

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

Minutes

January 26, 2026, 3:30 PM

Members Present:

Irene Cahill, Chair
Bob Peña

Mark Mudry
Chris Swope

Jeanne Pearl-Wright
Dwight Washington

Members Absent:

Mark Meadows, Vice Chair
Thomas Morgan

John Andrews
Trini Pehlivanoglu

Nicole Christensen
Lucianna Solis

Staff:

Casey Cooper
Andrea Radel

Kirsten Laing
Joe Reeves

Kate Long

Guests:

Lucy Maillette, Advisory
Council, Ingham County

Item #1. Call to Order:

I. **Cahill** called the meeting to order at 3:33 pm.

Item #2. Introductions

Item #3. Approval of the January 26, 2026 Agenda: A quorum was not present; therefore, the agenda could not be approved, and no formal actions were taken. The meeting was held for informational purposes only.

Item #4. Minutes from the November 17, 2025 Meeting: Tabled for the March 16 meeting.

Item #5. Public Comment: No public comment.

Item #6. Director's Report:

A. **Radel** shared information on the federal budget, the Dinner and Auction, 2025 community impact, and what's ahead.

Federal Budget Update:

At the federal level, Congress continues to operate under a Continuing Resolution that temporarily funds Older Americans Act programs through January 30, 2026.

In an update shared by USAging, late last week, Congress released a bipartisan, bicameral three-bill FY 2026 funding package which included Older Americans Act funding (OAA). Almost all OAA programs were level funded. The House was expected to vote late last week followed by a vote in the Senate this week with the goal of getting the bill to the

President's desk, to sign into law, before the January 30th deadline.

40th Annual Dinner & Auction:

TCOA's 40th Annual Dinner & Auction, held November 20, was a successful milestone event, generating more than \$75,000 in net proceeds to support Meals on Wheels and in-home services. The event highlighted strong engagement from Board members, community partners, staff, and volunteers.

TCOA 2025 Year-End Highlights:

Community Impact:

In 2025, TCOA demonstrated significant community impact, connecting with more than 28,000 individuals. Over 17,000 individuals received direct services, while an additional 11,000 were reached through outreach efforts.

Key Initiatives & Accomplishments:

Key accomplishments during the year included the development of TCOA's first formal strategic plan in over 20 years, expanded advocacy efforts at both the state and federal levels, the launch of a redesigned and more accessible website, and enhanced caregiver support initiatives. A multi-year community outreach effort was also launched to strengthen partnerships and increase awareness of TCOA services.

Looking Ahead:

Looking ahead, implementation of the new strategic plan will guide organizational priorities through 2030, with continued emphasis on advocacy, caregiver support, and community outreach.

Item #7. Finance Report:

- A. October 2025: J. Reeves** requested the October report be bypassed and move to the November report.
- B. November 2025: J. Reeves** presented the November financial reports for informational purposes.

Discussion followed.

Item #8. Disbursement Report and Resolution:

- A. November 2025:** Tabled for the March 16, 2026 meeting.
- B. December 2025:** Tabled for the March 16, 2026 meeting.

Item #9. Election of Officers:

Tabled for the March 16, 2026 meeting. **C. Cooper** shared the TCOA Administrative Board Chair & Vice-Chair Historical Appointments document. A copy was provided in the board packet.

Item #10. Conflict of Interest Forms:

- C. Cooper** shared Conflict of Interest Forms with Board members. An electronic link was shared and a hard copy was available at the meeting. This is an annual request. It is a requirement to be transparent and recognize any conflicts for voting purposes.

Item #11. Code of Ethics:

- C. Cooper** shared Code of Ethics document with Board members. An electronic link was shared and a hard copy was available at the meeting. This is an annual request.

Item #12. Demographic Information Request:

K. Long asked members to complete the annual demographic information request. The information is required to complete the Annual Implementation Plan and some funding requests. An electronic link was shared and a hard copy was available at the meeting.

Item #13. Semi-Annual Report:

K. Long shared statistics and information from the 2025 Semi-Annual Report.

Discussion followed.

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

K. Laing provided the HCBS report, noting the change in program name from Project Choices to TCOA Home and Community Based Services. The total participants and the wait lists are as follows:

Overall, 1,141 participants are currently enrolled in a TCOA HCBS program.

Case Coordination (including Ingham County Elder Services Millage) – 246

participants enrolled. The Case Coordination waitlist – 101

Care Management – 60 participants enrolled.

MI Choice Waiver – 995 participants enrolled. The MI Choice Waiver waitlist – 336.

Compliance Report: **K. Laing** provided a Compliance Committee overview and highlighted the role of board members on the Finance Committee. Then she provided an update on the Program Integrity Plan.

Discussion followed.

Item #15. Nutrition Report:

- A. Radel** provided an update on the total participants in the Nutrition Program, as follows:

Home Delivered Meals – 1,242 participants enrolled.

Carry Out Meals – 583 participants enrolled.

Congregate Dining – 629 participants enrolled.

Senior Project Fresh program dates are May 1-October 31. Those eligible by age and income will receive a prefilled card for produce at Farmer's Markets. Discussion followed.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:11 PM

Next meeting: March 16, 2026, at 3:30 PM