



# 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, November 4, 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>X</b>
<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>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</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>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>Glenda Bang</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<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>Mickie Sjoberg</b>	Rural Solutions Coordinator	<b>X</b>
<b>Jerri Spear</b>	CO. Dept. of Human Services Field Administrator	

A. Call to Order -- On phone: Rita Sircy from Kit Carson County Department of Health and Human Services

Call to order at 9:07 a.m.

- a. Changes to the Agenda -- Jackie added "Bridges out of Poverty" to old business agenda and "Meeting Schedule for this Year and Next Year" to new business agenda.
- b. In-kind Reporting -- Sheets were completed.
- c. Proxies Discussion -- None
- d. Introductions were completed.

B. Consent Items:

- a. Minutes of September 2, 2009 meeting
- b. September 2009 Financial Statement -- Jackie mentioned that she was struck by the expenses in September which were high for the month in comparison to other months. We bought new computers, ended fatherhood fiscal year with additional expenses, started the Getting Ahead grant with new staff, and all insurances are due in September.
- c. October 2009 Financial Statement
- d. September 2009 Executive Director's Report
- e. October 2009 Executive Director's Report -- Rural Solutions very unexpectedly received \$425 from the Colorado Telecommunications Association.
- f. September 2009 Project Coordinator's Report
- g. October 2009 Project Coordinator's Report

Motion: Fred moved to accept the consent item on the agenda. John seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

C. Call for Executive Session to discuss personnel — Sandy moved to enter into executive session at 9:15 a.m. Fred seconded the motion which was approved. The Board of Directors came out of executive session at 9:56 a.m.

Motion: Debbie moved to assign Michelle to half time Health Disparities grant coordinator and half time bookkeeper until June 30, 2010. The Health Disparities grant ends on that date. The motion was seconded by Fred. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. Committee Reports:

- a. Legislative Breakfast – Debbie Zwirn --The Legislative Breakfast was cancelled due to inclement weather in October. Around 60 people were scheduled to attend from many agencies/ organizations outside the Rural Solutions' member organizations. Sandy mentioned that several people would have liked to have seen it rescheduled instead of cancelled. Discussion was held about having the event in the spring or late summer next year.
- b. Personnel Committee – Sandy Baker — All staff evaluations are done except Mickie's,

whose evaluation will be completed after 90 days of being hired. The Committee plans to complete Jackie's evaluation in November.

- a. Finance Committee – Mary Gross -- Jackie reported that Michelle would like to move monthly pay day to the third of each month. The 990 tax return is due November 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### E. Old Business

- a. Child Abuse Study Update -- The summit will be held on Friday, November 6<sup>th</sup> in Denver. There will be good representation from Northeast Colorado with about 20-25 from the region registered to attend. Hopefully, there will be opportunities to talk to funders, both from government agencies and private foundations as well as learn results and findings from this study.
- b. Board Commitment and Conflict of Interest Statements -- Members continued to sign and return these for our files. Jackie mentioned that because of new IRS laws around nonprofit organizations, we need to update these yearly.

#### F. New Business

- a. Bridges out of Poverty -- Jackie mentioned that she has done many trainings throughout all of the counties. Aha! Process, Inc. has approached Jackie about her becoming a regional trainer for the Bridges out of Poverty program. It may generate revenue for Rural Solutions. We have not been able to market the training in the past, but could possibly do it with this opportunity. Liz mentioned the importance of targeting health care employees. Jackie would like to be a trainer for schools, which would be additional training for her. Liz moved that Rural Solutions proceed with this contract. Rick seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.
- b. Yearly Update for Information—tabled.
- c. Board Contributions--Lisa reminded board members that personal board contributions are an important part of being a board member. Liz mentioned that contributions are an essential piece of the common grant application used by many funding organizations.
- d. Dues for 2010 - Jackie mentioned that dues are on a calendar year and letters need to be sent in December for membership renewals. Rural Solutions has not marketed memberships in previous years. However, several board members feel now would be a good time to market the organization. It was the consensus of the board to keep membership dues the same as last year.
  - i. For profit organizations: \$300 per year
  - ii. Non-profit organizations: \$200 per year
  - iii. Individual members: \$50 per year
- e. 10:30 Second Wind Fund Program Presentation – Jeff Lamontagne from the Second Wind Fund spoke to the board about the possibility of creating a Rural Solutions Second Wind Fund affiliate in Northeast Colorado. After presentation and discussion,

the board asked Maranda to get more information on the program and get it out to the board. Liz asked that everyone respond ASAP when Maranda gets information out as Second Wind wants to know if we are interested in this new project.

- f. Golf Raffle – Members felt it went well last year. Rick and other members feel that Ballyneal was a great grand prize. The fundraiser brought in about \$1600. Jackie will begin organizing next year's raffle in January.
- g. CASA Discussion -- Jackie asked the board if she should continue as Rural Solution's representative to the local CASA advisory board. Discussion was held on the effectiveness of the CASA program. Fred volunteered to get more information from his staff about their thoughts on the CASA program. Information will also be gathered from DHS staff in Morgan County. This decision will be tabled until next meeting.
- h. CMH Report on New Initiative – Liz Hickman discussed the new mental health initiative supported by First Lady Jeanne Ritter. The "Communities Coming Together Initiative" for mental health, is an outgrowth of her interest in improving mental health services in Colorado. Centennial Mental Health was one of three communities selected to receive funds. CMH will look at an integrated mental health system for our region and to improve crisis intervention services in the 10 counties. Next stakeholder meeting will be on November 17 in Yuma.
- i. Regionalization Issues for County Departments of Human Services – Rick and other DHS directors discussed the recommendation at the State level that human services offices and program delivery be regionalized. Rick reported the proposal has been postponed by the Governor for this year.
- j. CAHEC Training – postponed until later meeting.
- k. Office Space Request -- This request has been tabled as Jackie hadn't received an official request yet.
- l. Getting Ahead Training Minute – Mickie -- Postponed until next meeting.
- m. December Office Schedule—The Rural Solutions office will be closed between Christmas and New Years as in the previous two years. There was discussion about next year's meeting schedule and location. Members like the teleconferencing capabilities. If we continue to meet in Sterling, the location helps to limit our staff travel costs. The consensus was to keep it in Sterling
- n. Strategic Plan Work – postponed until next meeting.
- o. Grant Ideas/Possibilities
- p. Other –John updated board members about H1N1 vaccinations issues and progress of the vaccinations in Northeast Colorado.
- q. Meeting schedule – The board decided to cancel the December 2009 Rural Solutions board meeting.

Next Board Meeting: January 6, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

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Glenda Bang, Acting Secretary

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Date