

Boulder County Aging Advisory Council May Special Session Minutes

Date: Friday, May 16, 2025

Location: Zoom

Mission

The mission of the AAC is to deliver, fund, and advocate for services that promote well-being, independence, and dignity for older adults, people living with disabilities, family and informal caregivers, and Veterans in Boulder County.

Members Present

Arlene Zortman (Co-Chair), Dena Boutwell (Co-Chair), Harriet Edelstein, Carol Buxton, Stephen Topping, Charlie Erdrich, Bob Magin, Amelia Groves, Lisa Bondi, Ellen Taxman, Edie Thorne, Cindy Brekke

Members Excused

Jocelyn Brown, Larry Brassem, Jeanine Tarrant, Emelita Gagne, Randy Trahan, Michele Cohen, Lisa Bondi, Edie Thorne

Staff and Guests Present

Lindsay Neville, Carol Cross, Trinidad Botello, Cindy Hickman

VOTE: Recommendations from the Technical Review Committee (TRC) for FY26 Funding Allocations (State and Federal Funds) – Carol Cross

Carol reviewed, “Why are we holding a special session of the Aging Advisory Council?”

- To vote on FY26 federal and state funding allocations
- TRC members have reviewed, discussed, and approved recommendations

Carol reviewed the delays with funding information for federal and state dollars from the state.

Carol reviewed:

- AAA internal processes
- Factors driving the need for reductions
 - Internal and external budget requests
 - Priority focus and scenarios with federal budget changes
 - Provider scoring and priority populations
- Influencing factors
 - Decrease in funds available
 - Increased cost in delivering services
- FY26 fund totals
- Provider scoring criteria
- Criteria weighting
- Provider score summary
- Recommendations

Slides are attached for the provider score summary and recommendations.

Bob made a motion to approve the recommendations, Harriet seconded the motion, and the whole voted to approve with Dena’s abstention.

Continued Discussion of Federal Funding and Advocacy – Lindsay Neville

Lindsay reviewed what we discussed to date.

A review of messages from the Commissioners was shared – inclusivity and climate.

Lindsay lead a discussion around what action the AAC wants to take on advocacy.

There was discussion of client stories to accompany an advocacy letter for federal electeds, especially stories from residents of long-term care.

The group is interested in an issue brief for federal electeds that would include client stories, cost of services increasing, inflation, older adult population increase, the cost savings with our programs, advocacy targeted at the programs set to be cut in the proposed and leaked budget, and something about Medicaid.

The group discussed work requirements for Medicaid and the county's position.