



# RURAL SOLUTIONS

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*Mission Statement:*

*"It is the mission of Rural Solutions to collaborate to address issues and create positive solutions for the health and well being of our diverse communities in Northeast Colorado."*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**  
**Wednesday, August 5, 2009**  
**9 a.m.**  
**Logan County Central Services Building**  
**Sterling, Colorado**

<b>Board of Directors</b>		<b>Present</b>
<b>Rick Agan</b>	Washington County Department of Human Services	
<b>Lisa Ault</b>	Sedgwick County Department of Human Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Sandy Baker</b>	Area Agency on Aging	<b>X</b>
<b>Colette Barksdale</b>	Lincoln County Department of Human Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Patricia Brewster-Willeke (Becky Meyer)</b>	Rural Communities Resource Center	
<b>Fred Crawford</b>	Logan County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>John Crosthwait</b>	Northeast Colorado Health Department	<b>X</b>
<b>Mary Gross</b>	Morgan County Family Center	
<b>Celia Hardin – Ginger Allen</b>	Eastern Colorado Workforce Center	<b>X</b>
	Yuma County Department of Social Services	
<b>Liz Hickman</b>	Centennial Mental Health Center, Inc.	
<b>Judy McFadden</b>	Phillips County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Kindra Mulch</b>	Kit Carson Health and Human Services	
<b>Judy Fehringer</b>	Eastern CO Services for the Developmentally Disabled	<b>X</b>
<b>Steve Romero</b>	Morgan County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Ruth Seedorf</b>	Baby Bear Hugs	<b>X</b>
<b>Debbie Zwirn</b>	County Commissioner	<b>X</b>
<b><u>Ex-Officio Members</u></b>		
<b>Sheila Anzlovar</b>	Northeast Colorado Child Resource and Referral	<b>X</b>
<b>Glenda Bang</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Tonya Lemley</b>	Cheyenne County Department of Human Services	
<b>Maranda Miller</b>	Rural Solutions Project Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Jackie Reynolds</b>	Rural Solutions Executive Director	<b>X</b>
<b>Michelle Sharp</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Jerri Spear</b>	CO. Dept. of Human Services Field Administrator	
<b>Susan Walton</b>	Elbert County Department of Human Services	

## 9:00 a.m. LICC MEETING

### A. Call to Order at 9:30

- a. Changes to the Agenda
- b. In-kind Reporting – Members filled out in-kind reporting sheets for this meeting and the board retreat meeting in June.
- c. Proxies Discussion—There were no proxy members this month.
- d. Introductions were made.

### B. Consent Items: Steve moved to approve the following items. Colette seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

- a. Minutes of June 24, 2009 meeting
- b. June 2009 Financial Statement
- c. July 2009 Financial Statement
- d. May-June 2009 Executive Director's Report
- e. July 2009 Executive Director's Report
- f. June 2009 Project Coordinators' Report
- g. July 2009 Project Coordinator's Report

### C. Committee Reports:

- a. Personnel Committee – Sandy –Changes to the Rural Solutions Employee Handbook were discussed. Proposed changes included:
  1. Section VI: Performance Evaluation: Sentence will read: "Performance evaluation reviews will be conducted in March, ..." (previously were conducted in May)
  2. Section IX: Section C: Separation from Employment: Sentence will read: "Upon termination for the employment relationship, the employee is paid all hours worked and all unused personal leave up to the maximum accumulation allowed."

Action Item: Personnel Manual Revisions: Judy moved to accept the changes in the handbook as stated. Debbie seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- b. Board Development/Nominating Committee – Fred – Reported that the committee met. The only two seats to fill are the vice-chair and treasurer, and current officers agreed to stay in the seats for two years.

Action Item: Election of Officers for 2009-2010: Ruth moved to accept Debbie Zwirn as

vice-president and Mary Gross as treasurer for 2009-2011. Celia seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

c. Finance Committee – Mary—No report.

D. Old Business

a. 2009 Board Retreat at Ballyneal – Lisa reported about the board retreat that was held at Ballyneal on June 24, 2009, and that we need to continue work on our action plan. We are going to add the action plan to the meeting agenda every month.

E. New Business

a. Raffle Policy – The Board discussed the proposed Raffle Policy that clarifies who can sell raffle tickets. There was discussion about the possibility of allowing other nonprofit groups use of the Rural Solutions raffle license. Because of the way our Articles of Incorporation reads, this is not possible. Fred moved to approve the new policy as presented and Sandy seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

b. FDC Discussion – Jackie reported that she has completed the training to be a Family Development Curriculum trainer for the Family Resource Centers (FRC). Jackie wanted the permission of the board to allow her to do the trainings. It is a 90 hour training, which will start in September and go through May 2010 in Akron. This is another piece of the Bridges out of Poverty work to reduce poverty in the region. The program is a collaborative effort between Rural Solutions, the Family Resource Centers, and CSU Extension. Head Starts in the region will be participating in the trainings as well. The cost for FRC employees in the region will be \$450; for other organizations, the cost is \$850 per person, and credentialing is available. Rural Solutions may in-kind Jackie's salary. Jackie is projecting 30 hours of prep time on top of 90 hours. Jackie must be a trainer and do the work to become certified or she will not be able to keep her certification. Ruth feels the training is very good and would be valuable for her staff if she could afford to train everyone. The board expressed concern about the amount of Jackie's time it will take to be a trainer. The board asked Maranda and Michelle if they feel it is possible for Jackie to do this training and still be effective in the office, and they felt it could be handled. Fred moved that Jackie be given permission from the board to facilitate the FDC trainings to begin in September 2009. Debbie seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

c. New Grants Discussion – Please see attached Grants List. Jackie reported on new grants and recent development for Rural Solutions:

i. The next Fatherhood Initiative will be for only Lincoln, Kit Carson, and Elbert counties. The plan is to work harder in those counties and develop new programs

there.

- ii. Suicide Prevention: There is a refocus of money towards suicide prevention and there will be new programs to support this work.
  - iii. The new SSUF grant is a collaborative effort with the family resource centers and other organizations in the ten counties. It is another piece to the Bridges out of Poverty training and working with TANF clients. Celia may be able to pay WAI Funds to send people to the class as well. There is money to pay a stipend for people to attend the class, childcare and food for attendees.
  - iv. Jackie is still pursuing funds to start a RSVP grant for the NE region.
  - v. We also received money from El Pomar for suicide prevention as part of their efforts to support programs in the state.
- d. New Staff Possibilities – Jackie plans to hire staff to coordinate the SSUF grant and post the position with the Workforce Center. The grant is scheduled to begin on September 1<sup>st</sup>.
- e. Budget Revision – Jackie revised the 2009-2010 Rural Solutions budget to reflect the new grants recently received. Colette moved to approve the new budget, and Steve seconded the motion. The budget was accepted as presented.
- f. Committees - The list of committees was circulated among the board members and members signed up for committees. Lisa will contact board members not in attendance and complete committee assignments. The board of directors list was also passed around and updated.
- g. Legislative Breakfast –The board members discussed whether to skip the Breakfast this year. Colette felt that we should have it to showcase the programs and services that Rural Solutions brings to the counties and region. Steve suggested we refresh our memory from the evaluations as to how to proceed. The board decided to have the Legislative Breakfast before the end of the year. Debbie and Jackie will determine a date and the committee will meet.
- h. Rural Philanthropy Days Events – Jackie briefly reported the work we have been doing with RPD funds is exciting as it supports nonprofits in the region. On August 20<sup>th</sup> there will be a board development training in Akron.
- i. President’s report – Lisa presented the President’s Report for 2008-09 which highlighted events and successes of the organization for the past year.
- j. Jackie’s Vacation Schedule – Jackie is going on vacation from September 14 through October 5<sup>th</sup>. The members decided to have a Legislative Committee meeting on October 7<sup>th</sup> rather than a full board meeting.

k. Grant Ideas/Possibilities

- l. Fred reported that Susie Walton and Tonya Lemley are no longer employed as social services directors in their counties. They are currently ex-officio members and will be removed from this list.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Lunch was served.

12:30-3:00 pm: The Board completed work that was begun during the retreat, including setting goals for the year.

Next meeting: September 2, 2009.

Respectfully submitted:

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Steve Romero

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Date