

Terri L. Hamad
Director

Monroe County Commission on Aging

Board Members

Martin Kaufman
Chairman

29 Washington Street, Monroe, MI 48161

Bruce Freimark

Noel Dentner
Vice-Chairman

Telephones: 734.240.7363 * Toll Free: 1.888.354.5500 * Fax 734.240.7360

Nancy Hamman

Aleta Jackson
Secretary

E-Mail: mccoa@monroemi.org

* Website: www.co.monroe.mi.us/CommonAging

Paul Simonton

John Sledge

Gerald Stone

Monroe County Commission on Aging
Budget Hearing Minutes
August 25, 2009
Commission on Aging Conference Room

Chairman Martin Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Members present: Noel Dentner, Bruce Freimark, Richard Gunn, Nancy Hamman, Aleta Jackson, Martin Kaufman, Paul Simonton, John Sledge, and Gerald Stone.

Chairman Martin Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance and silent prayer.

Approval of the Agenda:

Aleta Jackson made a motion to approve the August 25, 2009 agenda as presented. Supported by John Sledge. **Motion carried.**

Guests Present:

Mark Jagodzinski, General Manager, Bruce Weeks, Financial Manager, and Denise Drodts, Assistant to G.M., Lake Erie Transit Commission; Kathleen Kueppers, Director of CSS, and Tina Abbate-Marzolf, CEO, Area Agency on Aging 1-B; Frankie Foidl, Executive Director, and Alan Foidl, Data Entry, Living Independence for Everyone; Mike Nelson, Owner, Home Instead Senior Care; Bob Clark Executive Director, Dundee Senior Citizens Center.

Public Time:

No one from the public addressed the commission at this time.

The following Budget Hearings were presented:

Lake Erie Transit Commission-Essential Transportation System:

Mark Jagodzinski, Bruce Weeks, and Denise Drodts, presenting- The Lake Erie Transit Commission requested \$184,381.00 for fiscal year 2010. This is an 8.1% increase or \$13,821.00 over the current funding year that is related to staffing increases.

Area Agency on Aging 1-B:

Tina Abbate-Marzolf and Kathleen Kueppers presenting- The Area Agency on Aging 1-B requested \$203,000.00, a 0% increase for continued funding to support the Commission on Aging Care Management Direct Service Purchase Program, and \$14,247.00 a .97% increase over fiscal year 2009 for local match (admin) for fiscal year 2010.

Living Independence for Everyone:

Frankie Foidl and Alan Foidl presenting- The Living Independence for Everyone requested \$412,161.00 for fiscal year 2010. This is a .5% increase or \$2,215.00 over the current funding year to cover the loss of state revenue.

Home Instead Senior Care:

Mike Nelson presenting- Home Instead Senior Care requested \$20,000.00 to work in conjunction with the Monroe County Opportunity Program to assist those seniors on a waiting list. This is a 0% increase for fiscal year 2010.

Dundee Senior Citizens Center:

Bob Clark presenting- The Dundee Senior Citizens Center requested \$167,847.00 for calendar year 2010. This is a 3.21% increase or \$5,226 over fiscal year 2009 for staffing increases.

Commission Members' Time:

Bruce Freimark commented that with all the State and Federal cuts and after listening to these hearings, the commission might want to look at prioritizing where the funding goes in the near future.

Nancy Hamman commented that it is not fair saying no increases for salaries when an agency is requesting less funding by being conservative in operations but is putting more of the funding towards salaries, and still providing the services.

Chairman Kaufman commented that this concern could be argued many different ways, and each member will have to come up with a policy in his or her own mind when it comes time to recommend allocations.

Paul Simonton commented that the commission is paying a large percent for staffing for many of the agencies, while there are grants everywhere for the agencies to apply for that does not pay for staffing. Part of the millage was designed to assist the agencies with staffing. However, the commission needs to figure out a formula to balance it so the agencies do not get top heavy with millage funds.

Ms. Hamad commented that at the budget workshop the commission talked about her preparing a spreadsheet to factor salary increases out but she is not sure how to do that because the way they have their budgets packaged she could not fairly go into their salary increase requests and factor that out of their budget request. In addition, when the commission makes funding decisions they need to follow the work of the Blueprint for Aging Services. Ms. Hamad reiterated that switching the agencies over to fee-for-service would result in changing the agencies focus to accountability and performance.

Richard Gunn commented that the commission is going to receive less total revenue this year because of the decline in property taxes, and as a member of this board, the commission needs to show a decrease in expenditures. That may mean cutting out increases or decreasing the contingency that would normally be budgeted.

Ms. Hamad reported that she received two intents to bid for the Agreed Upon Procedures (Plante Moran and Rehmann Robson), and one intent for Legal Services. (Monroe County Senior Legal Services).

Public Time:

No public present at this time.

Adjournment:

Gerald Stone made a motion by to adjourn. Supported by Nancy Hamman. **Motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 09, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. at the Frenchtown Senior Center, 2786 Vivian Road, Monroe, MI 48162.

Vicky L. Ferrasi

Vicky L. Ferrasi, Recording Secretary