



## **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING**

**MARCH 15, 2007**

**MONTANA DEVELOPMENT CENTER**

**BOULDER MT**

**MARCH 16, 2007**

**WINGATE INN**

**2007 N OAKES**

**HELENA MT 59601**

**COUNCIL CONVENED AT 9:00 AM and ADJOURNED at 4:00 PM on March 15, 2007.**

**COUNCIL CONVENED AT 8:30 AM and ADJOURNED at 1:30 PM on March 16, 2007.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jason Billehus, Melissa Clark, Sara, Casey Keough Duffy, Mamie Flinn, Lisa T Hathaway, Roger Holt, Darwin Nelson, Barb Olind, Shawn Parker, PJ Rismon-Beckley, Diana Tavary, Timm Vogelsberg, Jan Wenaas, Connie Wethern and Friday only Janet Carlson,

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Rocky Hughes, Representative Carol Lambert, Brenda Walters and Senator Carol Williams.

**GUESTS:** Sister Johnelle Howanach, Othelia Schulz, Jeff Sturm and Kim Evermann.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Deborah Swingley and Dee Burrell

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### **COUNCIL AGENDA:**

The **March** agenda consisted of a Tour of Montana Developmental Center, Self Directed Waiver Services Discussion, Puzzle Club DVD showing, Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) Presentation, People First Reports, Board of Directors Report, Evaluation Committee Presentations and Agency Reports.

Welcome and introductions were conducted and the Council members were introduced to a new member, Roger Holt from Parent's Lets Unite for Kids (PLUK). Welcome Roger!

The minutes of the January 2007 meeting were approved as written.

### **STAFF UPDATES:**

**Deborah Swingley** provided members with an update on the Council Membership. Many members are waiting for reappointment and notice was received during the meeting that they have been reappointed.

Nomination forms were handed out for election of officers. Nominations are due by May 4, 2007. Election will be held at the June meeting along with the setting of the Master Calendar for FFY 2008.

### **SELF DIRECTED WAIVER SERVICES:**

**Jeff Sturm** shared with members that self directed services have been around for a long time. An individual becomes the employer of persons who work for them. Montana is the only state in our region that does not have a self directed waiver which will change effective July 1, 2007. The state is looking at a 50 person cap for the first year. The department received a Technical Assistance grant from CMS to hold a training which Deborah and Jan attended. All current health and safety rules will remain in effect. Expectations are that in the rural areas will work very well because individual could hire family members. Also younger children will grow up with this option and expectations will be different than they are currently. Great discussion and questions and answers followed.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Jan Wenaas** gave the Board of Director's Report. A copy of the report is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

### **EVALUATION COMMITTEE PRESENTATIONS:**

#### **Rim Country Land Institute: Carolyn Parrish**

**Carolyn** provided a slide show of the 2 sessions which were held on February 10<sup>th</sup> and March 10<sup>th</sup>. Participants engaged in team building due to needing help getting around in the snow in February. Participants keep a journal and many pictures have been drawn in them. When participants noticed things on their own they became more engaged. Carolyn was surprised to learn she has to adjust her communication skills because the participants are not idea driven but experience driven.

#### **Rural Institute: Partnerships for Transition: Ellen Condon & Kim Brown**

Handouts were provide to members and are attached to and made a part of these minutes. **Kim & Ellen** shared that there are 350 members on the list serve and they have 15 sites and have sent out 150 training packets and registrations are still coming in. The response is exceeding all expectations. Agencies and families are registering and PLUK is posting notices on their website. The transition website at

the Rural Institute has been completely redesigned, the address is: [www.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/transition](http://www.ruralinstitute.umt.edu/transition)

A portfolio of one student was demonstrated to members with his parents' permission. Ellen and Kim have been generating ideas about a multi-year project and where it will go from here.

### **APPLIED BEHAVIOR ANALYSIS (ABA) PRESENTATION:**

#### **Scott Pryor - Pryor Consulting**

Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) is one of many programs used with children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. **Scott Pryor** went over the basics of the program and showed video clips of children in the program.

- Program does not work for all children
- Reinforcement is the most important part of the program
- Program should be 20-40 hours per week
- Program costs \$15-20,000 per year for 40 hours a week

Lisa T. Hathaway provided reinforcers of M&M's and gum to Mr. Pryor at the end of his presentation. There are a number of programs and strategies used with children with autism. ABA and Pryor Consulting were used by past Council member Karen Lundby and family for their child.

### **AGENCY REPORTS:**

#### **Sara Casey - Office of Public Instruction**

**Sara** provided a written report which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

#### **Timm Vogelsberg, Rural Institute University Center for Excellence**

**Timm** provided a written report which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

### **TOUR OF MONTANA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER (MDC):**

The March Council meeting was held on the campus of the Montana Developmental Center (MDC) in Boulder, Montana. Superintendent Kathy Zeeck welcomed members to MDC and joined the members for a part of the meeting. Members discussed various newspaper articles they had read and shared copies of articles they had brought to the meeting. After lunch members were taken on a tour of MDC by MDC staff. The tour included the campus church, various MDC facilities and the individual cottages, although only a few members got to tour inside the cottages. The Council appreciates and thanks the management and staff of the Montana Developmental Center for their hospitality in hosting the Council for the March meeting.

### **MISC:**

Members went to Boulder River Hot Springs for Karen Lundby's recognition luncheon. Unfortunately Karen was unable to attend due to illness. Members received a tour of the hotel, and all wished Karen well and fond good-byes.

### **MEMBER NEWS:**

**Melissa Clark** will be doing a webcast on Business development by the Virginia Commonwealth University. The webcast is a training that requires registration and payment; if they are given a tape of the training she will share it with members.

### **PEOPLE FIRST REPORTS:**

**Missoula Chapter** - Members had to leave before they could give their report.

#### **Helena Chapter - Darwin Nelson**

**Darwin** shared with members that he was elected as the State and local chapter Treasurer.

#### **Malta Chapter - Janet Carlson**

**Janet** shared with members that she was elected as President of the chapter.

**MOTIONS REGISTER:**

1. **Keough Duffy/ Lisa T. Hathaway** second - Approve the January 2007 minutes.  
**Unanimous - Adopted**
  
2. **Keough Duffy/ Jason Billehus** second - Adjourn the meeting until Friday.  
**Unanimous - Adopted**
  
3. **Shawn Parker/ Barb Olind** second - Adjourn the meeting on Friday.  
**Unanimous - Adopted**