

Middle Alabama Area Agency on Aging (M4A)

Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 23, 2011

Prepared by: Kelly Lippert-Flick

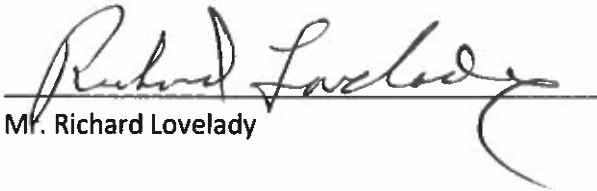
In Attendance: Chairman Richard Lovelady, Judge David Standridge, Ms. Vanessa McKinney, Mr. Reggie Holloway, Mr. Cunningham, Ms. Vanessa Kendrick, Ms. Gaye West, Mr. Gene Ford, Carolyn Fortner, Dianne Nance, Debbie Battles and Kelly Flick.

- A. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Lovelady at 10:35 a.m. Mr. Cunningham provided the invocation. A quorum was determined; no proxies were presented.
- B. A move to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Gene Ford and seconded by Judge Standridge. All were in favor, no one opposed.
- C. A move to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Cunningham and seconded by Mr. Ford. Prior to approval, Mr. Cunningham asked that letter J., page 3 be amended to read: "made the motion" rather than "motioned to".
- D. Carolyn asked the board to pass forward any conflict of interest forms that they may have before turning the floor over to Kelly Flick
  - a) Kelly Flick announced to the board, in follow up to a previously sent letter, that she was relocating to Minnesota. She followed by saying how pleased she is with where the agency has progressed in the past 5 years and how much she's enjoyed working with the staff, board and community partners. Several board members expressed their understanding of Kelly's departure and thanked her for her services.
  - b) Debbie Battles was introduced to the board as Kelly's replacement. Kelly shared with the board the successes that Debbie has had with the nutrition program and the organizational skills she's brought to the agency. Laura King came in briefly and was introduced as the new nutrition coordinator.
  - c) Carolyn introduced Ms. Jodi Beth Posey and Ms. Stacy Farry, M4A Ombudsman to the board. They shared with the board the essential elements of their program and their purpose for re-focus the advisory committee. An invitation was made to board members who have an interest meeting 30 minutes prior to the regularly scheduled board meetings to participate in the Ombudsman committee.
  - d) ADSS News
    - i. Carolyn informed the board that Commissioner Collins has accepted the Governor's invitation to stay with ADSS as the Commissioner.
    - ii. Medicaid Funding will remain level in 2010 and 2011. This is important to the agency because it is 100% reimbursed and the foundation for agency operations.
    - iii. Nutrition Funding is expected to remain level in 2010 and 2011, too.

- iv. ADSS's initial budget to the Governor contained the 15% cut from last year. After the budget was sent back to ADSS, ADSS submitted a revised budget with a 20% cut. Therefore, proration for this year could be as high as 20% which would carry into FY 2012 budgets.
  - v. A 50% cut to funding for SCSEP in 2012 by the Federal Government is anticipated. This cut will bring SCSEP funding back to the 2009 level before ARRA and the Consolidated Appropriations Act were initiated.
  - vi. Federally, a move is being made to move all Aging Services to the AOA.
  - vii. SenioRx may be phased out in 2011 due to changes in Medicare (closing of donut hole, i.e. gap in coverage). M4A is hoping the funds will remain available and can use them for the ADRC, where there is still a need for medication assistance. This cut would cause a reduction in SenioRx staffing needs, thus potentially reducing the staff of 3 to a staff of 1. Since SenioRx is the only fully state funded program, this is the only place for ADSS to cut and help the state budget.
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- e) Farmers' Market: Debbie Battles provided the board with copies of information that she recently sent to the senior centers regarding the Farmers' Market. There are vouchers still available. The primary concern she voiced was that the FMA wants seniors to go on-line and apply for benefits, something many of our seniors are incapable doing.
  - f) Carolyn presented the board with a letter she drafted regarding the Ad Valorem Tax. She explained that after researching neighboring state's tax, Alabama's was quite generous.
  - g) May 17-19<sup>th</sup> has been designated as M4A's legislative advocacy day. She and seniors from the region will be visiting Montgomery to show the positive impact the Legislators have had.
  - h) The Senior Center Managers' Retreat has been scheduled for March 24-25<sup>th</sup> at the 4-H Center in Columbiana. The Board Retreat will be held in conjunction on March 24<sup>th</sup>. This was planned specifically so that board members could get to know the center managers better, and vice versa.
  - i) M4A's one on one with the Commissioner and ADSS staff is scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Carolyn stated that she anticipates the meeting to be positive with no unforeseen concerns.
  - j) Carolyn provided the board with handouts containing information on: The Blooming Benefits Events and Senior Picnics. She invited them to attend and encouraged them to share this information with their communities.
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- E. Kelly Flick provided the board with a written document of program updates including: clients served, waiting lists and upcoming events.
- *The meeting dismissed for lunch at approximately 12:00 p.m. and resumed at 12:43 p.m.*

- F. Dianne Nance provided the board with a copy of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter report. Dianne stated that she was expected to get level funding in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, but with proration on the forefront, there could be cuts coming.
- G. Old Business: Chris Winchester was unable to attend the meeting as planned. Carolyn will try to reschedule him for the next quarterly meeting.
- H. New Business: (1) Since Mr. Green was not present and the fact that the state's budget is bleak, Mr. Cunningham suggested the board table the Ad Valorum letter until the next board meeting. Everyone was in agreement. (2) A motion was made to accept the Alabama Cares Contract for Ruby Slippers, a home health provider, by Ms. Gaye West and seconded by Mr. Cunningham. (3) Mr. Cunningham suggested that the board present a resolution thanking Kelly for her service and dedication to seniors and M4A. He asked that the M4A staff prepare this document and give to Kelly at an appropriate time and also have this resolution be placed in her personnel file.
- I. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 1:00 p.m. by Ms. Gaye West and seconded by Mr. Cunningham.

Next Board Meeting: May 25, 2011



Mr. Richard Lovelady