



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 12, 2009
CONFERENCE CALL

COUNCIL CONVENED AT 1:30 PM and ADJOURNED at 2:50 PM on March 12, 2009.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Berryman, Melissa Clark, JoAnn Dotson, Lisa T Hathaway, Darwin Nelson, Barb Olind, PJ Rismon-Beckley, Timm Vogelsberg, Jan Wenaas and Connie Wethern,

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sara Casey, Sylvia Danforth, Roger Holt, Kellie Karasko, Shawn Parker, Jeff Sturm, Diana Tavary, Barb Varnum and Sen. Carol Williams

MEMBERS NOT EXCUSED: Jason Billehus, Janet Carlson, Keough Duffy, Kimme Evermann, Rocky Hughes and Carol Lambert

STAFF PRESENT: Deborah Swingley and Dee Burrell

GUESTS: Sister Johnelle Howanach

COUNCIL AGENDA:

The **March** agenda consisted of Executive Director's Report, Agency Reports, Quality Assurance and Education Workgroup Reports.

Chair **Lisa T. Hathaway** called the meeting to order with a roll call for members present on the conference call.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:

Deborah Swingley gave the Executive Directors report of which a copy was sent to members prior to the conference call. Deborah shared with members that the Omnibus Reconciliation Act was passed by Congress and signed by the President on March 10, 2009. Councils will receive a 1.83 million dollar increase which will equate to approximately a \$300-\$500 a year increase for Montana. Deborah also shared that the Developmental Disabilities Program has put out a RFP for a Fiscal Intermediary for Self Directed Services. Deborah has been asked by the

department to sit on the review team. A copy of the report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

WORKGROUP REPORTS:

Education Workgroup:

Don Berryman volunteered to give the report. The report is attached to and made a part of these minutes. There was not a quorum present so no action was taken on the report.

Quality Assurance Workgroup:

Connie Wethern volunteered to give the report. A written report is attached to and made a part of these minutes. There was not a quorum present but the Council members via roll call made the recommendation to support the revised project for Roger Shelley. Staff has been directed to seek out the members not able to be on the call so that the project can start.

AGENCY REPORTS:

JoAnn Dotson, Title IV, Maternal & Child Health did not submit a written report. She shared with members that the Presidential budget and legislative budget have been major concerns. JoAnn shared details of the Spring Public Health Conference keynote speaker and the website with details of the conference. Dr. Georgina Peacock, a developmental-behavioral pediatrician, currently serves as Medical Officer Senior Fellow with the Prevention Research Branch in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center on Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities. She will speak on the "Learn the Signs. Act Early" campaign, a campaign to ensure every child reaches his or her full potential. <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/PHSD/family-health/Brochure.pdf>.

The new Montana screening of infants for 28 conditions is going very well. In 2008 they picked up 17 children with abnormalities and if screening had not been expanded 6 of those children would not have been identified/diagnosed

Barb Varnum, Vocational Rehabilitation submitted a written report of which a copy was sent to members prior to the conference call. A copy is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

MOTIONS REGISTER:

There was not a quorum present so no action was taken.