

Minutes of the  
Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel  
Tuesday, March 10, 2026  
2:00 p.m.

The Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel hereby finds and determines that all formal actions were taken in an open meeting and that all deliberations of the Senior Citizens Advisory Panel, which resulted in formal action, were taken in a meeting open to the general public, in full compliance with applicable legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Mr. Sterk called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

Members: John Hamila, Emily Koenig, Jenna Bing, Greg Giegerich, Larry Sterk, David Bennett

Staff: Alyea Barajas

Public: Spence Kline, WRAAA Board of Trustees

Approval of the November 18, 2025, minutes:

Ms. Bing moved to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2025; Mr. Giegerich seconded the motion to approve.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

Public Comments: Mr. Kline provided a brief update on operations at the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging.

Correspondence: None.

Election of 2026 Officers:

The floor was opened to elect the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Ms. Bing moved to elect Mr. Sterk as Chairperson and Ms. Koenig as Vice Chairperson, Mr. Giegerich seconded the nomination.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

Volunteer Services Coordinator – Lake County Volunteer Network (LCVN)/AmeriCorps Update:

Ms. Barajas provided an update on the AmeriCorps RSVP grant. April 1, 2026, begins the second year of the 3-year grant. One of largest expense of the grant budget is creating videos for volunteer recruitment and volunteer education. The first of four videos features a highlight of LCVN for the purpose of recruiting new volunteers. The second video is about mental health in older adults. The Lake County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services Board helped to develop and deliver the content.

LCVN is leading the collaboration to host the Lake County Community Volunteer Fair at Mentor Public Library main branch on Tuesday, April 14, 2026. An event flyer was distributed to the Panel members.

LCVN collaborates with the Lake County Emergency Management agency to organize and facilitate the Lake County Citizen Corps Council. This is a group of about 20 volunteers who are trained with basic skills to serve in a disaster. Ms. Kane has partnered with the Lake County EMA, Vistra and the Lake

County General Health District to host a special training for all Citizen Corps and Medical Reserve Corps volunteers on March 25, 2026. An event flyer was distributed to all Panel members.

Ms. Kane will serve as a panel member for a workshop on March 26, 2026, focused on using older adult volunteers in nonprofits, hosted by the Forum for Volunteer Administrators, a professional development organization for volunteer leaders in the Cleveland area.

The annual volunteer recognition event will be held on Wednesday, September 9, 2026, at the Lake Metroparks Painesville Township Park Pavilion with the Lake County Council on Aging. The Lake Metroparks graciously waved the rental fee for the event.

Senior Services Manager Updates:

Ms. Barajas provided a brief overview of 2025 spending for all senior levy recipients.

Ms. Bing noted for the record that when recommendations are submitted to the Board of Commissioners, and the Board makes a funding decision that differs from the Advisory Panel's recommendations, the Panel would appreciate receiving an explanation for the alternate decision. Ms. Barajas indicated she would relay this request to the Board of Commissioners.

Ms. Barajas introduced Mr. Adam Sheldon of The Osgood Group to provide an update on Lake County's senior assessment and strategic plan. The presentation included a review of the project timeline, key themes from SCAP member interviews, and preliminary findings from the community market study.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

General Discussion: Ms. Bing inquired whether a new CEO had been named for the Lake County Council on Aging. Ms. Barajas reported that a part-time interim director has been appointed and that the Council on Aging has engaged a firm to assist with the search for a permanent CEO.

Adjournment:

Mr. Hamila moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:37 p.m. and Mr. Giegerich seconded the motion.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

\*The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 12, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.\*