

Ward County Human Service Zone Board

Minutes

July 18, 2023

Second Floor-Ward County Commissioner's Chambers

PRESENT:

Kristi Frederick
Shelly Wepler
Matt Ruby
Rich Berg
Jason Olson
Hiedi Folstad-Miller

ABSENT:

Mac McLeod

Also present was Karen Schultz, Zone Board Secretary

Meeting was brought to order by Director Kristi Frederick.

MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Wepler, seconded by Matt Ruby and unanimously carried by the Board that the Agenda for July 18th, 2023 be approved as presented.

MOTION:

It was moved by Rich Berg, seconded by Jason Olson, and unanimously carried by the Board that the minutes for the regular board meeting of June 20th, 2023, be approved.

MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Wepler, seconded by Hiedi Miller, and unanimously carried by the Board to receive and file the June 2023 Expenditures, bills for July 5th and 18th, 2023, Budget Recap and Budget Revenue for June 2023 and the FC R & R Report.

The Board was provided with the FTE report indicating vacancies and recent new hires.

Eva Wieseler, Eligibility Lead Worker, was recognized for 10 years of service and Heather Kowitz, Eligibility Worker, was recognized for 3 years of service. Lindsay Welsh, In Home Case Manager, received the Dandelion award in June in recognition of excellence in application of the Safety Framework Practice Model which was awarded by the State.

A handout was provided to the Board, distributed by the State, emphasizing One Team: One Goal. The handout provided statistics regarding the Economic Assistance Customer Support Center. Zone Directors will continue to work together to come up with solutions to issues that arise.

Regarding youth in care, Zone Directors continue to meet every other week and are exploring creative options for this need. Currently, there are not any youth being cared for in the office setting in Ward County HSZ.

A contract with Youth Works was reviewed and approved on Friday by States Attorney, Roza Larson. Data was provided in a handout which graphed youth in care through Youthworks from 2022-2023. Creative safety planning was attributed to the lower numbers recently noted.


There has not been any further discussion with the State for 2024 Budgets as it has already been finalized. Funding for Shelter Beds has decreased by \$100,000, though the State has assured that costs will be paid if costs exceed the budgeted amount. Director Frederick will bring the 2024 Budget to the next Board meeting. Dir. Frederick will also research the exact cycle for budget recalculation and provide that in an email to the Board members. A copy of a letter from the ND Dept of Health and Human Services, addressed to the County Commission and Auditor, was provided as an informational attachment. The letter addressed cost allocation and timelines.

Meeting frequency and time for the Ward County Human Service Zone Board was discussed.

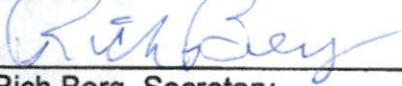
MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Wepler, seconded by Rich Berg and unanimously approved by the Board to move the WCHS Zone Board meeting time from 7:45 AM to 8:00 AM beginning with the August 15th meeting. The frequency will continue to be once a month on the third Tuesday.

Mtg Adjourned at 8:15.



Kristi Frederick, Ward CHSZ Director



Rich Berg, Secretary

8/23/2023

Date