Alcona County Commission on Aging

Regular Board Meeting
November 24, 2025

- Call to Order by President Mendyka at 10 a.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call
    - President Ryan Mendyka-Present
    - Vice President Delores Schlicker-Present
    - Secretary Mike Szczepanowski-Present
    - Treasurer Ken Kosal-Present
    - Dir. Rolland Lynch-Present
    - Dir. Kelly VonFintel-Present
    - Dir. Leroy Pinder-Present
    - Dir. Karina Sharboneau-Present
    - Dir. Laurie Szczesny-Absent, excused
    - Member-at-Large Commissioner Caroline Brummond-Present
        - Also present-Executive Director Wendy Bain, and several members of the public

- Approval of Agenda
    - Schlicker made a motion to accept the agenda, with changes, as Szczepanowski noted his name was misspelled. Seconded by Lynch.
        - Motion passed.

- Approval of Meeting Minutes
    - Motion by VonFintel, seconded by Lynch, to approve the October 28, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.
        - Motion passed.

- Public Comment Period
    - Jamie Reichert, Hubbard Lake, asked why her comment from the month before about the voting age for electing new board members was not addressed. She asked what the protocol is for answering public comment questions.
    - Stephanie Ford, Hubbard Lake, is a yoga instructor that commented at the last meeting that she would be available to teach yoga classes at the Sunrise Center but had not heard anything since that meeting about it. She leaves for the winter and would like to get started before she leaves for the winter in January. She returns in April.
    - Sara Healy, Lincoln, thanked Wendy for extending the ages that kids are allowed to be in the gym. The 11 & under group of kids still needs to have something to include them. A suggestion of a gym committee or recreation committee might be beneficial to address these concerns.
    - Darlene Siola, Mikado, suggested the timer on the lights in the shower areas be increased as the lights shut off automatically and left her in the dark. She suggested a motion detector light or something equivalent.
    - Tenant Fae White asked for a street light near her bungalow as it is pitch black where she lives.
    - Tenant Fran Kaufman asked for a railing at the entrance to her bungalow for safety. She also noticed lights on in the Sunrise Center in the middle of the night. The gym has been lit up at odd times. Exec. Director Bain suggested there may be a heat sensor that turns lights on when the heat kicks on.

- NEMCSA Report
  - No representative at this meeting.
- Report by Commissioner Brummond
  - Thank you to President Mendyka for the Christmas tree representing ACCOA in the courthouse lawn display.
  - Submitted an application, offered by the state of Michigan, for a cannabis grant worth just over $6000.
  - $1000 will be used for Rite of Passage sobriety program for drug court, $2,200 for locked zipper bags, marijuana simulation goggles through Catholic Human Services, $200 for two boxes of marijuana test strips, $400 for a presentation for clinical staff at Alcona Health Center, $900 for recovery court incentives, and drug impaired driving presentation at the schools for $1000.
  - Commissioner Brummond also gave a handout written by Tom Cotton who served at Arlington cemetery.

- Executive Director's Report
  - There were 2032 meals served for the month. 404 were congregate meals.
  - HIS is still short-staffed. The HIS Coordinator is out on medical leave, but there are only six people on the waiting list instead of 35.
  - Gym membership-275 gym memberships for Alcona County, 31 out of county and sold 128 day passes in total.
  - The company that the fitness equipment was purchased from came and looked over the equipment. Every piece needed to be tightened and several of them needed to be leveled properly. They also suggested mats for under the equipment as the flooring is not made to handle such heavy weight and traffic.
  - The Thanksgiving dinner had over 80 people attend. The Sunrise Center will be closed for the whole of the Thanksgiving holiday on November 27th and 28th.
  - The inaugural Deer Widow's Craft Sale brought in $675 dollars in table fees and $241 in baked goods. Next year they will need more advertising and signage. The Sunrise Center would like to sell food out of their kitchen next year as well.
  - The Christmas dinner is December 18th this year. The local Boy Scouts group will be there to sing for the crowd.
  - Staff Christmas party will be January 19th.
  - December 12 from 4-6 p.m. there will be pictures with Santa taken for the public. Cookie decorating and card making will also be done in the cafeteria.
  - Schlicker stated to Wendy that someone asked her why a gym member person had to change their shoes to use the gym when the craft sale was in there with multiple people wearing whatever shoes they wanted. It was determined that people should use their best judgement as to whether they need to change their shoes when they want to use the gym.

- Treasurer's Report
  - Motion by VonFintel, seconded by Lynch, to accept the Treasurer's report as provided.
  - Schlicker asked if the former check signors had been removed from the accounts and new ones put on. Wendy said that as soon as the Board passes a motion to remove/add people (since the minutes from last meeting have now been approved), and it's written in the minutes to change the names that it can be finished.
  - ROLL CALL:
    Mendyka-Yes
    Schlicker-Yes

Kosal-Yes
Szczepanowski-Yes
Pinder-Yes
Lynch-Yes
VonFintel-Yes
Sharboneau-Yes
Motion passed.

- Committee Reports
  - Fundraising committee-Pictures with Santa as mentioned in Executive Director's report. Schlicker said the staff has been great to work with to set this event up. A potluck was also discussed but the Health Department said we cannot do that.
    - Mendyka has started the process of getting our bingo license again through the State of Michigan. This will also include pull-tabs. It is a long process, but there should be no problem.
  - Finance Committee- Pinder spoke about the property owned in Harrisville. It is valued at $100,000 and ACCOA purchased it for $13,000. Kosal made a motion to give this to the finance committee. Seconded. Passed unanimously.

- Unfinished Business
  - Ty Daemon is no longer handling the outstanding bills getting paid. He is, however, seeking grants. Kosal stated Mendyka, Kosal and Wendy are working with outside council about paying the vendors that worked on the building.
  - It was decided that a designated staff member taking notes was not necessary.

- New Business
  - Dr. Turek refund request-that is being handled with the same outside counsel that is handling the outstanding vendor's bills.
  - Five-year business plan-Kosal suggested that long-term plans be discussed as goals for the Sunrise Center. Wendy and Patty have been putting this together.
  - Barlow road improvement-Caroline called the Alcona County Road Commission and spoke to Jesse Campbell. The village is responsible for road improvements, and it is very likely that they will not be open to widening the road as it is cost prohibitive.
  - Age limits in the gym for unsupervised kids in the gym. The current age limit for unsupervised youth in the fitness room is 16. 11-15 need to have at least one adult present. Decisions may be made on a case-by-case basis. A class may be offered to teach parents and kids the proper way to use the equipment. Permission to use the equipment may be revoked for abusing the privilege.
  - New board secretary- Szczepanowski would like to step down as secretary. Mendyka nominated VonFintel for the position. Pinder made a motion, Schlicker seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.
  - Closure of the center on December 24, 25. Closed December 31 and January 1. Wendy suggested closing on those Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays for each holiday. The entire building would be closed for those six days. VonFintel made the motion to close for those six days. Mendyka, Lynch, Szczepanowski, Sharboneau, Kosal, and Pinder voted to close. Schlicker voted no. Motion passed.
  - Sharboneau asked if the fitness part of the building would be open during those closed periods. Will the gym and fitness center be open during the other closed times. Wendy does not have the staff to open it during the holidays. Mendyka suggested maybe a volunteer or community organization might be interested in helping with staffing.

- We need to add more cameras for insurance purposes. Mike Suitor put together two proposals. Mendyka would like to see a better option than the two that were given so he will ask Mike Suitor to do a better proposal.
- Board meeting dates-Schlicker suggests keeping our meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. This will be brought up at a later meeting. This board agreed to have a December meeting on December 16 at 10 a.m.

ROLL CALL- Mendyka-No
Schlicker-Yes
Kosal-Yes
Szczepanowski-Yes
Pinder-Yes
Lynch-Yes
VonFintel-Yes
Sharboneau-Yes

Motion passed.

- Sharboneau asked when the Board discusses issues brought up by public comment. It was explained to her that it just needs to be added to the agenda for the next meeting.
- Schlicker had someone ask her to get her pictures back that were donated. The person said it's been a long time since they donated their pictures, and they do not understand why they are not up yet. Wendy said Schlicker should ask Ty Daemon who oversees the decorations going up on the wall. Pinder stated he is making frames for all of them and it takes time.

- Public Comment-
  - Stephanie Ford suggested posting a rule in the gym about the shoe issue, 7-year-olds do not need to be using gym equipment, suggested using cafeteria for craft fairs and such so the floor issue is not a worry, and maybe using keycards to access the gym in the future.

- Executive Director Additional Comments- None

- Mendyka spoke about some generator issues. He has been in contact with Cummins Generators to find a generator to run the whole building during power outages. Kosal spoke to people he knows in southern Michigan about another company and possibly getting a grant to fund a new generator.

- Motion by Pinder, seconded by Szczpanowski, to adjourn.
  - Motion passed at 11:41 a.m.

Meeting adjourned until December 16, 2025, at 10 a.m.

Kelly VonFintel, Board Secretary