



MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 7 - 8, 2007
RED LION COLONIAL HOTEL
2301 COLONIAL DRIVE
HELENA MT 59601

COUNCIL CONVENED AT 8:00 AM and ADJOURNED at 5:00 PM on June 7, 2007.

COUNCIL CONVENED AT 8:30 AM and ADJOURNED at 1:00 PM on June 8, 2007.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Billehus, Melissa Clark, Janet Carlson, Keough Duffy, Mamie Flinn, Lisa T Hathaway, Roger Holt, Rocky Hughes, Rep. Carol Lambert, Darwin Nelson, Barb Olind, Shawn Parker, Diana Tavary, Timm Vogelsberg, Connie Wethern, Sylvia Danforth and Bernadette Franks-Ongoy

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sara Casey, Kellie Karaso, PJ Rismon-Beckley, Brenda Walters, Jan Wenaas and Sen. Carol Williams

STAFF PRESENT: Deborah Swingley and Dee Burrell

GUESTS: Sister Johnelle Howanach

COUNCIL AGENDA:

The **June** agenda consisted of presentations/interviews; scoring and funding decision on FFY 2008 Calls For Investment, Election of Officers for FFY 2008, People First Reports, Member Reports, Council Awareness Project and a Presentation by Montana Association of community Disability Services on "Impact of Rate Redesign on Providers and Services".

Vice Chair **Melissa Clark** called the meeting to order with introductions and a welcome to our new member **Representative Carol Lambert**.

Staff provided handouts to the members of a copy of the DVD - Puzzle Club, a survey by Marsha Katz, Sara Casey's report from OPI, an updated member roster and minutes of the Board of Directors meeting.

CALL FOR INVESTMENT PROCESS

Deborah reviewed with the Council membership the presentation/interview and scoring process. Deborah also provided members with updated numbers on what was earmarked and a financial overview.

CALLS FOR INVESTMENT PRESENTATIONS

Members heard presentations from the following proposers and their amounts:

Rim Country Land Institute/Learning from Land	\$15,000
MT Citizens Advocacy Coalition	\$50,000
NCIL Center/Montana Youth Leadership Forum	\$20,000
Rural Institute on Disabilities/Partnerships for Transition	\$87,126
Special Olympics Montana/Adopt-A-Team	\$ 4,833

After presentations, reviewing, scoring, and considerable discussion The Council made Funding decisions. The total amount of funds available for consideration was \$198,317 and a total of \$182,126 was obligated.

\$182,126 for CFI Funding Requests

\$60,000 In House/ People First

\$20,000 NCIL/ MT Youth Leadership

\$87,126 Rural Institute on Disabilities/ Partnerships for Transition

\$15,000 Rim Country Land Institute/ Learning From the Land

PRESENTATION:

"Impact of Rate Redesign on Providers and Services"

Sylvia Danforth, Executive Director of DEAP

Jan Cahill, Executive Director of Quality Life Concepts

Connie Wethern, Executive Director of Milk River

Charlie Briggs, former Executive Director of Montana Association of Community Disability Services (MACDS)

Montana's children's services looks very different from any other state. The pilot project has gone into 3 regions and each region has looked very different from the others. The rate is the same for services everywhere in the state. Quality of services, health & safety are very important. It is portable in that you should be able to take your service funds with you so that you can move anywhere you choose. Families need to be able to make the decision of services and natural supports are important.

Quality Life Concepts in Region II volunteered for the pilot project. The rate system is designed to promote individualized services to a degree. The rate redesign will be a challenge for some providers due to the equalizing of rates. Almost every person in services has a MONA but the state does not have enough funds to implement the MONA.

- Problem with the rate system is there is not enough funding for the cost plans. All the cost plans have been determined but the funds are not there.
- So many variables with this system. They can't control utilization and will not get 1/12th of the funds every month. If a person is ill and stays home for the day, the provider of day services will not get paid for the days missed. It causes a problem with the Residential Services also. The reality is that someone will not get paid for the day that a person stays home. If a person goes home for a month in the summer, the provider will not get paid. But the provider still has to maintain staffing and pay the rent. Providers need to maintain a certain level of funding if they want to stay in business.
- Parents are also going to be penalized for being a good parent. You have to utilize your cost plan completely every month, 12 months a year. It is not easy to move funds into another service to meet your child's needs.

There is also no incentive to keep long term employees because they make more money, but the rate does not support the higher wages. The providers also have huge administrative costs that they don't feel are adequately covered under the rates. Services now have to be billed individually and it has become labor intensive but they can't hire the needed administrative staff because the rates do not cover the cost.

The system needs to be flexible enough to meet a families immediate and changing needs. Families are being asked to plan their lives out for a full year. If they under spend one year the funds will go away the next year. This will not allow for a change in circumstances.

The Council asked the providers if they would like the Council to write a letter to help the providers. They will take our offer back to the association and let us know what the Council can do.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Members heard speeches from the candidates. The members then voted and votes were counted by **Deborah Swingley, Sylvia Danforth** and **Representative Carol Lambert**. **Representative Lambert** announced the results.

Mamie Flinn was elected as Chair and **Lisa T. Hathaway** was elected as Vice Chair.

MEMBERS REPORTS:

Melissa Clark provided staff with a written report which is made a part of these minutes. The report contains an web address to view her presentation. Melissa was very proud to do a presentation in April at the Virginia Commonwealth University Self-Employment Teleconference and she also shared information about the Council during her presentation.

Lisa T. Hathaway provided handouts to members which are attached and made a part of these minutes. There were about 60 persons at the presentation.

PEOPLE FIRST REPORTS:

Jason Billehus, Missoula shared the chapter had a pancake breakfast with the Kiwanis Aktion Club and exchanged ideas for possible fund raisers. They had a Chapter Exchange with the Hamilton Chapter Advisors. They helped the Great Falls, Hamilton and Anaconda chapters to get in contact with the Kiwanis to become Aktion Clubs also.

Rocky Hughes, Kalispell shared that the Big Wheels Basketball fund raiser made about \$1200-\$1400. They be holding their garage sale soon and usually make \$200-\$400. The Fry Bread sales during the summer usually make \$4200 but they hope to make \$6300 this year. The funds are used to pay rent & utilities for the Special Friends Advocacy Program office.

Janet Carlson, Malta shared that she is running for President of the Chapter and the election will be held June 20th.

Darwin Nelson, Helena shared the chapter is planning to sell root beer floats at 3 Alive @ Five events this summer and they will also have a basket raffle and popcorn. They will also hold a car wash this summer. Darwin is the Treasurer of the Helena Chapter and also for the state Senate. The chapter voted to become a Kiwanis Aktion Club.

MISC:

Members decided to move the location of FFY 2008 meetings to the Red Lion Colonial Hotel.

The Master Calendar for FFY 2008 was adopted.

Bernadette Franks-Ongoy shared that at the June 27th Alive @ Five in Helena the Road to Freedom Bus will be here promoting the American's with Disabilities Act.

Bernie also shared that Montana Advocacy Program will move their offices in October and change their name to Disability Rights Montana.

Melissa Clark shared a copy of an article on Special Olympics which contained a quote by **Keough Duffy** and gave her the article.

Keough Duffy shared that she went to a luncheon and saw Governor Schweitzer when she was attending the Special Olympics state games.

The meeting was adjourned.

MOTIONS REGISTER:

1. **Timm Vogelsberg/ Jason Billehus** second - Commit \$50,000 to People First Chapters throughout the state to support each chapter equally and hold In-House; New Chapters can apply for funds.
UNANIMOUS - ADOPTED
2. **Carol Lambert/ Timm Vogelsberg** second - Amend People First funding from \$50,000 to \$60,000.
UNANIMOUS - ADOPTED
3. **Diana Tavary/ Rocky Hughes** second - Fund Rural Institute Partnerships in Transition Year 2 for \$87,126 as presented.
Yes - 11, Abstain - 2
ADOPTED
4. **Lisa T Hathaway/ Mamie Flinn** second - Fund Rim Country Land Institute for \$15,000 as presented.
UNANIMOUS - ADOPTED
5. **Jason Billehus/ Lisa T. Hathaway** second - Decline funding for Special Olympics, Adopt-A-Team.
Yes - 14, No - 1
ADOPTED
6. **Diana Tavary/ Keough Duffy** second - Move \$4,833 to MYLF to put in place Student Advisory Boards.
YES - 8, NO 6
ADOPTED
7. **Timm Vogelsberg/ Carol Lambert** second - Reconsider Motion #6.
YES 13, NO 2
ADOPTED
8. **Carol Lambert/ Lisa T. Hathaway** second - Leave \$4,833 out of MYLF and reconsider after the Council gets more information.
UNANIMOUS - ADOPTED
9. **Jason Billehus/ Rocky Hughes** second - Adjourn meeting.
UNANIMOUS - ADOPTED