

Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board

Minutes

Meeting Monday November 24, 2025

Chuck Marinec, Chairman, called a meeting of the Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board to order on November 24, 2025 at 9:00 am. Self-Intros made for recording purposes. Meeting held at the Historic Courthouse Room 309, 940 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

Board Members Present: Chuck Marinec, Denny Pilant, Mike Jungers (Phoned In), Robert Thurman, Stephen Short, Mary Ellison and Sharon Forrester.

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Deborah Allen, Cindy Stein, Annelise Schultz (Auditor's Office), Jim Barnes (Ash Grove Sunshine Center), Whitney Williams (LSSM), Rene Frazier (OATS), Brendan Griesemer (Restore SGF), Liz McClelland, Becca Fields, Janice Piper (SeniorAge)

Meeting Minutes: September 22, 2025. Motion to approve Sharon Forrester. Seconded by Stephen Short. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report for October 2025 presented Cindy Stein, Greene County Auditor. Cash Balance as of the end of October is \$1,488,999.34. Property Tax Revenue is \$7,491.84, Bank/Investment \$12,920.57, Refunds & Reimbursements \$0.00, Other Revenue \$0.00 with a Total Revenue of \$20,412.41, the YTD Revenue is \$3,668,946.65. Total Expenditures \$380,565.29 the YTD Expenditures are 2,911,022.30. Checks issued: Debbie Allen, Habitat for Humanity and SeniorAge Area Agency on Aging. Total Ending Balance of \$2,246,923.69. Total Investments Principal \$1,115,191.20 at longer term investment and that should yield Approximate Annual Interest \$41,748.19.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Mary Ellison. Seconded Sharon Forrester. Motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business

Presentation: Ash Grove Sunshine Center – Jim Barnes

Amount Requested \$1,950.00 – Additional Funding Request FY2025. This amount should cover the four (4) new kitchen circuits and wiring for use in the kitchen. They currently don't have enough circuits in the kitchen for all their needs and they are constantly tripping the breakers when they plug in too many components into one circuit. This will give them a more convenient capacity when serving meals from their window.

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Robert Thurman. Motion carried.

Presentation: Ash Grove Sunshine Center – Jim Barnes

Amount Requested \$4,066.35 FY2026. This for the purchase of a new Kitchen oven. The total purchase price is \$29,066.35 of which Ozark Food Harvest will be supplying \$25,000.00. The current oven is more than fifteen (15) years old and has been problematic for several months. Cooking food unevenly and requiring constant monitoring and frequent rotation of the food to get it thoroughly baked. With the help of Ozark Food Harvest funding, we should be able to replace the old defective oven. However, once we began looking into this, we ran into an even bigger problem. Our entire electrical system would need to be upgraded to 3 Phase in order to handle a new

electric oven. Liberty Electric would need to install a new 3 Phase transformer for us and the entire project would be very expensive. The better option for our situation is to install a gas fueled oven and reduce the heavy load on the electrical system. In 2022 we had a breaker box fire in the kitchen and in spite of the new breaker box that was installed at that time we frequently have issues with overloading the system and tripping the breakers.

The gas oven would be most suited to our needs exceeds the amount that Ozark Food Harvest will award. Therefore, we are requesting the difference from the Senior Board to cover the shortage.

Motion to approve with proper paperwork from OFH granting the \$25,000.00 made by Mary Ellison. Seconded by Sharon Ellison. Motion carried pending OFH award.

Presentation: Legal Services – Whitney Williams

Amount Requested FY2026 \$70,000.00. This will be the 50th year they have been providing legal assistance to the seniors of Greene County. The funds requested for this project will provide for three components:

- ✓ Community Education
- ✓ Individual Assistance
- ✓ Systemic Advocacy to protect senior citizens.

The funding request would also address legal issues related to vulnerable adults 60 years of age or older whose financial situations do not allow them to resolve their legal problems. These senior citizens generally have multiple problems related to poverty, poor physical and/or mental health, lack of education, domestic violence or disabilities. Aging, lower-limited incomes, and other factors make the elderly a vulnerable population ripe for victimization. Legal Services of Southern Missouri will utilize the funds provided for legal guidance and direct legal representation to qualified senior citizens. The nature of the legal guidance and representation will vary depending up the type of legal problem.

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion carried.

Presentation: OATS, Transit – Rene Frazier

Amount Requested FY2026 \$512,910.00 – less than FY2025 by \$2,500.00. Email dated November 24, 2025 from Chuck Marinec allowing the addition of a two day's service to Republic. This will result in approximately an additional \$14,000.00 to \$15,000.00. FY2026 requesting a revised Funding application be resubmitted for consideration including the two days of service.

Motion to table made by Mary Ellison. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion to table carried.

Presentation: Restore – Brendan Griesemer

Amount Requested FY2026 \$135,253.00. Based on the past year's response to our GCSCSF Healthy Home for Seniors project, there is significant pent-up demand and interest. We estimated we could provide 25 grants through this program and we received 21 applications before we even received the GCSCSF funds. All 2025 GCSCSF funds are currently committed with projects slated to finish by the end of the year.

- ✓ Average household size: 1.4 persons
- ✓ Average household age: 70.8 years
- ✓ Average household income: \$40,430
- ✓ Average project price: \$9,166
- ✓ Bids required: Three bids are required by the Homeowner to be submitted

The results of our 2025 project speak to the need for this type of assistance. We funded a new energy efficient air condition and heating systems, insulation and new energy efficient windows. However, our most requested improvement was bathroom showers. Installing a new shower significantly reduced the trip/fall hazards of our clients and allowed them to attend to their personal hygiene without a barrier to overcome.

The primary goal is to allow seniors to age in place by assisting them with accessibility and energy efficiency improvements to their home. Given our experience over the past year, we anticipate providing assistance to approximately 31 households.

Motion to approve Mary Ellison. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried with 6 in favor and 1 against.

Presentation: SeniorAge Area Agency on Aging – Becca Fields and Liz McClelland

Amount Requested FY2026 \$1,241,241.00 (same as last year). For more than 50 years, SeniorAge has been here to help older adults – age 60 and up – stay independent, safe and comfortable in their own homes and communities. As one of Missouri’s 10 Area Agencies on Aging, we work with seniors of all walks, from those who are active and on-the-go to those who have limited mobility or resources and need extra help. Everything we do is about meeting people where they are and supporting them as they age. Our services are built to promote health, independence and dignity helping seniors face the challenges of aging with confidence and care.

✓ **Our Goals:**

Helping Seniors Stay at Home, Safely and Comfortably:

We want older adults to feel safe, stable and supported whether through help at home or services in the community.

✓ **Making Services Work Smarter:**

We’re always working to improve our responsiveness and efficiency. Reaching more people in more places across our 17-county region.

✓ **Growing for the Future:**

We know needs are growing, so we continuously work on strengthening the sustainability of our outreach network and funding base to keep essential services going today and for years to come.

Motion to approve by Robert Thurman. Seconded by Stephen Short. Motion carried.

Communications:

Cindy Stein – Auditors Office discussed the amount of funds that remained unspent by FY2025 feeling that possibly awarded funds were a little more on the conservative side. Did they feel that this was still the way to continue in FY2026 or consider taking a few more risks? Mary Ellison added that maybe a little more verbiage supplied on the Funding Application could be useful in making these difficult decisions. The vote was put before the Board resulting in a motion to continue on the more conservative path.

Motion to Hold and Steady was made by Mary Ellison. Seconded by Sharon Forrester. Motion carried.

The meeting concluded at 10:19 A.M. Mike Jungers moved to adjourn. Seconded by Sharon Forrester. Motion carried.

The December 22, 2025 meeting was cancelled due to the holidays. Next meeting January 26, 2026 pending on items placed on the agenda – Location: Historic Courthouse, Room 309. If additional people are in attendance, a waiting area with appropriate social distancing will be available.

Minutes submitted by: Deborah Allen