

**Minutes are provided for informational purposes only. The official record can be obtained from the County Clerk's office. All minutes are unofficial until approved. Minutes are generally approved at the following meeting**

## MINUTES

Pierce County Council on Aging  
January 23, 2007

- Call to Order President Eugene Kittilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, John Howard, Patti Ingli, Una Kannel, Eugene Kittilson, Yvonne Kulow, Myrna Larrabee, Ron Lockwood, Don Rohl and Diane Rhein. James Robey was excused.
- Staff Present Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass was present. Jane White was excused.
- Minutes Minutes from the October 10, 2006, meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. John Howard made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Una Kannel. **Motion carried.**
- Annual Report Financial & Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office On Aging 2006 Financial and Program Report through December 2006. Kathy reported that all grant money was spent. There is some carry-over funds coming for 2007 that will help as well as donation money that was received. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Meal Site Report The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites. The number of Congregate meals are almost the exact amount for 2006 as in 2005. Home Delivered meals are down a little.
- Legal Service Report Kathy Hass reported in Jane White's absence that we still have not heard if SeniorCare will continue past June 30, 2007. There are currently 708 Pierce County residents enrolled in SeniorCare and if the program ends, those participants will have 63 days to enroll into Medicare Part D without a penalty.
- AAA Report Kathy also mentioned that Jane has been busy helping people disenroll from Medicare Advantage Plans because they were not happy being in them and wanted to return to Original Medicare with their Medicare Supplement policy. When they signed up for the Medicare Advantage Plan, they were unaware of how the plan truly works and that they are responsible for the co-pays and co-insurance at the time of service. Participants who enrolled into a Medicare Advantage Plan for the first time can disenroll within the first 12 months using their "trial period" and are able to return back to Original Medicare and their Medicare Supplement policy with no restrictions except for the diabetic mandate, which they will lose. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Eugene Kittilson reported that he attended the AAA Board meeting that was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> in Black River Falls. The next meeting will be held in March in LaCrosse. Eugene will be attending this next meeting and will be able to tour Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) there.
- Eugene also reported that the Area Agency may be downsizing – 1 agency for Dane County, 1 agency for Milwaukee County, 1 agency for Indian Nations and 1 agency for the remaining 70 counties in the state.
- Tuesday, February 6th from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., CWAG will be hosting a free Family Care Consumer Corp Training at the Sleep Inn and Suites Conference Center, which is located at the intersection State Road 29 and County Highway T, in Eau Claire, WI -- lunch and training materials will also be provided at no cost. The training will focus on options for long-term care for older people and people with disabilities through the implementation of the Family Care

Program within the nine county West Central Wisconsin - Care Management Collaborative (Barron, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Pepin, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix). The training will educate attendees on issues involved in implementing Wisconsin's Family Care long-term care delivery system and help mobilize them to provide input into the implementation process. In addition to raising awareness of critical issues, this training session will work toward the creation of an on-going means of educating and motivating older people and people with disabilities to provide consumer input into the new Family Care system. Eugene Kittilson and John Howard will be attending this training.

Reggis Bicha, Director of Human Services, reported that for the past 18 months, Pierce County has been working with 8 other counties in regards to Long Term Care Reform. Managed Care facilities will be statewide within the next 5 years. Pierce County is ready to move forward with the Managed Care Organization – Implementation Plan (Private MCO), along with other counties (St. Croix, Pierce, Dunn, Chippewa and Eau Claire) and would no longer provide long term care for adults with physical or developmental disabilities or the frail elderly. The State of Wisconsin would contract directly with a private vendor for long term care services, with no involvement from the County, but the County would still be responsible for determining eligibility for services with staff located in the Aging and Disability Resource Center. Under this plan, community-based long term care would become an entitlement for all eligible citizens – implementation of this option would end waitlist for adults with disabilities in the county. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Update on Long Term Care Reform, Care Management, and the Aging and Disability Resource Center

Discuss and Approve Resolutions to Commit Pierce County to Participate in Managed Long Term Care Reform and Apply For Funding from DHFS

Myrna Larrabee made a motion to approve two resolutions and forward to the County Board with a recommendation for approval, the first to commit Pierce County to participate in Managed Long-Term Care Reform, and the second to apply for funding from the Department of Health and Family Services for Development of an Aging and Disability Resource Center. Seconded by Patti Ingli. **Motion carried with all in favor.**

The next meeting of this committee will be held on **March 13, 2007 at 9:30 am.**

Next Meeting

Una Kannel made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Patti Ingli. **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane White

MINUTES  
Pierce County Council on Aging  
March 13, 2007

- Call to Order President Eugene Kittilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Mary Jane Grebner, Patti Ingli, Una Kannel, Eugene Kittilson, Yvonne Kulow, Myrna Larrabee, Ron Lockwood and Don Rohl. Charlotte Bowen, John Howard, Diane Rhein and James Robey were excused.
- Staff Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present.
- Minutes Minutes from the January 23, 2007 meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. Myrna Larrabee made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Don Rohl. **Motion carried.**
- Annual Report  
Financial &  
Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office On Aging 2006 Annual Report. Kathy reported that all grant money was spent. There are some carry-over funds coming for 2007 that will help as well as donation money that was received.
- Kathy also reviewed the Office On Aging 2007 Financial and Program Report through February 2007. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Meal Site Report The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.
- Legal Service Report Jane White reported that we still have not heard if SeniorCare will continue past June 30, 2007. But after numerous press releases from the Representatives of Wisconsin the continuation of SeniorCare does not look hopeful. If the program does end on June 30, 2007, the Seniors will be allowed a Special Enrollment Period and the opportunity to enroll into a Medicare Part D within 63 days without a penalty. There are currently 693 Pierce County residents enrolled in SeniorCare.
- Jane mentioned that a press release will be placed in the Senior Citizens Newsletter, The Shopper and The Pierce County Herald stating that the seniors should begin exploring their options now for prescription drug

coverage, but that there is ample time before any final decisions need to be made. The press release lists resources that are available to the seniors to help them compare the Medicare Part D plans, in particular, a prescription drug list worksheet that the seniors may fill out, bring it to Jane, have Jane run their prescriptions through Medicare's electronic web tool that is designed to help seniors compare the Medicare Part D plans. Jane will send them the results to review and if needed, they may schedule an appointment to come in and have Jane go through it with them. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Jane also mentioned that the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups District 6 meeting will be held on April 20, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. at the River Falls Library. The cost is \$7.00 and includes coffee break items and lunch. Anyone is welcome to attend, but would need to RSVP by April 10, 2007. Registration forms are available at the Office On Aging. Featured presentation will be on the "Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Development update" and "Long-Term Care Update".

#### AAA Report

#### Update on Long Term Care Reform, Care Management, and the Aging and Disability Resource Center

Eugene Kittilson reported that he will be attending the next AAA Board meeting on March 16, 2007 in Tomah. He will be able to give an update at the next Council on Aging meeting.

Kathy Hass reported that on February 27, 2007, the County Board Supervisors had their first reading for the two resolutions for consideration -- the first to commit Pierce County to participate in Managed Long-Term Care Reform, and the second to apply for funding from the Department of Health and Family Services for Development of an Aging and Disability Resource Center. The second reading of the County Board Resolution will be March 27, 2007.

#### Next Meeting

After the County Board passes the resolutions to participate in Managed Long-Term Care and to develop an Aging and Disability Resource Center, the State will release Requests for Proposals (RFP) to be prepared by Care Management Organizations for Medicaid Complete Managed Care, and by counties for the development of an Aging and Disability Resource Center.

#### Adjournment

Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

The next meeting of this committee will be held on **May 15, 2007 at 9:30 am.**

Una Kannel made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Yvonne Kulow. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane White

MINUTES  
Pierce County Council on Aging  
May 15, 2007

- Call to Order President Eugene Kittilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, Patti Ingli, Eugene Kittilson, Myrna Larrabee, James Robey and Don Rohl. John Howard, Una Kannel, Yvonne Kulow, Ron Lockwood and Diane Rhein were excused.
- Staff Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present.
- Minutes Minutes from the March 13, 2007 meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. Don Rohl made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Patti Ingli. **Motion carried.**
- Financial & Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office On Aging 2007 Financial and Program Report through April 2007. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Kathy also reviewed the Office On Aging 2007 Financial and Program Report through February 2007. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Meal Site Report The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.
- Legal Service Report Jane White reported that SeniorCare will end on December 31, 2007. Starting January 1, 2008, a new program called WisconsinCare will be launched to help seniors and people with disabilities afford the medicine they need without all the complications of Medicare Part D and without the dreaded “donut hole”. Jane explained the eligibility requirements and felt that WisconsinCare would benefit more Wisconsin residents than SeniorCare did because of the expanded eligibility requirements for the Medicare Savings Program for all Medicare beneficiaries. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Jane also mentioned that the Senior Farmer’s Market Nutrition program is no longer a State/Grant ran program per Melissa Wyss from WestCap. It will now be funded through the USDA and with that comes more guidelines and rules that need to be followed which Jane explained. As a result of these new guidelines and rules, the Office On Aging will no longer be able to provide the vouchers to Pierce County residents. Instead the residents will need to visit one of the four Senior Citizen Centers that Melissa will be at to complete an application in order to receive the vouchers. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- AAA Report Eugene Kittilson reported that he attended the AAA Board meeting which was

held on March 16, 2007 in Tomah. Eugene mentioned that there is a possibility that the Area Agency may be downsizing from six to four – 1 agency for Dane County, 1 agency for Milwaukee County, 1 agency for Indian Nations and 1 agency for the remaining 70 counties in the state. There was also discussion on Long Term Care Reform. The next AAA Board meeting will be held in Baraboo on June 14th and June 15th.

Eugene attended the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups District 6 meeting that was held on April 20, 2007, at the River Falls Library along with Myrna Larrabee and Jane White. The topics were AAA insurance, the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Development Update, the Long Term Care Update, Tips for Preparing for a Pandemic. Senator Sheila Harsdorf, Representative Kitty Rhoades and Representative Jeff Smith were available for questions/answers. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Update on Long Term Care Reform, Care Management, and the Aging and Disability Resource Center

Chuck Balzer, the Long Term Support Program Manager for Pierce County, reported that the two resolutions relative to Long Term Care received a second reading before the County Board in March and were approved. The two resolutions for consideration were -- first to commit Pierce County to participate in Managed Long-Term Care Reform, and second to apply for funding from the Department of Health and Family Services for Development of an Aging and Disability Resource Center.

Now that the Pierce County Board passed the resolutions to participate in Managed Long-Term Care and to develop an Aging and Disability Resource Center, the State will release Requests for Proposals (RFP) to be prepared by Care Management Organizations for Medicaid Complete Managed Care, and by counties for the development of an Aging and Disability Resource Center.

Location and space needs will need to be addressed by the Department of Human Services, the Human Services Board and the Building Committee, if the county moves forward. There would be a need for a reception and waiting area with an estimated initial space need of 1500 square feet. As the ADRC grows and Pierce County residents become more involved with the ADRC, it is projected that the Economic Support unit will see an expansion in work volume and space needs would grow to 2000 square feet of office space. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of this committee will be held on **July 17, 2007 at 9:30 am.**

Adjournment

Mary Jane Grebner made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Don Rohl. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane White

## MINUTES

Pierce County Council on Aging

July 17, 2007

- Call to Order President Eugene Kittilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, John Howard, Patti Inqli, Eugene Kittilson, Myrna Larrabee, Ron Lockwood, James Robey and Don Rohl. Una Kannel, Yvonne Kulow, and Diane Rhein were excused.
- Staff Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present.
- Minutes Minutes from the May 15, 2007 meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. Myrna Larrabee made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Don Rohl. **Motion carried.**
- Financial & Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office On Aging 2007 Financial and Program Report through June 2007. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Meal Site Report The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.
- Legal Service Report Jane White reported that SeniorCare lives on and that the waiver has been extended through December 31, 2009. The WisconsCare program that was to be launched and replace SeniorCare on January 1, 2008, will no longer be available. WisconsinCare, in all reality, would have been better for some seniors because the program does not have an asset limit and if a senior's income was less than \$14,294/individual or \$19,166/couple, WisconsinCare would pay for their Medicare Part B premium (currently \$93.50 per month), Medicare Part A and Part B deductibles and co-insurance, along with Medicare Part D premiums, deductibles, and drug costs in the "donut hole" and a co-pay of \$2 for generic drugs and \$5 for brand name drugs. If their income was slightly higher where the senior would be placed in Level 2 of the WisconsinCare program, they would still benefit from the program because it would pay for the Medicare Part B premium, along with Medicare

Part D premiums, deductibles, and drug costs in the “donut hole” and a co-pay of \$2 for generic drugs and \$5 for brand name drugs. To be eligible to receive these types of benefits under the Medicare Savings Program (also know as QMB/SLMB) there is an asset limit of \$4000/individual or \$6000/couple.

Jane also reported that on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, a “Voluntary Pledge of Compliance” affecting seven Medicare Advantage Private-Fee-For- Service (PFFS) plans went into effect. The affected plans have agreed to suspend all marketing guidance until the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services determines they are in compliance with the Medicare Advantage program regulations. The seven plans are: Humana, United Healthcare, Wellcare, Universal American Financial Corporation, Coventry, Sterling, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Tennessee. The “Voluntary Pledge of Compliance” consists of:

- ∩ No commissions to agents/brokers during the suspension.
- ∩ A plan’s customer service staff (non-sales or marketing staff) may provide information about the organization’s PFFS plans that does not include an enrollment form if the beneficiary initiates the call. The customer service representative must direct the beneficiary to Medicare in order to enroll in a Medicare Advantage plan.
- ∩ No advertising or marketing of PFFS plans after June 22<sup>nd</sup>, even if it’s part of an ongoing contract. This includes mailings, brochures and similar marketing materials, marketing materials that bundle PFFS plan information with information on other products, media and print advertising.
- ∩ Appointments and events (such as health fairs) scheduled for dates later than June 22<sup>nd</sup> must be cancelled.

Jane also mentioned that CMS is in the process of reconciling Medicare Part C and Part D premiums owed and paid for prescription drug coverage in 2006. As part of these efforts, CMS recently forwarded to Social Security Administration (SSA) a large number of transactions to release Medicare Part C and/or Part D premiums withheld from beneficiaries’ Social Security checks in 2006. A total of about 92,000 beneficiaries should receive a notice within the next week informing them of the upcoming refunds of the premiums withheld from their Social Security checks during the year 2006.

The last AAA board meeting was held on June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in Baraboo, however, Eugene was not able to attend. The next AAA meeting is to be held in Madison on September 14<sup>th</sup>.

CWAG's 30th Annual Convention will be held on July 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Stevens Point. It consists of two full days packed with valuable information for anyone involved in senior issues. This event is open to the public.

Update on Long Term  
Care Reform, Care  
Management, and the  
Aging and Disability  
Resource Center

Chuck Balzer, the Long Term Support Program Manager for Pierce County, reported that the Requests for Proposals (RFP) to be prepared by Care Management Organizations for Medicaid Complete Managed Care, and by counties for the development of an Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) were due to the State on July 13<sup>th</sup>. We will know if those RFP's will be accepted by August 15<sup>th</sup>. If the RFP's are accepted, then a public announcement will be made on August 25<sup>th</sup>. The ADRC must be established 2 months prior to the start of implementation of services under Care Management for Pierce County on March 1, 2008. The ADRC for Pierce County must be up and running effective January 1, 2008. On March 1, 2008, Pierce County will start implementation with the Elderly first, followed by the Physically Disabled and then the Developmentally Disabled.

In order to move forward with the development of the ADRC and the implementation of services, the two resolutions that were previously passed need to go before the County Board members once again for a first and second reading.

Location and space needs will still need to be addressed by the Department of Human Services, the Human Services Board and the Building Committee, if the county moves forward. There would be a need for a reception and waiting area with an estimated initial space need of 1500 square feet. As the ADRC grows and Pierce County residents become more involved with the ADRC, it is projected that the Economic Support unit will see an expansion in work volume and space needs would grow to 2000 square feet of office space. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Notice of Journalism  
Award

Eugene Kittleson reported that he attended Prescott's "Club 60" meal on July 11<sup>th</sup> at which time he presented a Journalism Award, a certificate and a plaque honoring Matthew Perenchio, from the Prescott Journal. Accepting on behalf of Matthew Perenchio was Gary Rawn, President and Publisher of the Prescott Journal. Gary was honored to accept the award. Eugene mentioned

Preliminary 2008 Budget

that there were four entries from Pierce County for the Journalism Award and Matthew Perenchio received two of the awards.

First Reading of Change  
to Article IV Section 1  
of the Council on Aging  
By-Laws

Kathy Hass reviewed the preliminary 2007 Actual/2008 Projections Budget. The proposed 2008 budget will be reviewed by the Council on Aging at our next meeting. If approved, Kathy will submit the 2008 budget to the Human Services Board for approval.

Next Meeting

A first reading to change Article IV Section 1 of the Council on Aging By-Laws was proposed by Kathy Hass. The proposed change was to the wording of the first sentence from, "The Council shall ordinarily meet on the fourth Monday of January, March, May, July, September and November." to "The Council shall ordinarily meet six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November."

Adjournment

A second reading before the Council on Aging Committee will be August 28, 2007.

The next meeting of this committee will be held on **August 28, 2007 at 9:30 am.**

Don Rohl made a motion to adjourn, seconded by John Howard. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane White

MINUTES  
Pierce County Council on Aging  
August 28, 2007

- Call to Order President Eugene Kittilson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, John Howard, Patti Inqli, Una Kannel, Eugene Kittilson, Yvonne Kulow, James Robey and Don Rohl. Myrna Larrabee, Ron Lockwood and Diane Rhein were excused.
- Staff Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present.
- Minutes Minutes from the July 17, 2007 meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. Don Rohl made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Una Kannel. **Motion carried.**
- Financial & Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office On Aging 2007 Financial and Program Report through July 2007. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Legal Service Report Jane White reported that there are 637 Pierce County residents enrolled in the SeniorCare Program, Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Program for the Elderly. There has been a decrease in the number of enrollees since January 1<sup>st</sup> by 56 residents – that's an 8% decrease. This may be a result of the residents who are low-income and in Level 1 of SeniorCare understanding that Medicare Part D is a better option for them. Under Medicare Part D, they do not have to pay a monthly premium, they do not have to pay a deductible and they are not subject to the donut hole. Their co-pays for their prescriptions are \$1 for generics and \$3 for brand name drugs. Compared to SeniorCare, they pay a \$30 enrollment fee and the co-pays for their prescriptions are \$5 for generics and \$15 for brand name drugs – being in SeniorCare would cost them more.
- Jane also explained the procedures for comparing the 54 Medicare Part D plans that are available to Wisconsin residents. Medicare has an electronic web tool that Jane can access and enters in the person's prescription drug name, the dosage and the quantity for a month's supply. Based off of the information that Jane has provided the web tool, the 5 least expensive Medicare Part D plans available are displayed with an estimated yearly expense. Jane then discusses this information with the client paying special attention to whether or not the plans listed cover all of the client's prescriptions and if the prescriptions are subject to any restrictions such as prior authorization, quantity limits or step therapy. Based off of the information that Jane has provided them, the client can then make a decision as to which Medicare Part D plan they would like to enroll in. The average time to complete this consult for a client is 1 hour.
- Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- AAA Report Eugene Kittilson reported that the next AAA board meeting will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup> in Madison and plans on attending it. He will give us

an update at our next Council On Aging meeting.

Update on Long Term Care Reform, Care Management, and the Aging and Disability Resource Center

Chuck Balzer, the Long Term Support Program Manager for Pierce County, reported that the application for the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) has been written and will be submitted. The ADRC Staffing plan, the Organizational Chart, and the ADRC Budget - Personnel Worksheet were presented mentioning that Kathy Hass would be the Aging & ADRC Director. In addition to the Elderly Benefit Specialist position, there will be three new positions in the ADRC – the Disability Benefit Specialist and two Information and Assistance Specialists.

Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Eugene Kittleson asked for the Council's approval to support the ADRC application and a letter of support to be included with the application. Yvonne Kulow made a motion to approve the ADRC application and letter of support, seconded by John Howard. **Motion carried.**

Second Reading of Change to Article IV Section 1 of the Council on Aging By-Laws

A second reading to change Article IV Section 1 of the Council on Aging By-Laws was proposed by Kathy Hass. The proposed change was to the wording of the first sentence from, "The Council shall ordinarily meet on the fourth Monday of January, March, May, July, September and November." to "The Council shall ordinarily meet six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November." Una Kannel made a motion to approve the change to Article IV Section 1 as mentioned, seconded by Don Rohl. **Motion carried.**

2008 Budget, Goals and Objectives

Kathy Hass reviewed the preliminary 2008 budget being submitted to the Human Services Board for approval. Kathy mentioned that the 2008 budget that is being submitted is the same as the 2007 budget. If the Office On Aging is asked to cut additional expenses, it will result in reduced services in either Title IIIB Services (chore service & transportation) or Congregate/Home Delivered Meals.

Kathy also reviewed the 2007–2008 Goals and Objectives addressing transportation coordination and emergency preparedness. Discussion and comments from Council members followed. Don Rohl made a motion to approve the 2008 budget, goals and objectives for the Pierce County Office On Aging, seconded by John Howard. **Motion carried with all in favor.**

Next Meeting

The next meeting of this committee will be held on **November 14, 2007 at 10:30 am at the Prescott Senior Center.**

Adjournment

Una Kannel made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Yvonne Kulow. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane White

MINUTES  
Pierce County Council on Aging  
November 14, 2007

- Call to Order President Eugene Kittilson called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, John Howard, Eugene Kittilson, Yvonne Kulow and James Robey. Patti Ingli, Una Kannel, Myrna Larrabee, Ron Lockwood, and Don Rohl were excused.
- Staff Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present.
- Minutes Minutes from the August 28, 2007 meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. John Howard made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Charlotte Bowen. **Motion carried.**
- Financial & Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office On Aging 2007 Financial and Program Report through October 2007. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Legal Service Report Jane White reported that Medicare Part D's Annual Election Period starts tomorrow and will go until December 31<sup>st</sup>. During this time, a person on Medicare Part D or a Medicare Advantage Plan can make changes if they are not happy with the plan that they are currently with. There are 57 Medicare Part D plans and 49 Medicare Advantage Plans that people can choose from which makes comparison difficult. Jane mentioned that the Medicare Part D Low Cost plans for someone who is on Medicare and Medicaid will change for 2008 and for some the plan that was chosen for them may not be the best plan. Jane stated that for a gentleman that she had just helped, the plan that he would be automatically enrolled in for 2008 would cost him approximately \$1200 out-of-pocket rather than going with another low cost plan that would only cost him \$151 out-of-pocket.
- Jane also mentioned that if a person is enrolled in SeniorCare and is in Level 2b or Level 3, they are permitted to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan at any time under a rule known as the **State Pharmacy Assistance Program Special Enrollment Period (SPAP SEP)**. Level 2b and 3 participants who wish to enroll in a Part D plan now should select a plan, and then enroll in that plan by enrolling on Medicare's website, contacting the plan directly or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE.
- Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- AAA Report Eugene Kittilson reported that he attended the AAA board meeting that was held in Madison and there was talk again about downsizing the Area Agency's from six to four -- 1 agency for Dane County, 1 agency for Milwaukee County, 1 agency for Indian Nations and 1 agency for the remaining 70 counties in the state.
- Eugene also attended the Regional Caregiver's Conference that was held

in River Falls along with Jane White. It was a wonderful conference and was definitely worth his time. Eugene strongly suggests that everyone attend it next year if possible.

Eugene did not attend the Senior Statesman Reunion which was held in Eau Claire.

Update on Long Term Care Reform, Care Management, and the Aging and Disability Resource Center

Kathy Hass reported that the application for the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) was submitted on September 1, 2007. She will be attending a conference call tomorrow in regards to the application that was submitted and whether or not the application will be accepted in order for Pierce County to move forward with the ADRC. If the application is accepted, the ADRC will tentatively start functioning on May 1, 2008, and then Managed Care would tentatively start on July 1, 2008. The Office On Aging would be renamed to the Pierce County Aging and Disability Resource Center. There will be three new positions in the ADRC – a Disability Benefit Specialist and two Information and Assistance Specialists.

Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Formation of an ADRC Advisory Committee

Kathy Hass reported that a formation of an ADRC Advisory Committee will need to take place and this Advisory Committee will replace the Long Term Support Committee (which has now been dissolved) and the Council On Aging Committee.

The Council On Aging will recommend to the Human Services Board that the Council On Aging be dissolved at the end of 2007 and an 11 person ADRC Advisory Committee be created. The recommended composition of the ADRC Advisory Committee is as follows:

- 6 of the existing Council On Aging members – Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, John Howard, Eugene Kittilson, Yvonne Kulow, and Jim Robey.
- 3 members with physical or developmental disabilities or their family members, guardians or other advocates.
- 2 County Board members (one from the Council On Aging and one from the Long Term Support Committee) – Don Rohl and Jeff Holst.
- Initially 3 members shall serve a term of 1 year, 4 members shall serve a term of 2 years and 4 members shall serve a term of 3 years. Thereafter, all members shall serve a term of 3 years from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of April and until their respective successors are appointed and qualified. No member may serve more than 2 consecutive 3-year terms. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original appointment.

Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Eugene Kittleson asked for the Council's approval to support the formation of an ADRC Advisory Committee. John Howard made a motion to approve the ADRC Advisory Committee, seconded by Mary Jane Grebner. **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

Yvonne Kulow made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mary Jane Grebner. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Jane White