

**TRI-COUNTY OFFICE ON AGING
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING**

Minutes

March 16, 2026, 3:30 PM

Members Present:

Irene Cahill, Chair	Mark Meadows, Vice Chair	Thomas Morgan
Mark Mudry	Scott Hansen	Jeanne Pearl-Wright
Trini Pehlivanoglu	Bob Peña	Lucianna Solis
Chris Swope	Dwight Washington	

Members Absent:

John Andrews

Staff:

Carl Buonodono	Casey Cooper	Heather Febres-Cordero
Kirsten Laing	Kate Long	Saray Moreno
Andrea Radel	Joe Reeves	

Guests:

Ruth Pearson, Advisory
Council, Eaton County

Item #1. Call to Order:

M. Meadows called the meeting to order at 3:32pm.

Item #2. Introductions

Item #3. Approval of the March 16, 2026 Agenda:

D. Washington motioned to accept and approve the March 16, 2026 agenda. **J. Pearl-Wright** supported. **Motion carried.**

Item #4. Approval of Minutes

a. Minutes from the November 17, 2025 Meeting:

b. Minutes from the January 26, 2026 Meeting:

D. Washington motioned to accept the November 17, 2025 and January 26, 2026 meeting minutes. **B. Peña** supported. **Motion carried.**

Item #5. Public Comment: No public comment.

Item #6. FY25 Financial Audit Presentation: Maner Costerisan:

Mr. Porter presented the Fiscal Year 2025 Financial Audit, with an unmodified opinion, with no findings. **T. Morgan**, supported by **J. Pearl-Wright**, motioned to accept the TCOA

Item #7. Director's Report:

A. Radel shared information on the federal budget, Governors budget, and any program impacts. Recent federal and state budget developments present both positive opportunities and potential challenges for the aging services network and programs administered by TCOA.

Federal FY2026 Budget Update

At the federal level, the FY2026 budget has been approved and signed into law. However, the Aging and Community Living Services (ACLS) Bureau is still awaiting the official Notice of Award from the federal Administration for Community Living before final funding allocations can be confirmed and released. While this delay is creating some strain across the aging services network as organizations await funding confirmation, no service disruptions have occurred throughout this region.

FY2027 Governors Proposed Budget

At the state level, the Governor's proposed FY2027 budget includes a 6.8% increase for Home- and Community-Based Services through the MI Choice program. This proposed increase represents an important investment in helping individuals remain in their homes and communities and reflects the impact of continued statewide advocacy efforts. However, the proposal does not include State General Fund support for the MI Options Program, which could affect the sustainability of Person-Centered Options Counseling services currently provided through TCOA. TCOA administers this program through the MI Options grant.

TCOA also administers the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) through the same grant. SHIP provides Medicare and Medicaid counseling and is funded through federal dollars that pass through the state. As a result, SHIP funding is not directly impacted by the proposed removal of state funding for MI Options. There is still the possibility that funding could be restored during the state legislative budget process, though no specific proposal has been introduced at this time. State officials are exploring potential alternative funding options, but sustaining the MI Options program without General Fund support would be challenging.

TCOA will continue to monitor federal funding announcements and state budget negotiations and will share updates as additional information becomes available.

Item #8. Finance Report:

A. December 2025: J. Reeves requested the January report be bypassed and move to the January report.

B. January 2026: J. Reeves presented the January financial reports.

B. Peña motioned to accept and place on file the December and January financial reports. **J. Pearl-Wright** supported. **Motion carried.**

Item #9. Disbursement Report and Resolution:

A. November 2025: J. Reeves presented the November 2025 Disbursement Report and

Register. A copy was provided in the board packet.

- B. December 2025: J. Reeves** presented the December 2025 Disbursement Report and Register. A copy was provided in the board packet.
- C. January 2026: J. Reeves** presented the January 2026 Disbursement Report and Register. A copy was provided in the board packet.
- D. February 2026: J. Reeves** presented the February 2026 Disbursement Report and Register. A copy was provided in the board packet.

C. Swope motioned to approve the November 2025, December 2025, January 2026, and February 2026 check ledgers. **M. Mudry** supported. **Motion carried.**

Item #10. Election of Officers:

C. Cooper shared the TCOA Administrative Board Chair & Vice-Chair Historical Appointments historical document. A copy was provided in the board packet. **C. Swope** motioned to nominate M. Meadows as Chair. **Motion passed.** **B. Peña** motioned to nominate J. Pearl-Wright as Vice Chair. **Motion passed.**

M. Meadows assumed role as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Item #11. Committee Assignments:

C. Cooper shared the TCOA Board Committees document. A copy was provided in the board packet. **C. Swope** motioned to add M. Meadows to the Grievance Committee. **B. Peña** supported. **Motion passed.** Discussion followed. Additional changes were made to committee assignments: I. Cahill was removed from the Personnel Committee and J. Pearl-Wright was added. **M. Meadows** motioned for the additional changes to committee assignments. **T. Morgan** supported. **Motion passed.**

Item #12. Human Resources Report:

S. Moreno presented the *RESOLUTION TO ADOPT HYBRID RETIREMENT PLAN STRUCTURE WITH MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF MICHIGAN* that was included in the Board Packet and provided an overview of the proposed changes. **J. Pearl-Wright** motioned to approve the resolution. **M. Mudry** supported. **A roll call vote was taken. Voting Yes: Scott Hansen, Mark Mudry, Bob Pena, Mark Meadows. Voting No: Irene Cahill, Thomas Morgan, Jeanne Pearl-Wright, Trini Pehlivanoglu, Lucianna Solis, Chris Swope, Dwight Washington. Abstaining: None.**

The motion failed with 4 yes, 7 no and no abstentions. One member absent.

Item #13. Multi-Year Plan (FY 27-29) Timeline:

K. Long reviewed the timeline and noted the MYP will be emailed in April and approval will be requested in May.

Item #14. Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Report:

K. Laing provided the HCBS report. The total participants and the wait lists are as follows:

Overall, 1,146 participants are currently enrolled in a TCOA HCBS program. Case Coordination (including Ingham County Elder Services Millage) – 245 participants enrolled. The Case Coordination waitlist – 86

Care Management – 59 participants enrolled.

MI Choice Waiver – 1,004 participants enrolled. The MI Choice Waiver waitlist – 345.

Veterans Directed Care – 5 participants enrolled.

Compliance Report: K. Laing provided a Compliance Committee overview and highlighted the reporting avenues available.

Discussion followed.

Item #15. Nutrition Report:

C. Buonodono provided an update on the total participants in the Nutrition Program, as follows:

Home Delivered Meals –1,100 participants enrolled.

Carry Out Meals –470 participants enrolled.

Congregate Dining –515 participants enrolled.

Discussion followed.

Item #16. 2026 TCOA Fundraising Events:

H. Febres-Cordero shared 2026 events. The annual Meals on Wheels Golf Outing is on June 17, 2026 at Forest Akers West. The annual Dinner and Auction is on November 19, 2026 at Eagle Eye Banquet Center. The new 2026 Sponsorship and Funding Support Opportunities booklet will be shared. H. Febres-Cordero also shared an overview of the Elder Dignity Fund.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:47 PM

Next meeting: May 18, 2026, at 3:30 PM