 GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES

*To be approved on:* Minutes of the July 17, 2023,

Oct 16, 2023 In-person meeting

**GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Pete Vander Poel, Chair – Dist. 2

Rusty Robinson, Kings Co. – Dist. 4

Eddie Valero, Tulare Co. – Dist. 4

Larry Micari, Tulare Co. – Dist. 1

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Bobbie Wartson, Chair, Advisory Council

Marlene Chambers

Marianne Osborne

Mary Thomas

Betsey Foote

Suzann Wray

**STAFF PRESENT:**

John Mauro, Adult Services, Deputy Director

Dayna Wild, Division Mgr., Adult Srvcs.

Bonnie Quiroz, Senior Advocate

Rise VanTichelt, Adult Services Unit Mgr.

Jennifer Rodriquez, Senior Services Supervisor

Israel Guardado, Admin Specialist, Aging

Aaron Gomes, Administrative Specialist

Christine Tidwell, Administrative Aide

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

EricScott, Tulare Co. County Counsel

Jerel Dutton, CSET

Angel Avitia, CSET

Jason Kemp Van Ee, Kings Co.

Brian Poth, Adv Council candidate

Raquel Gomez, CSET

Robert Garcia, Adv Council candidate

Miriam Juarez-Bermudez & father, guests

1. **Call to Order** – Board Chair, Supervisor Vander Poel, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and thanked everyone for attending.
2. **Introductions,** as above.
3. **Board Member Comments –** None
4. **Public Comment –** Ms. Bobbie Wartson, Director, Kings County Commission on Aging, reported on the Elder Abuse Awareness event held by KCCOA in June. As part of the event, the Kings County Supervisors hosted a breakfast. Over 250 people attended. Adult Protective Services (APS) gave a report on reporting abuse. She said a few days later, she received a call from a senior that was in tears, saying that she herself was in an abusive home (implicating her son’s girlfriend). Further reports were filed to rectify the situation.

Council member, Suzanne Wray, reported that she contacted CSET last month to garner help for an elderly friend that needed help to pay her electric bill. She was able to secure the needed help for the senior.

Supervisor Valero said he wanted to commend Dayna Wild in her effort to help a senior that needed help with a wheelchair battery.

1. **Approval of the Minutes of May 15, 2023** – Supervisor Valero motioned to approve the minutes of the May 15, 2023, Governing Board meeting; Supervisor Micari seconded the motion which passed unanimously by voice vote. **(Valero/Micari)**
2. **Approval of the California Dept of Aging (CDA) FY23/24 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Contract** – Israel Guardado reported that this annual contract is received in conjunction with the HICAP Medicare contract. The primary purpose of the funds is to fund the Volunteer Coordinator staff position and support staff. The contract is $43,135, which is in line with prior years, so no real changes of note from past years. This is a routine action item to request the funds. On a first motion by Supervisor Micari, and a second by Supervisor Valero, the action passed unanimously.

**(Res. No. 23-010 Micari/Valero)**

1. **Contract Authorities for FY23/24 –** Mr. Guardado explained that these are annual contracts that K/T AAA has with its service providers. He said these contracts are structured a little differently than in years past because K/T AAA has received a variety of different funding sources. The total funding for each contractor is indicated, and represents a combined total from the funding sources, as represented in the column. He noted that many of the services from the different funding do overlap. Highlighted funds are those that have rolled over from the previous fiscal year and may roll over to the next fiscal year. They are not necessarily final figures and may be adjusted. It was also noted that many of these funds are meant to supplement programs and not necessarily to carry the program (especially in response to Covid). On a motion by Supervisor Valero to accept, seconded by Supervisor Robinson, the motion passed unanimously. (**Res. No. 23-011 Valero/Robinson)**

**Kings County Commission on Aging (KCCOA) $1,573,723**

* *Area Plan* $ 892,125
* *ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act)* $ 205,776
* *OARR (Older Adult Recovery & Resiliency Act)* $ 74,511
* *Infrastructure* $ 176,311
* *OM* $ 174,948
* *NM* $ 50,052

**City of Tulare** **$ 441,793**

* *Area Plan* $ 274,201
* *OARR* $ 57,687
* *Infrastructure* $ 81,467
* *NM* $ 28,438

**Community Services & Employment (CSET) $ 3,961,804**

* *Area Plan* $ 1,826,803
* *ARPA* $ 768,910
* *OARR* $ 219,984
* *Infrastructure* $ 531,885
* *OM* $ 465,203
* *NM* $ 149,019

**Community Services and Employment TV $ 205,084**

* *Area Plan* $ 84,344
* *OARR* $ 120,740

**Valley Adult Day Services (VADS) $ 191,533**

* *Area Plan* $ 90,525
* *OARR* $ 23,474
* *OM* $ 77,534

**Valley Caregiver Resource Center (VCRC) $ 206,532**

* *Area Plan* $ 90,525
* *ARPA* $ 27,872
* *OARR* $ 10,601
* *OM* $ 77,534

1. **Appointment to Advisory Council of Candidate, Ernest Gibson –** Although Ernest Gibson was not at the current meeting, Dayna Wild said he has been attending the Advisory Council meeting over the last several months. Additionally, staff and the Council Chair met with him in February to review Council responsibilities with him and the Council would like to recommend him for appointment. On a motion from Supervisor Micari, seconded by Supervisor Valero, Mr. Gibson was appointed unanimously by voice vote to the Advisory Council in Seat # 12. **(Res.** **No. 23-012 Micari/Valero)**
2. **Staff Reports**

* Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI) Mental Health Funding – Dayna Wild reported that this funding ($25,000) was mentioned at the last meeting, as funding for a program that might not be renewed, mostly due to low participation. She confirmed that the decision was made to not renew. It was a homebound, phone-in program for seniors run by Valley Caregivers Resource Center (VCRC). Ms. Wild said that K/T AAA staff are in conversations with Tulare Co. Mental Health about other options for the funding and how to continue to support senior socialization, which is the purpose of the funding.
* Fall Prevention Implementation – Ms. Wild reported the challenges with this particular line of funding and that the time frame within which to use it had been reduced. Because of the limited time frame, there was no time to issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) and K/T AAA staff had to basically implement a new program which entails a lot of staff time and budget adjustments. Ms. Wild shared some success stories from clients who had been able to be served by this Fall Prevention funding.
* Senior Centers – Cooling and Event Centers (CSET) – Jerrel Dutton reported that 6 of 8 Senior Centers are now open, including Porterville, Cutler-Orosi, Earlimart, Lindsay and Farmersville (not a K/T AAA site). Because of the recent extreme heat wave, the centers have been open until 5 p.m. to serve as cooling centers. He also noted that site managers are keeping an eye on seniors, in case they have a need for water, which can be delivered, or other supplies, such as small fans. Additionally, he said that CSET has been building relationships with local businesses and that various presentations have been done by, for example: Family Healthcare Network; Kaweah Health, including on-site blood pressure testing; and APS (on scam prevention). He also mentioned a popular new program, Bingo-size (bingo with an exercise component) that has been a big hit. It is presented two times a week for eight weeks, and the sites having it have experienced an increase in attendance. After each 8-week session, it is rotated to other senior centers. The next thing in the pipeline is the Senior Prom, slated for August or September. On another note, CSET is also working to renovate areas within the site buildings, such as the kitchen (upgrading equipment), common areas and some of the offices.
* Senior Center Openings (CSET) – Angel Avitia reported that both Exeter and Goshen are anticipated to be opening soon. Interviews have been conducted for staffing.
* Bobbie Wartson reported that the Kings County sites are all fully open, the attendance numbers are up, and the seniors are happy.
* Farmers Market Coupons 2023 Season – Bonnie Quiroz reported that although the coupons were not received until late in the normal season, the distribution is going well. She said that staff was able to distribute at the Dinuba Market (185 booklets) even though their market is open for a shorter period of time than the Visalia market. Approximately 550 booklets were distributed thus far at the Visalia market. The next project will be to reach out and distribute to homebound seniors, as well. Supervisor Micari noted that the Visalia market, currently held at Mooney and Caldwell, will be moving its location to the Courthouse. Ms. Wartson reported that Kings County has distributed 140 of their 200 booklets.

1. **Advisory Council Report**

* Bobbie Wartson, Chair, announced the Council is in the process of recruiting, including two perspective candidates who are at the current meeting: Robert Garcia (Kings) and Brian Poth (Tulare).

1. **Adjourn –** On a motion (Valero) and a second (Robinson), the meeting was voted to adjourn at 10:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dayna Wild, K/T AAA Director