

RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

(Via Teleconference)

December 19, 2014

Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO)

3855 Wolverine NE, Suite 6

(Training Room)

Salem, Oregon

MINUTES

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING:

Dan Dunham, Chair
Bill Bard, Vice Chair
Teena Ainslie
Kelly Breshears
Michele Edwards
Meghan Moyer
Judge Welch

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

Mary Jaeger, Director/State LTC Ombudsman
Gretchen Jordan, Coordinator of Volunteers
*Mary Ann Lebold, Office Manager

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Glenn Berk
Claudia Kyle

LTCO VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATING:

None

GUESTS:

Tyler Anderson, Assistant Attorney General, Oregon Department of Justice

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Dunham called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Judge Welch moved that the minutes of the November 21, 2014 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: Mr. Dunham has received notification that Mr. Berk intends to resign from this Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ms. Moyer has a new job and will be joining Portland Community College as their Government Relations Director effective January 2015.

COMMITTEE MEMBER UPDATES: Mr. Dunham made his first official visit as a Certified Ombudsman to the Lebanon Veterans' Home. He described the facility's five residents and other aspects of his visit.

Mr. Bard, who attended the December 11 Tri-County Certified Ombudsman Meeting for program volunteers in Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties, described the events of the meeting and talked about the importance of volunteer meetings where volunteers from more than one county are invited to attend. He described the impact of software changes out of LTCO control on the on-line volunteer reporting system and measures taken to facilitate volunteer on-line reporting in spite of the challenges these changes present. Agency staff has nearly completed gathering the data needed for the annual state and federal reports. Substantial progress has also been made on processing paper and digital reports from Adult Protective Services (APS) and the Office of Licensing and Regulatory Oversight (OLRO) so that those reports are available to LTCO staff in a timely manner.

*Participated in person at the LTCO office

Ms. Edwards reported that the recent nursing home closure in North Eastern Oregon is now complete. Of the sixteen residents in the facility, one died during the process and three have died since being moved. She would like to make legislators aware of the impact on residents when an LTC facility is closed and the residents are forced to move. Ms. Edwards discussed the unusual complications of an imminent closure of an adult foster home in her community.

Ms. Moyer described changes in the regulations, currently being put in place, for facilities for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness and the impact on families and residents.

Ms. Ainslie, who also attended the Tri-County Certified Ombudsman Meeting, commented that Roger Anunsen, a brain health educator, make a presentation of interest to everyone at the meeting.

Ms. Breshears recently graduated from Leadership Oregon, an executive leadership development program for the State of Oregon created in 1989 by the Director's Office of the Department of Administrative Services. Most recently she has been focused on assignments related to her position with the ODVA.

Tyler Anderson met with Ms. Jaeger and Joe Greenman, General Counsel for Oregon Health Care Association. Progress has been made in creating a new database with information about administrative hearing data. Mr. Anderson believes that this will facilitate a better working relationship among LTC industry partners.

MARY JAEGER, DIRECTOR/STATE LTC OMBUDSMAN: Ms. Jaeger suggested that the message volunteers should give to their legislators is that a small pool of LTCO staff work through the volunteers to do a great deal of work for the citizens of Oregon advocating for residents of licensed LTC facilities.

Ms. Jaeger is working closely with Mr. Bard to prepare both the data and narrative that are used in the state and federal reports.

Travis Wall will officially begin work as the State Public Guardian on January 12.

On behalf of Jerry Walker, LTCO's Volunteer CFO, Ms. Jaeger reported that a premises lease is expected to be signed soon. The LTCO's 2015/2017 Budget has been accepted by Governor's office and will go forward to the legislature as submitted.

GRETCHEN JORDAN, COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS: Ms. Jordan reported that volunteer numbers are increasing. She anticipates having about 200 Certified Ombudsmen by the end of 2014. A new training model has been put in place where Deputies train the volunteers they will be supervising. Qualified applicants will be encouraged to attend the next available training even if travel is required. A contract has been signed with the property hosting the Oct 2015 training event. A recruiting and outreach video capturing what the Ombudsman program is like will be delivered very soon. She referred Committee Members to her reports for more detail.

The Committee's next meeting will be January 16 via teleconference. Today's meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 AM.