@michigan.gov at leave five business days prior to the meeting date.

ADJOURN

Commission Chair Schlueter adjourned the meeting at 2:18 p.m.