



# RURAL SOLUTIONS

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*Mission Statement:*

*"Rural Solutions collaborates to address issues and create positive solutions to support the health and well being of our diverse communities in Northeast Colorado."*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Wednesday, August 6, 2008  
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>X</b>
<b>Lisa Ault</b>	Sedgwick County Department of Human Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Sandy Baker</b>	Area Agency on Aging	
<b>Colette Barksdale</b>	Lincoln County Department of Human Services	
<b>Patricia Brewster-Willeke (Becky Meyer)</b>	Rural Communities Resource Center	<b>X</b>
<b>Fred Crawford</b>	Logan County Department of Social Services	
<b>John Crosthwait</b>	Northeast Colorado Health Department	<b>X</b>
<b>Mary Gross</b>	Morgan County Family Center	
<b>Dave Henson</b>	Yuma County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Liz Hickman (interim)</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>X</b>
<b>Ramona Proctor</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>Russ Bonanno</b>	Centennial Mental Health Center, Inc.	
<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 Project Assistant	<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 with Judy Fehringer began at 9:05 a.m.

- A. Call to Order--The meeting was called to order at 9:38 a.m.
  - a. Changes to the Agenda—Jackie, Ruth, and Sheila added agenda items.
  - b. In-kind Reporting—Reports were passed around to be filled out.
  - c. Introductions
- B. Consent Items:
  - a. Minutes of June 25, 2008 meeting--Jackie reported that she did go back and check the minutes, and the Board had voted to move Susie and Tonya to the Ex-officio list. Debbie moved to accept the minutes and Rick seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous vote.
  - b. June 2008 Financial Statement
  - b. July 2008 Financial Statement--Ramona moved to accept both financial statements and Debbie seconded the motion. The Financial Statements for June and July 2008 were unanimously approved.
  - c. June-July 2008 Executive Director's Report --Jackie reported that she clarified in her report how signatures for bank and savings accounts were set up. Raffle money will be put into a savings account and then spent as necessary. Jackie will be taking some time off in August and October. It was decided that it might be a good idea to have the finance committee as a whole review bank statements and checks every few months as a check and balance to the financial status of the organization. Jackie also reported on the Surviving in the Rural Economy workshop she attended. Debbie moved to accept the Report, and Rick seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
  - d. Maranda's July 2008 Project Report --Rick moved to accept the Report, and Debbie seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- C. Committee Reports: Lisa – reported that the committees have been revamped somewhat, including new titles and new committee members.
  - a. Bylaws – Ramona
    - a. Action Item: Approval of Bylaws. After discussion, Patricia moved to approve the Bylaws as presented, and John seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
    - b. Conflict of Interest Policy. Ramona moved to accept the Conflict of Interest

Policy, and Debbie seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

b. Finance Committee – Mary

a. Action Item: Crime/Employee Dishonesty Insurance. Jackie reported that this coverage will be about \$200 per year, depending on our financial checks and balances system. Kindra moved that Rural Solutions purchase such insurance, and Patricia seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

c. Personnel Committee – Sandy – Jackie received a letter from Sandy stating the Personnel Committee has accepted this year's personnel reviews and recommended staff receive raises as previously outlined, to be effective in July 2008.

d. Fund Raising Committee – Rick – Forms were sent out to Board Members to start getting prizes of rounds of golf for next year's golf raffle. Ruth pointed out that we do need to have a policy in place for who can purchase tickets, but that it is up to the Board if there are no State rules that dictate whether Board Members can buy tickets. Mary will investigate this.

e. Symposium/Special Events Committee – Debbie

a. Legislative Breakfast--We will start publicizing the event after the primary in August. There was discussion about the purpose of this event and that it should be informational for elected officials and not just seen as an opportunity to ask for funds.

Break time – 10:45 – 11:00

D. Old Business

a. *Bridges out of Poverty* Training – The first training will be August 14 and 15 in Limon. Be sure to get registrations in soon. In September the training will be in Limon and Jackie will train Sandy's staff at the end of September. Tentative plans are to offer additional trainings in Ft. Morgan in October or November and then one in Sterling in the Spring.

b. Additions to Director's Manuals – Jackie passed around new additions to the manuals. There was discussion about putting all information about meetings and the organization on our website. Michelle will figure out how this can be done.

c. Board Commitment Discussion – The Board decided to resign and date the Rural Solutions Commitment Pledge for this year.

d. Information Cards – Members filled out personal information cards for Jackie's use. These cards will be kept private.

E. New Business

- a. Child Support Enforcement Day--Jackie has been working with Karen Torres and with Logan County Social Services Child Support Enforcement to organize a child support informational day. The event will be at the Rural Solutions office which is a neutral location away from the Social Services office. People can either stop by or call in, and CSE staff and attorneys will be available to answer general questions.
- b. Rural Philanthropy Days (RPD) Report – Jackie reported that the RPD committee is going to put out a short RFP to continue the work of the committee for the next 4 years. Jackie would like to write this small grant because she feels that Rural Solutions would be a good fit for this work. The Board directed Jackie to submit the RFP. RPD will be in Ft. Morgan in four years.
- c. *Bridging the Gap* Training – Patricia received funding to do more trainings in Northeast Colorado, most likely next spring.
- d. Colorado Workforce Center Request –Jackie read the letter received from Celia Hardin stating that she is interested in representing the Colorado Workforce Center on the Rural Solutions Board of Directors. The Bylaws were checked to follow the process to add new Board Members. Dave moved to add the Workforce Center to our Board of Directors, and Steve seconded the motion. The motion carried by unanimous vote.
- e. *Rural Solutions Resource Directory* Discussion – This discussion was moved to September's agenda.
- f. Common Application Discussion--Jackie wrote a common grant application to Anschutz for \$10,000. Jackie discussed the content of the new common grant application and how the questions in the application might serve as a guideline of work for the Board over the next few months. Jackie will put various topics the agenda over the next couple of months to discuss, including the evaluation piece for the organization.
- g. October Meeting – Jackie must attend a Fatherhood Initiative training on October 1, 2008, the regularly scheduled meeting in October. The Board moved the October meeting to October 15<sup>th</sup>. Michelle will send out an email to everyone to let them know.
- h. Set Goals for 2008-2009 – This item was moved to September's agenda.
- i. Grant Ideas/Possibilities –
- j. Other:
  - a. Fatherhood Coordinator position – Jackie recommended to the Board that Rural Solutions hire a ¼ time Fatherhood Project coordinator. The position would be funded by the grant but Rural Solutions will need to absorb Jackie's salary that this currently partially covered by the grant. The Board gave Jackie permission to hire this person by October 1 so he/she can attend the Fatherhood Training

Conference September 30 through October 3.

- b. Baby bear Hugs update –BBH will offer *Nurturing Parenting* classes in Yuma starting in August 2008, one in Akron in January-June 2009, and one in Brush starting in March 2009. Pending approval, they will soon be offering a *Nurturing Father's* class at Wisdom Manufacturing in Merino. Bright Beginnings has now started their discipline management program and will start doing two-year visits.
- c. Sheila – In July Childcare Resource and Referral received the quality assurance award. They are going to announce this in September.
- d. Patricia-- Healthy child clinics are now going on throughout the 10 counties. The public health departments have information about times and dates

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at noon. Next meeting is September 3, 2008.

Reminder Fatherhood Advisory Committee meeting at 1:00 at the Rural Solutions office.

Respectfully submitted,

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Steve Romero, Secretary

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Date