

**MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABILITY
THE DOUBLETREE HOTEL
315 4TH AVENUE NORTH
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37219
TENNESSEE BALLROOM
February 12, 2008**

Members Present:

Mr. John Arriola
Ms. Diane Cornell
Mr. Bernard Danzig
Mr. Jerry Hill
Mr. William Johnson
Ms. Beauton Matthews
Ms. Teresa McCadams
Ms. Lynne O'Neal
Mr. Judson Palmer
Mr. Seth Stanger
Ms. Mary Stockley
Ms. Elizabeth Stovall
Ms. Jackie Talley
Ms. Bobbie Tyler
Ms. Wanda Willis
Mr. Donald Woodlee

Members Absent:

The Honorable Rep. Lois DeBerry
Mr. Shelburne Ferguson, Jr.
Ms. Vickie Lawson
Ms. Barbara McIntyre
Ms. Frankie McCord
Mr. Glen Petree
Mr. Leonard Price
The Honorable Senator Jim Tracy

Special Guests

Mr. Constantinos Miskis, Regional Administrator, Region IV, Administration on Aging
Ms. Joyce Wright, Regional Program Manager, Region IV, Administration on Aging

Chair Woodlee called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The roll was called, and attendance is listed above.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 2007 MINUTES

Chair Woodlee asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the Minutes of the November 2007 meeting. **Beauton Matthews moved approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded by John Arriola and passed unanimously.**

Chair Woodlee greeted guest Joyce Robinson-Wright, Aging Programs Administrator, Region IV Atlanta Office. Mr. Wright stated it is a pleasure to be with the Commission.

WELCOME FROM NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mike Hann, new Executive Director, greeted the Commission. He stated it is an honor to be the Executive Director and would work hard to meet the needs of the people.

He said he considers it a sacred obligation to lead the Commission on Aging and Disability.

TCAD STAFF UPDATE

Mr. Hann presented the TCAD staff update. There was a functional organizational chart included in members' notebooks. Mr. Hann stated that a reorganization and restructuring was done to reflect responsibilities, etc. He said the statewide waiver is on one side of the org chart and the aging programs on the other side of the chart. He said it would be a work in motion. Phil Barnett was hired as the new Waiver Administrator. Mr. Barnett's background is healthcare administration. He is a Fellow with the American College of Healthcare Administration (FACHE). Mr. Hann stated Kathy Zamata is the Aging Programs point of contact. Mr. Hann stated that there are 28 vacancies with the waiver programs, and hiring for supervisors will be first priority in filling the waiver vacancies.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Long Term Care Committee

Elizabeth Stovall reported for the Long Term Care Committee. She said the Governor's speech was a promise to the people of Tennessee regarding home health care, and study groups are in place. Plans are to get additional slots for home and community based services. The Committee attended the legislative Long Term Care Study Committee meeting held at the legislative plaza on Feb. 11th. There was a focus on being advocates for long term care.

Advocacy Committee Meeting

John Arriola reported on the Advocacy Committee meeting. He said the Governor's speech was great news for long term care. He stated once the Governor's speech is introduced in the legislature, implementation would be made toward the items mentioned in the Governor's speech.

He stated that the Advocacy Committee supports Senate Bill 1157 concept that would offer choices for long term care as well as cost effectiveness and allow families to receive allowance for assistance, etc. The bill would allow for two pilot sites for a three-year program. **Mr. Arriola made a motion to show support of the concept of personal control and choice and to encourage cost-effective purchasing of supports and services in allowing eligible families to receive cash allowance or individual budgets to obtain personal assistance services. The motion was seconded by Mary Stockley. There were no abstentions or objections, and the motion was carried.**

Mr. Arriola reported that reimbursement for travel fees for Commission members was discussed. **Mr. Arriola made a motion to authorize travel for members interested in coming to Nashville to lobby for long term care legislation and be a part of the legislation. The motion was seconded by Judson Palmer and there were no objections or abstentions, and the motion was carried.**

Audit Committee Meeting

Judson Palmer, CoChair, reported the minutes of the Audit Committee Meeting held on Feb. 11th. He updated the Commission on Audit Committee Chair Leonard

Price's medical condition. He said he had breast cancer and was taking his last treatment. He stated Mr. Price is hoping to be in attendance at the May meeting of the Commission.

Mr. Palmer reported that Jackie Bruce, TCAD Planning and Evaluation Supervisor, had briefed the Committee on Quality Assurance Monitoring of the Area Agencies on Aging and Disability (AAADs). Ms. Bruce said the QA team has completed reviews and the final reports are not yet back. Perry Register also talked about the current three-year audit that was being performed by the Comptroller's Office. Tuan Le, an auditor with the Comptroller's Office, was in attendance at the Audit Committee meeting. Mr. Palmer reported that Conflict of Interest statements were signed by all Commission members and staff as a result of correction of a finding in the previous audit. Additionally, Mr. Palmer stated that they are honored to have Mike Hann onboard. He said Mr. Hann had sent out an open door policy, and his office is open anytime to Commission members or TCAD staff who have issues to discuss with him.

Mr. Palmer stated that Tuan Le, the auditor, had questions about six responsibilities the Audit Charter outlined. He stated the Committee and the Charter were created about a year ago, and there are some things they have not been doing but would be working with the Comptroller's office and submitting to the state office.

Planning Committee

Wanda Willis reported the Planning Committee met on Feb. 11th. She said the AoA requires the area agencies to engage in planning service areas. She said this is central to all Commission activities. Ms. Willis reviewed the timeline for the Area Plan updates. She said they are due to TCAD by March 17th. May 1st is the deadline for updates to be reviewed by TCAD staff. On May 4th, area plans will be submitted to the Commission Planning Committee members to be reviewed. Each Committee member takes three plans and focuses on specific sections. She states there would be public hearings on the area plans.

Jackie Bruce works directly with the Planning Committee. Ms. Bruce reported that the Planning Committee will be meeting May 12th to recommend plans and bring to the full Commission on May 13th. Ms. Willis stated the area agencies do a super job !

TCAD BUDGET UPDATE

Perry Register updated the Commission on the budget. He stated the budget is larger than when submitted. He said it goes to F&A, then to the Governor's office for approval. He said there were no improvements requested, but a request had been put in for \$6 million for a volunteer coordinator. He stated there is approximately \$40 million in the TCAD budget. He said this number is nearly double from the 1998 budget, mostly due to the HCBS Waiver growth, Options, and the Family Caregiver Program. He said if waiver funding that doesn't come thru the state is added to the \$40 million, the number is substantially higher since it covers payments for waiver services.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Janet Lamb, TCAD staff attorney, reported on legislation of interest to the Commission. Ms. Lamb held discussion on some items of legislation being tracked by the Commission. SB3548, the Sunset Bill, was deferred to the following week. She said SJR60 was a bill introduced to form a Committee to study TN Vulnerable Adult Abuse. SB3941 is a bill introduced as a 5-year pilot project on Long Term Care support. It was

amended and carried forward from last year. The full listing of legislative items was included in members' notebooks.

POLICY CHAPTER

Janet Lamb reported on the Background Checks policy chapter of the TCAD Policy Manual. She said the definition had been removed on violent crimes. She recommended the chapter for consideration and approval by the Commission. **John Arriola moved the policy chapter be approved as presented, and Jerry Hill seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections, and the motion was carried.**

HCBS WAIVER UPDATE

Phil Barnett, new Waiver Administrator, reported the update on home and community based waiver services. He reported there are approximately 220 service providers. He said current enrollment is 2,552 enrollees. He added that a cost cap per individual has been added. Mr. Barnett said that due to the growth of waiver staff, more cubicles were being added at the TCAD offices until the relocation to the new office space in Murfreesboro Pike has occurred.

SPECIAL GUEST, REGION IV, REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

Mike Hann introduced Costas Miskis, Administration on Aging (AoA), Region IV, Atlanta Regional Office. He said it is a pleasure to have him attend the Commission meeting. Mr. Miskis stated the Tennessee aging network is the most promising in the region. He said the aging network has tremendous potential with their knowledge, skills, and abilities being excellent. He added that there are many opportunities with the Medicaid waiver. He said the trend is in home and community based services and the nursing home is not the way for everyone to go. To honor seniors, we must make it possible for them to age in place. This is a win/win for seniors and for the nation. He said there are great benefits from bringing together the Medicaid side with the aging side. He said a lot of progress has been made, but there is a lot more to be done. He stated that the Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) have worked together for a long time. He said the value was being seen in the social model versus the medical model of providing services. He said AoA is considering different approaches and is open for change. There is no magic formula as each state is taking a different approach. They keep working at it. Mr. Costas said the budget would remain about the same. He said the AoA is doing some restructuring, and work is in progress.

Bernard Danzig inquired of Mr. Miskis if people in nursing homes will be rehabilitated. He said there is research to show that nursing homes do provide the quality of care, and he hopes those people do not get overwhelmed. He stated best practices needed to be shared with the community. Mr. Costas said Information and Referral programs need to ensure those programs get information out. He added that the National Institute of Health (NIH) is doing research in those areas. Mr. Miskis added that there are efforts to prevent premature institutionalization. He said each state would compose wording and be sensitive to each individual state's needs and different services are needed in each state. He said each state would develop its own approach. He added that each state is working hard to maximize a level of care and develop information that the public can access. One success story is the Gold Seal Program in Florida. He said it is a

avored model and it is a transparent program and improved the level of care in that state. Lastly, he said there will always be a need for nursing homes as there will always be people who need to be in the nursing home.

TN4A REPORT

Aaron Bradley reported for the TN Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disability (TN4A). He said there is a move for systems change and consumer choices, etc., from the federal level to the Governor's office and to TCAD and the Area Agency level. There is a single voice. Today is the day for change. He said by the end of this legislative session, he was assured there will be change, especially since the Governor is backing it. He stated he had spoken to the Long Term Care Study Committee on December 6, 2007, and had a copy of the PowerPoint presentation if anyone would like a copy. He said it could be sent out to the Commission members. He said he felt like he got some issues out there like speeding up enrollment, residential alternatives, etc. He said there was a challenge to reform the current long term care system. The area agencies were asked what they do well. He stated the area agencies, as the single point of entry, performed well. He said the area agencies had participated in the development of a PowerPoint presentation on long term care with TCAD. He said a plan was being put in place with a set of efficiencies at the table, and he is hopeful that what the area agencies are offering ends up in the final legislation. Mr. Bradley stated there are barriers to speeding up the enrollment process, and it was requested these be looked at. They include: caregiver requirements, healthcare/homecare worker crisis, etc.

Mr. Bradley stated the annual meeting of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disability (N4A) is scheduled for July 20-23, 2008, in Nashville, and the TN4A is working with the state office in partnership as a financial sponsor for an elder abuse track.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Mike Hann presented brief points from the full Executive Director Report which was included in the members' notebooks. He stated the Commission would like to relocate its offices to space at the Airport Executive Plaza, 1321 Murfreesboro Road, Nashville. He said the building can handle up to 70 staff with room for expansion. He added that Commission meetings could be held in the building. **William Johnson moved to accept the recommendation of Mike Hann to relocate offsite to the Airport Executive Plaza. Beauton Matthews seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections, and the motion was carried.**

Mike Hann announced that a copy of Governor Bredesen's State-of-the-State Address was included in Commission notebooks.

Mr. Hann acknowledged Jim McConnell's input to the report to TennCare on long term care. He said there is harmony and working together with TennCare, and there is also unity with Synergy. He also acknowledged Aaron Bradley's effort in heading up the AAAD response to TennCare.

William Johnson spoke on behalf of the entire Commission by stating that he would like to recognize what a great job the Personnel Committee did in recommending Mike Hann and in his appointment as Executive Director. The entire Commission joined in a round of applause for Mr. Hann.

NEW BUSINESS

Study Committee to Study Mileage Reimbursements

Chair Woodlee appointed the Committee members as follows to take a look at reimbursement for travel for Commission members to senior centers, etc.

Bernard Danzig, Chair

William Johnson

Mary Stockley

TCAD staff members to be used as resources for this Study Committee will be Perry Register and Janet Lamb.

OLD BUSINESS

Proclamation

Janet Lamb, TCAD Staff Attorney, reported that a proclamation in memory of Rex. Moses had been requested to Representative Bell's office, and there is a draft resolution in the House. Ms. Lamb will report to the Commission at the next meeting the status of the legislation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. CST. The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 9:00 a.m. at the Doubletree Hotel Downtown, Nashville, TN.

Minutes Recorded by
Carolyn Householder