



**COMMISSION ON AGING
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 24, 2025**

A quorum of **Commission on Aging** (COA) members convened in person at Marcia P. Coggs Human Health and Services Center, 1230 W. Cherry St., with a virtual MS Teams and video conference option on Friday, October 24, 2025.

Commissioner's Present:

Janice Wilberg, Ph.D., *Chair*
Terrence R. Moore, Sr., *Vice-Chair*
Gloria Miller, *Secretary*
Amber Miller, *Exec. Comm. At Large*
Brian Peters, *Legislative Officer*
George Banda
Mark P. Behar, PA-C
Denise Callaway
Eugene Guskowski, M.Arch
Marni King
Paula Penebaker
Jacqueline Smith
Crocker Stephenson
Cindy Van Vreede

Commissioners Excused:

Supervisor Juan Miguel-Martinez

Milwaukee County Staff:

Kyle Ashley, *CEX*
Daniel Idzikowski, *DHHS*
Jill Knight, *DHHS*
Carrie Koss Vallejo, *DHHS*
Shakita LaGrant, *DHHS*
Lottie Maxwell, *DHHS*
Ortrialla Paris, *DHHS*
Kayla Steinke, *DHHS*

Attendees from the Public

Darryl Anderson, *ERAS Senior Network*
Laura Langer, *WI-DHS*
Brook Stanley, *LGBT Center of MKE*
Jill Kenehan-Krey, *ASL Interpreter*
Stephanie Zito, *ASL Interpreter*

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Janice Wilberg called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Commissioner Cindy Van Vreede conducted roll call, in place of Secretary Gloria Miller. A quorum of Commissioners was present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 26, 2025 COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve the September 26, 2025 Commission on Aging meeting minutes.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Van Vreede Moved, Callaway Second).

III. COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S OFFICE, KYLE ASHLEY, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Mr. Ashley delivered a report covering initiatives of the County Executive and efforts regarding recovery efforts from the recent flooding disaster. (See report titled "COA October CEX report")

Commissioner Guskowski inquired whether municipalities could access FEMA funds. Mr. Ashley deferred to DHHS Executive Director Shakita LaGrant who confirmed that the County did submit a FEMA application.

IV. COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL REPORTS BY CHAIRS

Committee and Council Chairs gave reports on previous or current meetings:

****Advocacy Committee Chair, Commissioner, and Legislative Officer Brian Peters**

- Andrew Stuart, PhD from UWM presentation on Ageism
- Discussed federal and state policy issues but took no action.

****Service Delivery Committee Co-Chair, Commissioner Banda****

- Focused on evaluating 2026 contracts and awards
- Reviewed presentations by vendors regarding performance updates

****Nutrition Council Chair, Commissioner Cindy Van Vreede****

- Final evaluations of the "Flavor Station" pilot program at Washington Park found that the addition of spices was generally favorable.
- Tuesday Food truck from Chik 'N Dip at Muslim Community Health Center
- HACM Senior Dining Sites were each visited by staff on multiple occasions to assist with transition before closure.

****Wellness Committee Chair, Commissioner Jacqueline Smith****

- At their last meeting, they did not have a quorum. Will meet again in November.

****New Advisory Council Liaison, Commissioner Paula Pennebaker****

- Advisory Council meeting focused on the Area Aging Plan and senior centers.

****Senior Center Committee Chair, Commissioner Eugene Guskowski****

- Noted the committee has formed working groups based on the focus areas identified in the committee retreat:

1. Program enhancement and partnerships
2. Messaging and communication
3. Innovative senior spaces
4. Foundation development

- The County and the Committee will sponsor an update with participants of the Kelly Senior Center regarding their input on the new proposed Bucyrus site.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consists of the following meeting minutes:

- a) Executive Committee meeting minutes (September 12, 2025)
- b) Advocacy Committee meeting minutes (August 1st and September 5th, 2025)
- c) Advisory Council meeting minutes (September 18, 2025)
- d) Service Delivery Committee minutes (August 19th and 21st, 2025)

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda items listed above.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Moore moved, Van Vreede second).

VI. ACTION/INFORMATIONAL/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a) **Action Item, 2026 Administrative Renewal Allocations and Vendor Contracts, Commissioners and SDC Co-Chairs; Amber Miller and George Banda.**

MOTION: To approve the list of 2026 contract awards for Aging Services to the vendors and in the amounts as presented and recommended by the Service Delivery Committee (see attached list).

ACTION: Approved by unanimous consent (Banda moved, Behar second).

- b) **Action Item: Result of Request for Proposal and Intent to Award for Older Americans Act Legal Services, Elder Benefit Services, and Medicare Counseling, Commission Chair Janice Wilberg.**

MOTION: To approve the Intent to Award a contract for Legal Services, Elder Benefit Services, and Medicare Counseling to Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc. for \$355,

ACTION: Approved by unanimous consent (Behar moved, Peters second).

- c) **Information/Discussion Item: Information/Discussion Item: Provision of Home Delivered Meals to Medicaid Waiver Long-term Care Participants, Participant Contributions, and Availability of Federal Transfer Funding, Daniel Idzikowski, AAA Director.**

Idzikowski informed the Commission that the Milwaukee County AAA intends to end Home Delivered Meal Service to Medicaid Waiver participants as of January 1, 2026. This service affects about 10% of participants.

- d) **Action/Discussion Item: Older Adult Transportation Services Projected Ride Volume, Service Restrictions, and zTrip Contract Increase of \$24,000, for Specialized Transportation Services, Daniel Idzikowski, AAA Director.**

Idzikowski stated demand for the OATS Service is exceeding capacity. To control costs no new riders will be added in 2025 and several restrictions have been placed on ride destinations. So that sufficient funds are available to provide the 45,000 rides predicted, a contract adjustment is needed.

MOTION: To approve increasing the 2025 Specialized Transportation for Older Adults contract with Z-Trip by \$24,000 to \$1,495,031.

ACTION: Approved by unanimous consent (Behar moved, Guskowski second).

e) Discussion Item: Proposed Bylaw Changes on items related to quorum, first reading, Commissioner Janice Wilberg, Chair.

Chair Wilberg introduces two proposed changes to the Commission on Aging bylaws, the first to clarify that meetings without a quorum can proceed to hear items noticed for information only; and the second to provide for automatic removal of members from a committee that have three unexcused absences. The Commission requested the provisions be reviewed by Corporation Counsel prior to being entertained for action in November.

f) Discussion/Informational Item, Livable Communities, Commissioner Paula Penebaker.

Commissioner Penebaker that the Milwaukee County Age-Friendly steering committee heard from Shorewood, already an Age Friendly community. They are going to conduct walk audits in several neighborhoods.

g) Informational Item: Commission on Aging Elections for 2026 Officers. Commissioner Janice Wilberg, Chair.

Chair Wilberg noted that the elections for Commission on Aging officers will take place in December. She provided a description of the duties of each position and noted their importance and time commitment. Since her term will expire next year she will not seek re-election as chair. She invited all Commissioners to consider serving as an officer. Nominations will be taken at the November meeting.

VII. WISCONSIN STATE OFFICE ON AGING REPORT, NEAL MINOGUE

Laura Langer from Neal Minogue, an Older Americans Act Program Officer at the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, reported on three key items:

- **US CDC Building our Dementia Infrastructure (BOLD) grant awarded:** \$450,000 to enhance risk prevention, timely diagnosis, and caregiver support.
- **Wisconsin Aging Plan Approved** by the US Administration on Community Living.
- **Federal Shutdown:** Prioritizing Funding to County Aging Units.

VIII. AGING UNIT DIRECTOR REPORT, AGING SERVICES DIRECTOR DANIEL IDZIKOWSKI

AAA Director Idzikowski thanked DHHS Director LaGrant and Administrator Anderson for their support in advancing the work of the Commission, particularly regarding senior centers. He discussed ongoing efforts to remediate conditions at McGovern senior center due to mold infestation. Commissioners asked whether there would be an information session for McGovern participants and Idzikowski replied that the County is planning a session to address their concerns. He also noted that the \$4 million renovation of Clinton Rose senior center is now underway. Finally, he discussed areas of concern regarding funding of programs if the government shutdown continues.

IX. COUNTY SUPERVISORS REPORT

Chair Wilberg noted the County Supervisor could not be present to deliver his report due to a conflicting Finance Committee meeting.

X. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Wilberg stated concerns she has heard from the public regarding the McGovern senior center closure and urged the County to be as direct as possible in communications. She urged Commissioners to attend the County Board Public Hearing on the 2026 County Budget and to think about nominations of Commission officers.

XI. COMMISSION ON AGING ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING UPCOMING EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS

Brook Stanley of the LGBT Center of Milwaukee provided a public comment that the suspension of SNAP benefits due to the federal government shutdown would have a disproportionate effect on older adults.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

MOTION: To adjourn

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Penebaker Moved, Van Vreede Second)

The next Commission on Aging meeting is Friday, November 21, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Idzikowski
Aging Services Director