

OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 14, 2011  
5835 Grand Avenue, Suite 106  
Des Moines, IA 50312

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2011 OIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

OIL Board of Directors present:

- Ron Donald, Chair, Southeast District
- Mike Otto, Vice-Chair, Northwest District
- Ron Jome, Secretary, Central District
- Francis Thom, Treasurer, South-Southeast District
- Bob Welsh, Representative from Southeast District
- Neil Wubben, Representative from North District

Special guest present:

- Craig Patterson, Lobbying and Public Policy Consulting

**OIL BOARD BUSINESS CONDUCTED BY DIRECTORS**

Chairman Ron Donald convened the meeting at 10:05 am.

- The agenda was approved as amended
- The minutes of the November 7, 2011 meeting of the Board of Directors were approved as written.
- Treasurer Francis Thom submitted a financial report covering 11/07/2011 to 12/14/2011. The Board approved the financial report.

Starting Balance – 11/07/2011	\$13,297.37
Receipts	\$ 225.00
Expenses	\$ 3,319.45
Ending Balance – 12/14/2011	\$10,202.92

RECEIPTS

2 Individual dues – 2011	\$ 50.00
6 Individual dues – 2012	\$ 150.00
14 In kind Mileage 2012 dues	\$ 0.00
2012 Professional dues	\$ 0.00
Donations	\$ 25.00
TOTALS	\$ 225.00

EXPENSES

Postage-Copy-Printing	\$ 781.67
Newsletter Postage	\$ 0.00
Board Lunches -11/07/11	\$ 144.78
Ron Jome- Secretary Expense & Service	\$ 2,000.00
Knoxville Insurance, Inc. – Liability	\$ 185.00
TOTALS	\$ 3,319.45

- Attempts of increasing membership of Older Iowans Legislature
  - Following the November 7 meeting of the Board of Directors, the secretary sent email messages to former members of OIL and asked them to consider renewing their OIL memberships for 2012. Hard copy letters with the same request to renew memberships were sent to former members of OIL who do not have email.
  - Neil Wubben reported that two additional new OIL members were recruited after he visited locations in the North and North Central Districts and promoted the Older Iowans Legislature.
  - Bob Welsh suggested that the OIL email mailing lists be divided into “current members” and “non-members or friends”. Bob then suggested that future legislative update reports sent to “Friends of the Older Iowans Legislature” could include an invitation to become a current member of the Older Iowans Legislature with submission of the \$25 annual dues.

### **DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING IOWA GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- The Board of Directors welcomed Craig Patterson of Lobbying and Public Policy Consulting to the meeting and asked him to comment on the issues that he thinks will be considered and possibly enacted during the upcoming session of the Iowa General Assembly which convenes in January.
- The Board of Directors and Craig Patterson discussed at some length the ongoing process of restructuring the Area Agencies of Aging in Iowa.

### **DISCUSSION OF OIL PRIORITY BILLS**

- Thanks to Bob Welsh for consulting with several outside experts in older adult health care during the past month in an effort to strengthen the OIL Priority Bills of 2011 before they are submitted to the 2012 Iowa General Assembly. The experts included representatives from the Department on Aging, Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging, AARP, Department of Inspections and Appeals, and Heritage.
- The OIL Board of Directors will be submitting bills to the Iowa General Assembly covering the following issues:
  - Reimbursing the home and community based services waiver for the elderly on parity with skilled nursing facilities
  - Funding for the Iowa Department on Aging and the Iowa Area Agencies on Aging
  - Changing Iowa Administrative Code and Iowa Code to help ensure that the residents in assisted living facilities of Iowa receive quality care
  - Expanding the long-term ombudsman program in Iowa to insure adequate staffing in Iowa’s long-term care facilities
  - Increasing the number of inspectors and staff positions in the Health Facilities Division of the Department of Inspections and Appeals
- At the December 14 meeting the OIL Board of Directors reviewed the comments and suggestions that Bob Welsh had received during the past month from outside experts concerning possible corrections and additions to the OIL Priority Bills. During the meeting the OIL Board members proposed several amendments to the bills. At the end of the meeting Bob Welsh volunteered to rewrite the bills with the suggested amendments and then to send the drafts by email to the other Board members for approval.

- Bob Welsh submitted a Plan of Action for presenting the OIL Priority Bills to the Iowa General Assembly in January 2012.
  1. Agree on final wording of bills
  2. Agree on fact sheet to go with each bill
  3. Identify key legislators or friendly legislators for each bill and ask them to sponsor the bill
  4. Send the bills to Governor and to various state departments requesting input and support for OIL bills. Also ask what bills they deem to be important so that OIL may join them as advocates.
  5. Send bills and fact sheets to all OIL members with the request that they contact their legislators prior to the beginning of the session or the first week of the session.
  6. OIL members will be updated on when the bills are introduced and on which committees and subcommittees of the Iowa General Assembly will be evaluating the bills.
  7. When OIL bills have been assigned to committees and subcommittees of the Iowa General Assembly it is important that the Older Iowans Legislature immediately contact the legislators evaluating each bill and express support for the bill. The Older Iowans Legislature shall be available to testify for the OIL bills at the appropriate subcommittees and committees.
  8. The Older Iowans Legislature shall send “Thank You!” emails at each step along the way.
  9. The Older Iowans Legislature shall participate in the Lobby Day scheduled at the Iowa Capitol on Monday February 13, 2012.

The Board of Directors approved a motion by Bob Welsh to support Di Findley and the Direct Care Board of Professionals. Chair Ron Donald will send a letter of support.

Chairman Ron Donald adjourned the meeting at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Jome  
Secretary, Board of Directors, Older Iowans Legislature