



Commission On Aging

www.co.monroe.mi.us/commonaging

A Division of the Monroe County
Community Planning & Engagement
Department

965 South Raisinville Rd.
Monroe, MI 48161

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Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Larry Gramlich
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton

Pamela Nadeau

Monroe County Commission on Aging Regular Board Meeting Minutes

October 08, 2025

Commission on Aging Conference Room

Don Spencer called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Members present Don Spencer, Pamela Nadeau, Wayne Meehan, Cynthia McIlvain, Larry Gramlich, Paul Simonton, Mary Ann Wertenberger, Mary Gantz

Members excused: Madonna Burkit

Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Prayer

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the September 10, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Motion by: Mary Ann Wertenberger Supported by: Cynthia McIlvain
Motion carried.

Public Comment:

Collin Keehn, United Way Ramp Program:

Fielding calls from the mailing for services for the Ramp Program.

Sandie Pierce, Monroe Center for Healthy Aging:

Distributed an Ageism Awareness Day Flyer. There were 260,000 views on 13ABC. There have been 250 calendars sold. They Monroe Center made a profit.

Becki Niemiec, Bedford Health Van:

The program got more clients from the mailing.

Special Presentations:

A. Mariah Wagner, Lake Erie Transit:

A brochure was distributed. LET provides essential transportation services. There were 8,114 trips made, with 400 unduplicated clients. Costs are increasing. Bus passes for seniors are \$30 per month. Hours are 7am to 6pm. Rides should be called in at least 24 hours in advance. The General Manager met with other transportation providers and will continue to do so.



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B. Mary Ann Opal, Milan Seniors for Healthy Living:

The Mid-Year Impact Report and the October Newsletter was distributed. From January through July, 10/002 meals were served. There were 12,937 miles driven to date. Membership total to date is 311 clients and 1,589 rides have been given. Programs at Milan Center include: Transportation, Milan Oasis, Meals on Wheels, Aging in Action, the Activity Center and the Senior Café.

The Milan Oasis is a dementia-friendly respite program offering care, connection and compassion for individuals living with memory loss and their caregivers. This is a free adult day respite program. There is also a free handyman service available.

C. Michael and Wanda Bomia, Berlin Senior Group:

Wanda and Michael have run the Berlin Senior Group program for seven years. Hours are 9:30 to 4:00pm. The 2026 membership fee will be \$20 per year. Currently, there are 90 paid senior memberships. There is a need for younger members, as some members have passed.

There are 2,800 meals served per year with an average of 60 meals per week. There may be an increase in meals from \$5.00 to \$6.00 to cover costs. Members can purchase meals to take home. There are usually 10 to-go meals per week.

The Monroe County Health Department will be coming to give vaccinations.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the September 10, 2025 Regular Meeting
- B. Strategic Planning Committee Minutes of October 2, 2025
- C. Finance Reports – None.
- D. Correspondence – None.
- E. Formal Agency Reports – None

Motion to approve by: Wayne Meehan Supported by: Larry Gramlich
Motion Carried.

Directors' Report:

➤ Common Measures Report

The Common Measures Reports provide the Commission with the provider's Cumulative Units Reported vs. Maximum, Cumulative Unduplicated Clients Served vs. Anticipated, Actual Expenditures vs. Total Budget, Total Budget Cost per Unduplicated Client, and Actual Revenue vs. Budgeted Revenue.

➤ COA Website Views



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The monthly analytics snapshot shows how many hits the COA website received and the categories most visited. During September 2025 there were 662 total views. Transportation was the most viewed at 175.

➤ Waitlist/Service Not Provided Summary

Mr. Berry reported that from August 2025 through September 2025, there were 4 wheelchair ramps built, which is a total of 26 for the year. There are 24 seniors on the Project Ramp waitlist.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

A. Katie Scharf, Planning and Grant Specialist, Monroe County AgeWays Community Needs Assessment Report:

Katie discussed distributed an Executive Analysis Survey of Monroe County by Mitchell Research and Communications. This survey was conducted June 2-7, 2025.

The analysis summarizes key findings from a survey conducted on behalf of AgeWays, targeting adults aged 60 and over in Monroe County, Michigan. The total population aged 60 and over in Monroe County is 43,638.

The survey responses highlight critical health, social and economic needs. It offers insights for AgeWays to enhance services for older adults in the county. There were recommendations for service prioritization. The analysis draws comparisons to the overall sample (787,098) where relevant to interpret Monroe County's unique needs.

B. Motion to approve the Bedford Health Van 2025 and 2026 application revision, define the Transportation definition and a request to add language to essential services.

**Motion by: Paul Simonton
Motion Carried.**

Supported by: Wayne Meehan

Roll Call Vote Taken:

Pamela Nadeau- Yes
Larry Gramlich - Yes
Paul Simonton - Yes
Mary Ann Wertenberger - Yes
Wayne Meehan - Yes

Cynthia McIlvain - Yes
Don Spencer - Yes
Mary Gantz - Yes

**Motion by: Paul Simonton
Motion Carried.**

Supported by: Wayne Meehan

Public Comment: None.



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Commission Members Comments:

Don Spencer: None.

Pamela Nadeau: Learns more with each meeting

Larry Gramlich: Happy Halloween

Cynthia McIlvain: None.

Wayne Meehean: None.

Paul Simonton: None.

Mary Ann Wertenberger: None.

Mary Gantzoz: None.

Adjournment:

Motion by: Wayne Meehean

Supported by: Larry Gramlich

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

**The next Regular Board meeting takes place on Wednesday,
November 12, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Monroe County Commission on Aging,
965 South Rainsville Road, Monroe, MI 48161.**

Ramona Hall, Recording Secretary



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