

**IDAHO COMMISSION ON AGING**  
**Teleconference**  
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, February 20, 2025 BOISE, IDAHO**

**Commissioner Members:** Chair Magera, Vice-Chair Commissioner Ohrtman, Commissioner Morley, Commissioner Marquette, Commissioner Bundy, Commissioner Milliken

**ICOA Staff:** Judy Taylor, Bettina Briscoe, Vicki Yanzuk, Birgit Luebeck, Deedra Hunt, Fanny Rodriguez-Melnikosky, Janet Miller, Jenny Hill, Lisa Johnson, Lynn Fyans, Michelle Russell, Rachel Kessinger, Scott Carpenter, Susan Bradley

**I4A Members:** Director Stoddard, Director Holcomb, Director Kaminsky, Director Thompson, Director Hirschi, Director Arnold

**Guests:** John Yaros, Securities Bureau Chief, Department of Finance  
Deana Brown, Idaho Commission for Libraries

**Excused:** Brandi Waselewski, Erin Olsen

**Open and Welcome Quorum – Chair Magera**

- Chair Magera called Board of Commissioners meeting to order at 9:00 AM.
- Chair Magera introduced AAA III new Director Stephen Kaminsky and AAA III new Commissioner Matt Bundy
- \* Motion was made and carried to approve February 20, 2025 agenda.
- \* Motion was made and carried to approve November 20-21, 2024 minutes.

**Director's Update – Judy Taylor**

- Legislative Update
  - Nutrition Day – event coming up in March 2025, ICOA will be present
  - Dementia Day – smaller event from past years
  - Caregiver Day – will not happen this year
  - 12 JFAC visits
  - Hope to support two dockets of Legislation
  - Presented to Senate Health and Welfare
  - “Red Tape” reduction for statutes
  - Testified for re-appointment

- Agency Updates
  - Planning Agency Work
    - State Plan
    - Dementia Plan
    - Performance Plan
    - New federal requirements
      - Website
- ICOA Culture
  - Judy returns full time week of March 17<sup>th</sup>
  - Advancing States Meeting
  - Continuing to collaborate on Creative Aging Grant
  - Submitted capacity-building fall coalition grant
  - Accepted all remediation plans from our on-site visits
  - Working with Area VI to replace past Commissioner
- Personal Update
  - Stress management
  - Husband retiring
  - Look for things that unite and bring kindness

#### **Project Manager Report – Vicki Yanzuk**

- Award timelines
  - Continuing resolution until March 13<sup>th</sup>
  - Planning for contingency
- Cost Share – State Plan Update
  - Elimination of Cost Share
  - Instructions to AAA directors
  - Mandatory cost share ends July 1, 2025
  - Voluntary contributions not affected
- Nutrition Funds
  - Spending Updates
    - Funds distribution completed
    - Monitoring funding
    - Must be spent by June 30, 2025
    - Home delivered meal waitlist eliminated
- On-Site Review
  - Schedule Update
    - Changes to travel
    - Fiscal review
    - Meal sites
    - Moving group on-site to every other year

- Senior Employment – SCSEP Update
  - Changes to Program Area
    - Set US Department of Labor Goals
    - Contractor: Easter-Seals Goodwill
    - New Participant Service Areas
    - Required Request for Proposal
- AAA Consolidation
  - Request for Proposal Update
    - Where is the RFP?
    - Following State of Idaho required purchasing process
  - Official Declaration
    - Effective July 1, 2026
    - Notice on website with statement from Director Taylor
    - New updated policies
- Elder Abuse and Legal Assistance + Family Caregiver
  - Contractual Relationships
  - Emergency Response
  - Finance and Data
  - Conflict of Interest
- Policy Tracker
  - 4 of 28
- Manual Updates
  - Units – definition (must match ACL)
  - Requirements for Eligibility
  - Timeline/frame for periodic assessment
  - Requirement if Person-Centered planning is appropriate
  - Service limitations on the frequency or amount of time allowed
  - Specific actions the SUA requires the AAA to target services to those in greatest economic or social need
  - Grievance procedures
- State Program Report
  - Due January 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Encompasses Federal Fiscal Year
  - Variance +/- requires explanation
  - Data available at AGID.ACL.GOV
- AAA Reallotment

#### **AAA IV Assistive Technology Library – Director David Thompson**

- Equipment Loan Library Services through the Idaho Assistive Technology Project at CSI

- “Any item, piece of equipment, software program, or product system that is used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of persons with disabilities”
- Tools to get the job done
- Low-tech to high-tech
- Area 4 Assistive Technology Library
  - Examples of items
  - Explanation of check out
  - How items in the library have been used
  - Filling gaps between availability and usage
    - We have had very limited use of our library items.
    - The barrier is the knowledge of the library’s existence.
    - The limited use of items we have had has been through our APS program and potentially more to come through the Ombudsman program as we discover there are client needs that could be met by items in the library.
  - Problem Solving
    - We are / will be including an assisted technology piece in our Office on Aging presentations. This has been and will be the following: Civic group presentations
    - Library presentations
      - Building a list of public libraries to work with
    - Fairs and other community events where we have a table or booth
    - Periodically posting a link and advertising our Library on our social media
    - We have a link on our Website to the <https://Idaho.at4all.com>
    - Advertise on CSI’s electronic boards

#### **Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair – ICOA Commissioners**

- \* Motion was made and carried to approve Commissioner Roger Morely as Chair.
- \* Motion was made and carried to approve Commissioner Dennis Ohrtman as Vice-Chair.

#### **Fostering APS Excellence Past, Present, and Future – Deedra Hunt and Judy Taylor**

- Handout given to in person attendants
- Define APS purpose and legal definitions
- Review of focus care coordination
  - Prevention resources and case management style service
- Services for care givers
- Responsibilities of APS
  - Voluntary service
  - Reports all substantiated cases (except self-neglect) to local police

- Review of data from previous years of investigations, reports, allegations, and substantiations
- Successful collaborations on statewide and local level
- Brochures and outreach materials provided to AAA staff

#### **ICOA and Idaho Department of Finance (IDOF) Collaboration – John Yaros**

- Review of IDOF Jurisdiction
- Mission and Vision Statements
- Illicit finance statistics
  - \$1.6 trillion worth of illicit financial activity is estimated to occur annually.
  - White collar crime is estimated to cost the United States \$300 billion annually.
  - Illicit finance accounts for up to 5% of global GDP according to estimates.
- Senior Financial Exploitation: Things To Know
  - “Senior financial exploitation is the illegal or improper use of an elderly adult’s money, property, or other resources for monetary or personal benefit, profit, or gain.”
  - Key Senior Financial Exploitation Awareness Facts
    - Elder financial exploitation costs seniors as much as \$36.5 billion annually.
    - Seniors lose nearly three times as much money or \$33,000 more when they know their exploiter.
    - Seniors targeted by scammers average a loss of approximately \$34,200.
    - Seniors are 94% more likely to report fraud attempts if they haven’t lost any money.
    - Romance Scams lead to higher dollar losses for seniors than other types of scams.
    - Nearly 50% of the time a senior financial exploiter is a family member.
  - Seniors are a prime cybercrime target
    - 2023 losses
      - Nationally \$3.4 billion for 60+
      - Idaho \$20.84 million 60+
        - Increasing from previous years
    - Investment scams are the #1 cybercrime
      - Significant Increase in Reported Investment/Confidence Scam Losses for Idaho Seniors
      - Cryptocurrency-Related Crimes Against Idaho Seniors Growing Exponentially
  - Common financial exploitation methods and schemes
    - Pig Butchering Scams
      - Combines features of traditional scams
      - Initiates contact with fake profiles and fake financial records

- Build trust before suggesting investment
    - Goal is to steal everything over time
  - IDOF and APS Strategic partnership opportunities
    - Education
    - Investigations
    - Legislation
    - Senior Fraud & Financial Exploitation Prevention Roadshow
      - 4 cities in Idaho
  - IDOF Financial Crimes & Intelligence Unit
    - Case Support
    - Network Analysis
    - Target Identification & Prioritization
    - Methodology Work
    - Proactive Lead Generation
    - Intelligence/Red Flag Reports
- IDOF Senior Financial Crime Investigation Impact Loss Totals
  - \$7.98 Million: July 2023 – January 2025
- IDOF Senior Financial Crime Case Origination 7/1/23 – 1/27/25
  - IDOF – 14
  - Law Enforcement/ICOA – 23
- IDOF & Law Enforcement Senior Financial Crime Case Loss Totals
  - 2023
    - IDOF - \$1.15 million
    - Law Enforcement/ICOA – \$2.67 million
  - 2024
    - IDOF - \$2.35 million
    - Law Enforcement/ICOA – \$1.8 million
- IDOF/ICOA Senior Fraud & Financial Exploitation Prevention Working Group
  - AARP
  - Idaho Prosecuting Attorneys Association
  - Idaho Sheriffs Association
  - Idaho Legal Aid
  - Idaho Chiefs of Police Association
  - D.A. Davidson
  - Edward Jones
  - US Bank

#### **Working Lunch: Creative Aging Collaboration – Deana Brown**

- A little Idaho Commission for Libraries history
  - 1899 – Traveling Library crates
  - 1901 – State Library was created

- 1957 – State Library eligible for federal grants
- 1988 – Libraries Linking Idaho (LiLI) network
- 2006 – Became Idaho Commission for Libraries
- Supporting Adults
  - Talking Books Service
  - LiLI databases
  - Digital Navigators
  - Telehealth in Libraries
  - Statewide Chats (Quarterly)
  - Adult Services (Monthly) Newsletter
  - Creative Aging Grant
- What is Creative Aging?
  - While these instructional programs are responsive, they share key elements. These programs:
    - Are led by practicing teaching artists (non-volunteers)
    - Build artistic skills over time (across all disciplines)
    - Integrate social engagement
    - Include a culminating event to publicly celebrate older adults’ creativity
  - Cohen’s 2006 “The Creativity and Aging Study” showed that:
    - Less medication
    - Fewer doctor visits
    - Elevated mood
    - More independent functioning
    - Reduce need for long-term care
    - Less depression and loneliness
    - More active
  - Creative Aging in Idaho
    - 2021 – 2023
      - Idaho Commission on the Arts (Arts Idaho) receives EA Michelson Foundation Grant through the National Assembly of State Art Agencies (NASAA)
      - Arts Idaho partners with Idaho Division of Veterans Services Lifetime Arts trains Idaho teaching artists and Veterans Home staff
      - Arts Idaho Pilots Creative Aging Workshops in Idaho’s Veterans Homes
      - Artist-led workshops in drawing and painting, photography, printmaking, and leather tooling
      - Boise Art Museum creates the trailblazing Senior's Create! workshop series
    - 2023-2024

- Smith Charitable Trust supports Lifetime Arts’ “Advancing Creative Aging in the Western States Initiative” in five states (ID, MT, NV, UT, WY)
- Idaho Commission for Libraries partners with Arts Idaho
- Five pilot residencies in libraries and arts organizations, each receiving \$2,000 grant
  - Ada Community Library – Victory Branch (Boise)
  - Idaho Falls Public Library
  - Lewiston City Library
  - McCall Arts and Humanities Council
  - Music Conservatory of Sandpoint
- Statewide Creative Aging convening 50 people from state agencies, libraries, and arts organizations from across ID
- 100% of attendees intended to apply what they learned
- 2025-2026
  - Smith Charitable Trust renewed funding for Lifetime Arts’ “Creative Aging in the West Initiative” In five states (ID, MT, NV, UT, WY)
    - ID agency staff serve on Leadership Council
    - Statewide project to advance Creative Aging
    - Create messaging guidebook
  - Idaho Commission for Libraries Creative Aging Grant 14 libraries, \$2,000 each
    - Training with Lifetime Arts
    - Run 1 8-week class OR 2 4-week classes

#### **I4A Priorities and Goals – Director David Thompson**

- Idaho Association of Area Agencies on Aging Purpose
  - To be concerned with the needs, circumstances and services affecting older persons in Idaho and the Nation. It has a general purpose for advocacy for the establishment and / or enhancement of programs and services affecting older persons.
- Ways to be concerned include but are not limited to the following:
  - Created a Mission, Vision, and Value statements:
    - Idaho Association of Area Agency on Aging (I4A), We equip, empower, and represent the 6 local Area Agencies on Aging in service of older Idahoans.
  - Commitment Agreement:
    - Quarterly in-person meetings
    - Quarterly Virtual meetings
    - Data collection and collaboration
    - Creating helpful uniformity
    - Participation in state-wide events
    - Participation in US Aging



- Funding Utilization:
  - Commitment to utilize funding to meet the needs of older Idahoans by transferring unused funds to either another Area Agency on Aging with needs for the funds or by returning the funds to ICOA to be redistributed through the IFF.
- One Voice:
  - Commitment to act as one voice in advocating for older Idahoans needs where gaps currently exist to find resolutions to these gaps. This includes defining the gap / need, determining what resources may be needed, and seeking funding that would allow all areas of the state to act in unison to remedy the identified gap. This means seeking funding.

### **Ombudsman Program Report – Fanny Rodriguez-Melnikovsky**

- LTC Ombudsman Program – Virtual Family Council Rename
- State Operations Manual, Ombudsman IDAPA Rules, & State Statues
  - Statute and Rule - 67-5009
  - Idaho Administrative Procedures Act (IDAPA) 15.01.03
- Residential Assisted Living IDAPA Rules
  - Idaho Code §39-3313, states:
    - (2) A resident may be discharged for the following:
      - (a) A resident's failure to pay;
      - (b) The facility's inability to meet the resident's needs;
      - (c) The resident's needs are greater than the level of care provided by the specific facility;
      - (d) The resident is a danger to himself or others.
  - Residential Assisted Living IDAPA Rules 16.03.22
    - 217.REQUIREMENTS FOR TERMINATION OF ADMISSION AGREEMENT.
      - 03. Resident's Appeal of Involuntary Discharge. A resident may appeal all discharges, with the exception of an involuntary discharge in the case of nonpayment or emergency conditions that require the resident to be transferred to protect the resident or other residents in the facility from harm.
    - Importance of discharge appeal rights
      - Protection of Resident Rights
      - Fairness and Accountability
      - Medical Considerations
      - Potential for Alternative Solutions
  - Residential Assisted Living IDAPA Rules - Recommendation for potential regulatory language:
    - (a)A resident's failure to pay;

- (b) The resident's mental or medical condition deteriorates to a level requiring care as described in Section 39-3307, Idaho Code, and Section 152 of these rules;
- (c) The resident's needs are greater than the level of care that can be provided under the facility's license, with the facility making reasonable accommodations to address those needs;
- (d) The resident is a danger to himself or others; or
- (e) The resident's death.
- Review of FFY 2024 Expenditures
- New Ombudsman for children in foster care

#### **AAA Dialogue – AAA Directors/I4A Chair**

- Roundtable discussion of highlights from reports, events, and challenges in their areas.
- Questions and discussion followed.

#### **Commissioners' Reports – ICOA Commissioners**

- Roundtable discussion of highlights from reports, events, and challenges in their areas.
- Questions and discussion followed.

#### **Closing Business/Meeting Adjourns – Chair Magera**

- Meeting adjourned 3:00pm