OPEN MEETING MINUTES

Name of Governmental Body: Wisconsin Long Term Care Advisory Council (WLTCAC)			Attending: Alyce Knowlton-Jablonski, Christine Witt, Don Wigington, Elsa Diaz Bautista, Jason Glozier, Jennifer Jako, Jenny Price, Jessica Trudell, Jill Jacklitz, Joel Gouker, Julie Strenn, Karina Chelsky, Kevin Fech, LaVerne Jaros, Linda Rodriguez, Lonnette Campbell, Mike Pochowski, Raj Shukla, Tina Anderson
Date: 11/10/2026	Time Started: 9:33am	Time Ended: 11:23am	
Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting			Presiding Officer: Julie Strenn

Minutes

Members absent: Karina Chelsky, Elsa Diaz Bautista, Raj Shukla

DHS Staff present: Brenda Bauer, Alicia Boehme, John Grothjan, Carrie Molke, Helen Sampson, Nicole Schneider, Joyce Vue

Meeting Call to Order – Julie Strenn

- The meeting was called to order at 9:33am
- Introduced members
- Reviewed agenda
- Minutes from September meeting reviewed
    - Motion to approve by Lonnette C. Seconded by Kevin F.
    - Minutes approved.
    - None Abstain.

General Updates for the Long Term Care Advisory Council – Carrie Molke, Nicole Schneider

- Carrie M.
    - The Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) hosted many conferences and meetings in September and October
        - Statewide Aging & Disability Conference, 400+ people, lots of work, productive conference
        - 2-Day Dementia Care Specialists Conference, learn about recent research and development
        - Hosted Tribal Aging & Disability Conference
        - Next conference: Adult Protective Services (APS) Conference, April 12-14, 2027, Wilderness Resort in Wisconsin Dells, WI
    - New patient representative law; next of kin law; inspired to engage in an effort to increase advance care planning amongst Wisconsinites; need representative tool; working on updating website
        - Work with partners who have a role in educating
        - Explain why advance care planning is important
        - How to have those conversations
        - Invite you to spread the word to help us educate the public about options
    - We received an ACL grant to continue our national caregiver strategy; Federal government is making funding available; we received an additional enhanced award
    - UW-Madison launched a Badger Caregiving Clinic; first in the nation; free clinic; support unpaid family and friend caregivers
        - Click link for more information: https://caregiving.wisc.edu/
        - Another article: https://education.wisc.edu/news/uw-madison-researchers-launch-badger-caregiving-clinic-pilot-to-help-address-caregiving-crisis/
- Nicole S.
    - Medicaid continues to run a deficit; has improved a little bit; seeing the same drivers of the deficit; next update will be at the end of December

  - New administration will have a budget sometime in February 2027
  - Recently had an internal reorganization for the Benefits & Service Delivery (BSD) Functional Area
    - The bureau that is led by Jason Cram will be explicitly focused on Long Term Care
    - Acute care has been reassigned
    - Contracting has been moved over to the Systems, Fiscal, and Operations (SFO) Functional Area, under Krista Willing
    - Budget amendments and one-time expenses moved to the Bureau of Rate Setting (BRS); same folks and team working on this
    - Elevated a clinical leadership team
  - FDA update; haven't heard a resolution on protest
  - Reminder, the latest community engagement webinar (ForwardHealth Policy Update Call Series), is on our website; was held in October; refer to link for more information: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/dms/policycalls.htm
  - Last item, is an update about the Provider Controlled Setting project:
    - We started a Provider Controlled Setting project that has been delayed
    - Looking into how we can address the purpose of the project; not restricting member choice
    - Current focus is creating information helpful to providers
    - Plan is to post a toolkit on the website to help providers; we're anticipating later this year or early next year
- Carrie M.
  - Thank you to the following LTCAC members whose membership term has come up:
    - Karina Chelsky
    - Don Wigington
    - Mike Pochowski
    - Chris Witt
  - Thank you for your service and we appreciate your contributions.
- ***Council Feedback***
  - Jenny P. – Can we see an updated org chart of this recent internal reorganization?
    - Nicole S. – Yes, will try to share with members

Long Path Charge Update – Helen Sampson

- Shared presentation
- Reframing Aging and Disability
  - Established Hub for information and collection of examples, sign up for Champions Newsletter, register for training; link to Hub: https://wihealthyaging.org/for-professionals/initiative-resources/reframing/
  - Training with NCRA into 2027
  - Evaluation of Advisory Committee
  - Community of Practice
- Wisconsin Age and Disability-Friendly Ecosystem
  - Working to create age-friendly workplaces
  - UW-Green Bay put in a proposal for an inclusive workplace certification
  - Considering the new landscape; new administration coming in; Milwaukee is the only age-friendly county in the state; work towards an age-friendly state
- What can LTCAC Members do?
  - Visit the Reframing Aging and Disability Hub and offer feedback: https://wihealthyaging.org/for-professionals/initiative-resources/reframing/
  - What do you need to feel comfortable talking about age and disability-friendly ecosystems to your connections?
  - Who do you know that should be involved in this work?
- What's next?
  - Building a next generation leadership
  - Exploring Strategic Foresight

  - Considering Multi-Sector Plan for Aging (MPA)
- ***Council Feedback***
  - LaVerne J. – One of the things that disturbed me; political rhetoric is very ageist; too old to be effective in political office; need to remind our colleagues about the language they're using; just because they're old it doesn't mean their incompetent
    - Helen S. – We all need to find a place to build bridges in our response to that; age is not the factor
    - Carrie M. – At the national reframing summit, there was a panel of all national aging organizations; this was a topic that was discussed; see this very visibly in elections; these groups are all uniting; conversation is very relevant
  - Jessica T. – Engaged in strategic foresight; went through training; concept is to generally look at what is happening today and what is the impact; simple version; focus on two uncertainties; for example, workforce and technology; What does that future look like for the aging group? What does the future of aging look like without workforce and technology? Looking for signals that are happening today; if this became a trend in the future, what would 10 years in the future look like? Being more planful and proactive.
    - Carrie M. – Have not deployed these tools yet; we have a role in shaping the future; Common Good Philanthropies is funding a statewide expansion initiative; might include this group; stay tuned

Medicaid Long-Term Care Charge Update – Alicia Boehme

- Brief introduction to Kevin Fech, LTCAC Member; Kevin will share notes from the ad hoc group
- Participants of the ad hoc group were Alyce Knowlton, Linda Rodriguez, Kevin Fech, Jill Jacklitz, Jenny Price, Jason Cram, and Alicia Boehme.
- The group met on October 15 and October 30.
- As a group, they didn't have historical knowledge of how the charges were created/developed.
- The group did not have a good idea of the measurables of these goals.
- The group recommends having goals related to:
  - Reviewing the difference between a goal and a guidance principle
  - What is achievable – defining baselines and benchmarks?
  - How were goals reviewed and updated?
- The current goals of the Medicaid Long-Term Care Charge include the following:
  - Program Authority and Contracts
  - Program Transparency and Education
  - Program Sustainability
  - Addressing an Aging Demographic
  - Long Term Care Functional Screen
- This is a level set meeting; Where are we right now? What is the purpose of the charge/goal?
- The plan is to continue to pull together ad hoc groups to have more conversations.
- ***Council Feedback***
  - Jill J. – Lack continuity for ad hoc groups; What is a recommendation that we have as a council to the state and hearing how the state/DHS is doing on the recommendation? What is the role of moving a recommendation forward? This is a clarity point that needs to be determined so that we can move forward appropriately; Is this even monitored over time or measurable?
  - Carrie M. – What is the appropriate process to work on goals/charges? Need to put more clarity around this process. We might be putting a pin in this since new administration is coming in 2027. How does the new Secretary/Administration want our recommendations?
  - Chris W. – If the ad hoc groups were to meet more, the goals/recommendations would become clearer.
  - Kevin F. – How often are goals reviewed?

Workforce Charge Update – Carrie Molke, Brenda Bauer

- Refer to Workforce Charge Ad Hoc Group Recommendations document
- At the July meeting, Lynn Gall, DHS, was invited to present.
- Then in September, Stephen McCall, from PHI, was invited to present.
- As discussed at the last meeting, an ad hoc group was pulled to review the Workforce Charge.
- Chris Witt, LTCAC Member, shared recommendations from the ad hoc group.
- Separated the charge into two (2) parts:
    - Recommendations for Family Caregivers and Other Natural Supports (People who provide unpaid care.)
    - Recommendations for the Direct Care Workforce (Employees who provide caregiving for a wage.)
- Next Step:
    - Review the recommendations carefully and bring any changes/questions to the January 2027 meeting
    - Will hope to provide clarity on the process at the January 2027 meeting as well
    - Hope to finalize goals at the January 2027 meeting
    - Once finalized, will be sent to the Secretary for approval
- ***Council Feedback***
    - Lonnette C. – Clarification on credentialing across providers; specific to in-home paid and unpaid providers? A registry for non-paid caregivers? Suggest looking at the CNA registry and mimic; facility or agency-specific requirements; like idea of creating a registry
    - Jenny P. – Care Act; involves going to the legislature; suggest DHS work on how tracking and reporting hours by unpaid is being documented; provide nice evidence for passing the care act; the more information we have to illustrate will be very useful
    - Alyce K. – Doing the training on a county level will be difficult; suggest having a state-based training

Council Business – Julie Strenn

- Topics for January 2027
    - Review recommendations for the Medicaid Long-Term Care Charge and the Workforce Charge; hope to finalize goals at the January meeting
    - In-Person Meeting in 2027
        - Tentatively aiming for a May 2027 meeting
        - Do intend to make this a hybrid meeting
        - Agenda topic to cover is our operating agreement as a council
        - More details to come
- ***Council Feedback***
    - Jenny P. – Love to get an update on the Provider Controlled Setting Project
    - Jessica T. – Overview of the budget items
        - Carrie M. – Plan is to bring to March 2027 meeting
    - Alyce K. – Invite the New Secretary to attend a 2027 meeting; either in January or March
    - Carrie M. – Good idea to invite/introduce new Division Heads as well – DMS, DPH, etc.
    - Linda R. – Is it appropriate for this council to look at peer support professionals in relationship to aging? Been attending webinars; there's been a suggestion that peer professionals working with home care or those with disabilities can provide an extra support; can that come here to be discussed?
        - Carrie M. – How do you see that idea fitting in with our charges? Maybe Workforce?
        - Alyce K. – Paid Workforce under IRIS?
        - Julie S. – Is it more around sharing the benefit? Does it fit into the work that Helen shared around sharing the message? What's the objective? Then where does it fit best?
    - Linda R. – Supporting those folks who are not getting paid; peer support specialist can be someone they can call? Help them know where to go? Caregiver to caregiver support specialist. There is no specific training in Wisconsin for this. Help people help themselves.
        - Carrie M. – Potential recommendation to create a Peer Support option? Caregivers to support other caregivers.

- John G. – Care Coordinator Position
- LaVerne J. – Providing emotional support to older adults may be struggling

Public Comment – Julie Strenn

- Amber W. – Address caregiver shortage today; discussed frequently; caregivers don't have benefits; how do we work to solve this problem; start to see the conversation that how do we solve this and bring common sense workforce sustainability solutions to the table; to stabilize this workforce; make this into a career and not just a job
- Don P. – Consumer still not getting services; making excuses; suggestion for an assessment for equipment; will not do an assessment; delays; changed the care team; discrepancy with care team; case file on my consumer; another consumer with Inclusa again that is homeless; he was signed up with them but still in a camper; I'm an independent specialist; they are not providing a service
- Don. P. – Consumer signed paperwork for state recapture assuming that home health services would be provided. Here we are 11 months after contracting with Inclusa a constant struggle to receive promised services. No PT, no OT, no equipment. I made a suggestion to do an Assistive Technology Assessment to find a solution for the consumer to get out of bed and rehabilitate. At that time the care manager agreed to an assessment. That never happened! Then the care manager stated it was never said. So far all that has been provided is paperwork, paper products, delays and excuses. The consumers' bed is broken and does not fit. Consumer requested a replacement and was denied. This for-profit caregiving model is failing.
- Don P. – Consumer is living in a campground. Consumer was told his water and electric will be shut off soon. I asked him if he would consider a shelter for a safe place to work on better arrangements for housing. He agreed. I called APS which brought me to the Price Co ADRC. He was contacted by a person there which I feel does good work, so it was over. Or so I thought. Consumer was an Inclusa consumer. That meant the ADRC need not follow up since he has a care team. Now the first thing I recognized is his situation and the change of season. Why didn't his care team recognize the urgency of the situation? Is care in care team just a word? I have kept in touch with him to follow up until he is safe. So, it has been a month since we first spoke, and he is still in the campground. It will be in the 20s later this week. I called NWWICS to inquire on information for housing. Sent information to consumer. So previously I spoke with his care manager. Consumer has medical appointments in Ashland, so I asked about housing in Ashland Co. The care manager said no, there is nothing available. NWWICS provided contact information for a shelter and for housing application in Ashland Co. I sent Consumer the information. We spoke prior to the meeting today and I urged him to call the shelter to be safe and work from there to get a more permanent housing situation. Why is his care team not doing this?

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Chris W.; seconded by LaVerne J.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am

Prepared by: Joyce Vue on 11/10/2026.

These minutes are in draft form. They will be presented for approval by the governmental body on: 1/12/2027