



# RURAL SOLUTIONS

115 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., PO Box 503  
Sterling, CO 80751

Phone: 970-526-3616  
Fax: 970-526-3617  
Website: [www.rural-solutions.org](http://www.rural-solutions.org)

Jackie Reynolds, Executive Director  
Email: [jackie.reynolds@rural-solutions.org](mailto:jackie.reynolds@rural-solutions.org)

*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**  
**Friday, February 4, 2011**  
**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>X</b>
<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>X</b>
<b>John Crosthwait</b>	Northeast Colorado Health Department	
<b>Mary Gross</b>	Morgan County Family Center	<b>Phone</b>
<b>Dawn Garcia</b>	Eastern Colorado Workforce Center	<b>X</b>
	Yuma County Department of Social Services	
<b>Liz Hickman</b>	Centennial Mental Health Center, Inc.	<b>X</b>
<b>Judy McFadden</b>	Phillips County Department of Social Services	<b>X</b>
<b>Kindra Mulch</b>	Kit Carson Health and Human Services	<b>Phone</b>
<b>Judy Fehringer</b>	Eastern CO Services for the Developmentally Disabled	
<b>Steve Romero</b>	Morgan County Department of Social Services	
<b>Ruth Seedorf</b>	Baby Bear Hugs	<b>X</b>
<b>Debbie Zwirn</b>	County Commissioner	
<b><u>Ex-Officio Members</u></b>		
<b>Sheila Anzlovar</b>	Northeast Colorado Child Resource and Referral	
<b>Jackie Reynolds</b>	Rural Solutions Executive Director	<b>X</b>
<b>Glenda Bang</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Maranda Miller</b>	Rural Solutions Project Coordinator	<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>X</b>

- A. Call to Order —The meeting was called to order at 9:09 a.m. by vice-president Ruth Seedorf.
- a. Changes to the Agenda -- Jerri Spear added visit of new CDHS Director to the agenda.
  - b. In-kind Reporting — Members completed In-kind reporting sheets.
  - c. Proxies Discussion -- Karla Rosas is serving as proxy for Liz Hickman.
  - d. Introductions -- Marty Wooten from Lincoln County Public Health Department attended by phone.

B. Consent Items

- a. Minutes of January 7, 2011 Meeting
- b. January 2011 Financial Statement
- c. January 2011 Executive Director's Report
- d. Project Coordinator's Reports

Lisa moved to approve Consent Items under Item B. Judy McFadden seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous vote.

C. Committee Reports

Jackie reported that, by direction from the bylaws, evaluations for employees will be completed in March. Personnel, Fundraising and Special Events Committee will need to meet in the next few months.

D. Old Business

- a. Second Wind Fund Update – Jackie reported that she submitted a proposal to Second Wind Fund, Inc., which has been approved. Second Wind Fund of Northeast Colorado will exist as a “doing business as (DBA)” program under Rural Solutions. Lisa moved to approve that Rural Solutions develop a DBA as Second Wind Fund agreement. Fred seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote. Lisa moved to approve that once the DBA agreement is established, Jackie open the new checking account in the name of Rural

Solutions DBA as Second Wind Fund. The same signers for the regular Rural Solutions' account will be the signers for the new account. Checks of \$500 or under will require one signature. Checks of \$501 or over will require two signatures. Under discussion, Jackie clarified that she had spoken to the Rural Solutions' accountant who approved of this agreement. Patricia seconded the motion which passed by unanimous vote. The board gave Jackie permission to email out minutes for approval if needed to expedite the project.

#### E. New Business

- a. Legislative Breakfast – After examining evaluation comments from the 2010 Legislative Day and looking at this year's Legislative calendar, the board set June 17<sup>th</sup> for the Legislative Breakfast, to be held in Akron.
- b. Golf Raffle – We have received this year's raffle license with a notice that our games manager's license expires in April 2011. Mary currently serves as games manager. Our license specifies that it is held by the Rural Solutions Board so the manager must be a member of the board. The Board decided to pursue having a raffle if Mary can renew her games manager license soon. If not, the Board encouraged Jackie to continue the fundraiser using another format, including such formats as a silent auction online, using Facebook, thinking about how EBay works, using another event to showcase the fundraiser, etc. We will still get the golf courses lined up and can get everything going before April.
- c. Second Wind Fund Fundraiser – The Second Wind Fund fundraiser will be held on April 16<sup>th</sup> in Sterling at Riverview Golf Course. There will be a meal, silent auction, and the entertainment will be an illusionist from Denver. The need to raise funds for this program has been great. We have had 18 referrals now since September. The fundraiser will continue to build support for the program and make the community aware of the program to get their help to support the program. Ideas included:
  - i. Maranda needs help identifying the businesses that would be interested in purchasing a table from all areas of the region.
  - ii. Contact the Chambers of Commerce to have them helping us advertise and get the word out.

- iii. We also need items for a silent auction.
  - iv. Serve dessert in the same room where the silent auction will be placed. That way people are forced to get up and look at the items that are on the auction and hopefully get them to bid on them.
  - v. The Board instructed Maranda to put together something to send out to the board members so they can send it out to their boards and others who will support the event.
  - vi. Be sure to put placards on the tables letting people know what businesses purchased tables.
  - vii. Create a power point that can run continuously run with SWF information and recognize businesses who support the event.
  - viii. It is suggested that in the future we make this a family-focused event. Maranda also suggested that we may do more than one fundraiser and can make one of those family oriented.
  - ix. Maranda is planning to do a series of articles in the newspapers about the program featuring members in the communities. We are not probably going to do a lot of paid advertisements.
  - x. Members suggested using Facebook to get the word out.
  - xi. Kindra wants to make sure that the SWF message stresses that a youth does not have to be suicidal to access the program. The program has not turned away any student and Maranda leaves it up to the community to make that judgment call.
- d. Philip DeVol Visit – Philip DeVol, author of the *Bridges out of Poverty* work, visited Sterling in late January. Investigators, facilitators, and supporters from the community attended the open house and had a chance to meet Philip and participate in the video interviews they conducted. Staff were excited that the visit of Philip went very well.
- e. Jerri Spear – Jerri would like to use the Rural Solutions' 10-county representation to host a welcome meeting to introduce the new Colorado Department of Human Services Executive Director, Reggie Bicha, to the region. She proposed that he could be in Sterling about 10 a.m., give him the opportunity to speak, and then have the opportunity to meet him. We might also have a lunch and may have to

look for funds to sponsor the lunch. If we have this Meet and Greet in Sterling, he could also visit CMH and ECSDD, organizations that are part of CDHS. It was determined that our regular board meeting date may not work for the meeting, so we may have to move the board meeting around a new date. We may want to use Fred's large conference room for the event. Jerri will get back to Jackie about a possible date.

- f. Patricia—Rural Communities Resource Center (RCRC) has received a grant from Division of Behavioral Health (DBH) to complete a needs assessment around tobacco and drug use in 8 counties in Northeast Colorado. This needs assessment will be conducted county by county and will need cooperation from residents, organizations and agencies in each county. OMNI will provide technical assistance for the grant but will not do the work of the grant. These needs assessments can then be used in the counties to develop work plans to address needs in the communities. Also, FRCA has funding to hold regional meetings about blending and braiding TANF funds. There is a meeting in Akron at the event center on March 23 from 10 to 4 and lunch will be provided. The meeting will cover the results from focus groups with TANF eligible people.
- g. Shawn Arledge – Regional Prevention Consultant, representing the OMNI Institute, introduced himself, discussed his background, and led the discussion about services that OMNI provides to communities. The Board discussed ways that we can collaborate with OMNI to develop services and programs in our region.
- h. The Board set June 29, 2011, as the annual Rural Solutions' Board Retreat.
- i. Bridges out of Poverty Training –Make sure to get your staff signed up for the next Training in February in Fort Morgan.
- j. Grant Ideas/Possibilities – There is a new grant possibility from the Colorado Nonprofit Association around collaboration. CMH and RCRC plan to write for this grant also. Children's Trust Fund RFP will be coming out at the end of the month, and Baby Bear Hugs will be writing for this. Jackie did mention that she is now the board chair for the Colorado Children's Trust Fund.
- k. Other – Jackie talked about all of the GAP classes that are going on or will be starting soon. Rural Solutions in the process of doing evaluations of the program

with the participants. Baby Bear Hugs is pursuing the Nurse Family Partnership program and the stakeholders committee is continuing to meet. Ruth needs some input from the Social Services directors to determine if it is possible to enroll 75 first-time mothers in the 6 counties into the program. Dawn offered her services and Ruth asked her if she would be on the stakeholders committee as well. Baby Bear Hugs now has a program in Elbert County, and she will be training their new person who will also be working part time for Early Childhood Council. Dawn reported that the Workforce Center has not filled the Health Sectors Grant position because they cannot find a qualified person. Qualifications include the person have a health care background.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Next Board Meeting: March 4, 2011

Respectfully submitted,

---

Michelle Sharp, Action Secretary

---

Date