

**CONNECTIONS AREA AGENCY on AGING
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: May 27, 2026
TIME: 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
PLACE: Via Zoom

ITEM

I. Call To Order – Tom Hoogestraat

A. Roll Call - Board members answering roll call were Cindy Bunton, George Gillespie, Tom Hoogestraat, Mark Monson, Linda Underwood. Excused Rick Friday, Mallory Drenth and Cathay Pringnitz.

B. Recognition of Visitors: Kelly Butts-Elston, Jenny Rogers, Alisha Frady, and Tasha Jones.

C. Approval of March Minutes:

Mark Monson made a motion to approve the December Minutes. George Gillespie seconded. Motion carried.

D. Agenda:

Mark Monson made a motion to approve the meeting agenda George Gillespie seconded this. Motion carried.

II. Reports

A. CEO Report: Kelly shared updates on the schedule for the HHS alignment meetings that we are scheduled to begin with the state, the health insurance status for the agency, and that we had received feedback from the state on our Area Plan submission that we were correcting. Kelly also informed the board that she and Sherri C have been going out and visiting with communities and boards of supervisors about the changes to the congregate meal program.

B. Division Reports:

A. Healthy Living: Kelly outlined the nutrition program's plan to move to more café congregate sites as it allows us more control over the budget because we can control how many meals individuals can receive per month. Kelly shared that Sherri and team are starting the next year conservatively while we implement the prioritization system for meals to determine that those with the greatest needs are served first.

- B. **Consumer Services:** Alisha referred the board to her written report and added that her team was also gearing up for prioritization for in home services. Alisha has been working with Bambi to finalize our prioritization fields. Alisha also mentioned that Service Navigator Tatum Heck was working out very well as a half time transition coach. Tasha weighed in that we are getting ready to be without Danika as she will be on maternity leave this summer. Tasha also informed the board about activities surrounding World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, on June 15th.

III. Business Requiring Action

- A. **Quarter 3 and April Fiscal Reports:** Jenny shared the final Quarter 3 fiscal report.

Mark Monson made the motion to accept and file the Q3 and April Fiscal Reports. Seconded by George Gillespie. Motion Carried.

- B. **Approval of SFY2027 Contracts:** Kelly and Jenny updated the board that management recommends offering reduced contract levels for SFY2027 due to budget constraints.

George made motion to approve the SFY2027 contracts for Legal Aid, Southern Iowa Trolley, Senior Futures, and SWITA , seconded by Cindy Buntten. Motion carried.

IV. Business Not Requiring Action:

- A. **HHS Realignment:** Kelly went into more detail on the activities that are planned for our collaboration with HHS to determine. Kelly informed the board that we canceled the first meeting because the AAAs felt rushed into a meeting with no feedback as to our availability

V. Open Forum: N/A

VI. Adjournment: George Gillespie made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Linda Underwood. Motion carried.