

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
REGION XII REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2016

10:15 a.m. – 2:15p.m.; Summit County Community and Senior Center

**CALL TO ORDER:** John Bade, Chairperson, called the regular meeting of the Region 12 Regional Advisory Council (RAC) to order at 10:20 am.

**ROLL CALL:** Bert Roy, Vice Chairperson, called the roll. It was determined that there was a quorum.

<b>RAC Members Present:</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Nov</b>
	* = Voting Members for meeting				
Mildred Alsdorf (Garfield Co)–Optimal					
Coni Aguilar-Optimal					
Corina Aragon-Summit Co. Alt.		X			
Gary Armes-Jackson Co.	X	X			
John Bade–Eagle Co.	X				
Tootie Crowder-Jackson Co.		X			
Anne Crane–Summit Co.	X	X			
Commissioner Steve Child–Pitkin Co.					
Commissioner Patti Clapper–Pitkin Co.					
Steven Ladin-Summit Co.	X	X			
Geni Garcia–Optimal					
Leslie Janusz–Grand Co.	X	X			
Peg McGavock-Pitkin Co.					
Judy Lantz-Grand Co.					
Comm. Kris Manguso–Grand Co.		X			
Terry Myers–Jackson Co.	X				
David Pearce–Optimal	X				
Bert Roy–Eagle Co.	X	X			
Seth Sachson–Pitkin Co. Alt.					
Gayle Stephenson–Jackson Co.	X				
Debby Sutherland-Optimal	X	X			
Georgeann Waggaman-Pitkin Co.					
Sr. Coordinator Optimal Alt.(Eagle Co)-Carly Rietmann	X	X			
Sr. Coordinator Optimal Alt.(Grand Co)- Lisa Jonas		X			
Sr. Coordinator Optimal Alt.(Jackson Co)- Wendy Petefish	X				
Sr. Coordinator Optimal Alt.(Pitkin Co)-Marty Ames	X	X			
Sr. Coordinator Optimal Alt.(Summit Co)-Lorie Williams	X	X			

NWCCOG Staff Present:

Erin Fisher, Director NWCCOG-AlpineAAA

Amanda Rens-Moon, Program Specialist, NWCCOG-AlpineAAA

Guests: Christy Doyon-El Jebel Senior Center and Rose Garcia.

**WELCOME OF NEW RAC MEMBERS:** John introduced Tootie Crowder as a new RAC member for Jackson County. Tootie was a commissioner for 8 years and sat on the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments Board. John Bade also introduced Gary Armes from Jackson County. Gary is retired military and law enforcement. During his introduction, Gary expressed concern that the physical rehabilitation clinic in Jackson will be closing May 1, 2016. He believes this could double Jackson County's transportation program mileage.

Erin Fisher, Director of the Alpine Area Agency on Aging introduced herself to everyone, as did Amanda Rens-Moon, Program Specialist.

**AMEND/APPROVE AGENDA:**

*Motion* by Coni Aguilar to approve agenda; *second* by David Pearce. All members voted *aye*.  
**Motion carried.**

**REVIEW/ACCEPT MEETING MINUTES:** No additions or revisions requested for the January 13, 2016 meeting minutes.

*Motion* by Gary Armes; *second* by Steve Ladin to accept the January 13, 2016 regular meeting minutes as presented. All members voted *aye*.

**Motion carried.**

**RAC OPERATIONS**

**Discussion Items**

- 1. Strategic Action Planning Update**—The state demographers office asked AAA directors to present the challenges of rural mountain communities at the Strategic Action Group. Erin will provide this information next month. Commissioner Child did a presentation at a previous RAC meeting. He indicated that the Strategic Action Group will be completing surveys and making the results available to the RAC. He has indicated that he will present the updates at the RAC conference call in June.
- 2. Senior Day at the Capital**—Amanda and Lisa Jonas presented on Grand County's participation in Senior Day at the Capitol. They remarked that fewer legislators made themselves available to the group than in years past, due to budget caucuses. However, there were excellent presentations provided by AARP, Colorado Senior Lobby, Colorado Attorney General's office, and Governor Hickenlooper. Legislation of note included SB 183, opposed by AARP. SB183, in essence, privatizes 911 services. According to AARP, this bill could take away public utility authority over 911, and AARP is concerned that it could lead to lack of oversight for 911 services.
- 3. Senior Awards Ceremony Update**—Amanda presented that everything seems to be on track for the Senior Awards Ceremony on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016. She reached out to RAC members for guidance on protocol for selecting the Region 12 Friend of the Seniors and Region 12 Senior of the Year. It was determined that the Alpine AAA Director makes

this selection, but a recommendation was offered for the Regional Transportation Coordinating Council.

- 4. Regional Caregiver Conference**— Erin presented an update regarding the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Caregiver Conference. The Caregiver Conference is a joint venture with Alpine AAA and Garfield County Aging Services. It will be held on June 14, 2016, and it will include presentations focused on legal and financial planning.
- 5. Mini-Grant Updates** – Erin updated the RAC on the Mini-Grant Program. The Mini-Grant Program provides funding for aging-related programs, services, and provider needs. The Grant Review Committee reviews the applications, and one application for Grand County Council on Aging (GCCOA) was recently approved and funded. GCCOA received new chairs for their meal site in Granby. These chairs are comfortable, easy to clean, and seem to be meeting the needs of staff and seniors. The Grant Review Committee is reviewing two other applications, and Erin requested that any other agencies looking to request Mini-Grant Funds apply as soon as possible for this fiscal year. She also reminded RAC members that applications for the Mini-Grant program are accepted year-round, as long as funding is available.
- 6. Older Americans Act Reauthorization** – Erin reported on the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA.) This crucial stream of program funding was last reauthorized in 2006, and it expired in 2011. Within the last few weeks, the House of Representatives passed the act, and the Senate passed it a week ago. The President is expected to sign the OAA soon. The OAA slightly increased funding for our state, but there is still much disagreement regarding the “Hold Harmless” provisions and state funding allocations. The reauthorization passed with bipartisan support, and it will remain active until 2019.
- 7. Dreaming About the RAC**— Erin requested an open dialogue regarding the RACs preferences on items such as the RAC binder, face-to-face vs. conference call meetings, and the RAC’s vision for the future. After much discussion, it was determined that the current version of the RAC binder is unwieldy, but hopefully, the revised and updated binder received today, will prove less overwhelming. The RAC is also interested in making a very gradual transition from paper to electronic mediums. Erin informed the RAC that Alpine AAA is working on creating a new website, which will make it easier to access the information online. Erin also informed the RAC that previous RAC surveys show a 50/50 mix on the face-to-face vs. conference call question. Members decided that both options have merit, and we will continue scheduling both types of meetings, (primarily face-to-face in the summer and conference calls in the winter.) Members also requested that call-in options be available at as many face-to-face meetings as possible, dependent upon site technology. Members also requested forming a committee to review the by-laws, as the by-laws have not been updated since 2008. Members requested designating voting items on the agenda with an asterisk. Finally, members agreed a presentation/PowerPoint outlining all of the services provided by Alpine AAA would be beneficial, and Erin and Amanda will work on creating a Welcome to Alpine AAA presentation in the future.

**ALPINE AAA DIRECTOR UPDATE**—Erin updated the RAC on several items. She informed the RAC that through Sookasa the agency is now able to receive electronic information in a HIPAA compliant manner. Providers are utilizing this service to submit

monthly intake forms and backup documentation for reimbursement. Erin also updated the RAC on the Survey Performance Measures mandated by the State. She informed the RAC that Alpine AAA sent 50% of all registered consumers a survey in February 2016, and Alpine AAA is currently reviewing results for submission to the state. Erin introduced the new Homemaker Voucher program targeting low-income 60+ adults who are unable to complete two or more Instrumental Activities of Daily Living (IADLs). The Homemaker Voucher Program provides a voucher, (\$50-\$200 monthly,) for assistance with basic homemaker tasks such as light housekeeping and personal care. Erin also provided an update on the new Alpine AAA website, which will include a provider link with access to blank consumer assessments, Volume 10, and the State Policy and Procedure (P&P) manual. Erin next informed the RAC that the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments (NWCCOG) will be completing a Senior Gap Analysis survey during 2016, to help determine regional needs. The gap analysis will utilize the same survey tool used in 2011, and surveying will begin in the next few months. Finally, Erin updated the RAC on her staff's participation in the Project Visibility training in Denver, and she discussed the ways the agency is working to provide an inclusive and safe environment of LGBT senior populations.

**REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION COORDINATING COUNCIL (RTCC)**—Laurie Paterson presented on the history of the Mountain Ride Call Center, (One Call/One Click.) The Mountain Ride Center is a centralized database to assist in arranging transportation resources throughout the Alpine AAA region. Mountain Ride also brokers reimbursements through Health Care Policy and Financing for the Non-Emergent Medicaid Transportation program. This service is accessible at [www.mtnride.org](http://www.mtnride.org) or 1-844-686-7433.

### **MEMBER UPDATES:**

**Eagle County**—Carly Rietmann reported on the Eagle County Aging Well strategic planning process. The process began in March of 2015, and rollout of the finalized plan is slated for May 2016 in time for Older Americans Month. Carly also stated that their continuum of care facility, Castle Peak, should open Phase 1 this fall. Castle Peak will provide assisted living, skilled nursing, memory care, and rehabilitation. Phase 2 was designed to include independent senior living, but it has been re-appropriated for affordable housing.

**Grand County**—Lisa Jonas reported that in January 2016, Grand County lost both Home Health and Hospice care. This led to an increase in workflow for Grand County Council on Aging, but it has generated strategic conversation among nonprofits and the health and human services organizations in the county.

**Jackson County**—Wendy Petefish updated the RAC on Jackson County, and she stated that they will be losing their physical therapy facility, which is expected to increase transportation out of the county. Wendy reported that Jackson County is preparing for the MyID I Don't Share event. The event will help teach strategies to avoid identity theft and Medicare fraud. There will also be onsite shredding for sensitive documents. Wendy also reported on the success of the JCCOA freebies table, which allows consumers to donate or pickup gently used items.

**Pitkin County**—Marty Ames reported that the recent work towards a continuum of care facility in Pitkin County has been unsuccessful, due to too many obstacles. She also informed the group that one of the programs arising from the Pitkin Aging Well program was a Friends and Advocacy group. Single seniors started the group to develop a reliable

support network for difficult times. The members make a commitment to help each other to medical appointments and provide support for any future needs. Mary Barbour is coordinating the Spring into Wellness event, which brings together seniors and wellness programs throughout Pitkin County. Finally, the RAC recognized Marty for her many years of dedicated service, and she announced that her replacement was hired.

**Summit County**— Lorie Williams reported that the Summit County Seniors (non-profit) is looking to start their own website independent from Summit County Government. She also spoke of the successful collaboration of several new groups in Summit, including the Pastor’s Coffee. The Pastor’s Coffee brings together pastors of each faith to participate in roundtable discussions on specific community topics. Lorie also reported on the success of the Senior Winter Games, which brought in \$12,000 for senior resources, and she spoke of the planning for the annual rummage sale, which last year brought in \$54,000.

**Next Meeting:** Regular Meeting of the RAC: June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2016 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m., Conference Call.

**ADJOURNMENT:** *Motion* to adjourn by Steve Ladin *second* by David Pearce. All members voted *Aye*. Meeting adjourned at 2:03pm.

**Motion carried.**

Minutes prepared by: Amanda Rens-Moon, NWCCOG-Alpine Area Agency on Aging.

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CHAIR, RAC

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Approved - SECRETARY,-RAC