



Board of Directors  
January 13, 2016  
Yampa River State Park  
Hayden, Colorado

Members Attending: Bob Grover, Terry Jost, Lu Etta Loeber, Jeff Dockstader, Tom Soos, Julie Pearce and Dennis Kuntz

Members Excused: Beth Davison, Michael Turner, and Fred Wolf

Staff Present: Susan Mizen, Matt Morrill, Michael Toothaker, and Deb Kirby

Call to Order

Bob Grover called the meeting to order.

President's Remarks

Bob informed the board that the Routt County Commissioners appreciated our presentation. We brought up with them the recent audit of Rocky Mountain Human Services (RMHS) which found that RMHS misused mill levy funds. There has been coverage in the Denver Post and Horizons will almost certainly have to deal with fallout from the scandal. A Denver legislator already has plans to introduce legislation to require more transparency on the part of CCBs.

Susan is looking into the possibility of using the wireless internet at the Yampa River State Park. Horizons may need to increase its donation to cover the use. Our current donation is \$150/year.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: "To approve the minutes from December 9, 2015."

First: Julie Pearce  
Second: Jeff Dockstader

The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report

Personnel: Plans for the regional Play Based Assessment training are progressing. Preschool and Early Intervention therapists from Moffat, Routt and Grand counties will attend the training in Steamboat.

All three Grand County therapists (JoAnn Roberts, Karen Cross and Michelle Coverdale) will be trained in the Early Start Denver Model of working with children who have signs that they may be on the autism spectrum. The registration fee for the therapists is being covered by a grant from the Fraser Valley Lions Club.

Karen Cross will attend a one day course in Denver called Early Intervention Strategies.

Matt Morrill attended two one-day training sessions in Denver to learn more about the features of our Great Plains accounting software.

Program: Holiday parties were held in Steamboat and Craig. Santa (Bruce) made an appearance at the Milestones party. The ladies from BLM organized gifts for everyone in Craig.

The STARS program is underway. Forty people ski, snowboard or snowshoe with STARS – 29 from Routt County and 11 from Moffat County. Jeff told us that he does the snowshoe program with STARS.

Julie told us that a client and counselor in Meeker attend a water aerobics class that Julie attends. The counselor is trying to help the client make connections with others and it sounds like it is working out well.

Tatum and Susan have not had much success recruiting host home providers.

Resource Development: JoAnn Roberts will attend a luncheon on the 14<sup>th</sup> in Grand County hosted by the Fraser Valley Lions Club to receive the grant funds that will be used to cover the cost of the Early Start Denver Model training.

Katherine Hartley and Mona Entwistle will be interviewed on Channel 18 on the 14<sup>th</sup> with a mom whose child graduated from our Early Intervention program.

Horizons was awarded \$3000 from Wells Fargo for Moffat County Early Intervention and Family Support.

Horizons received a check from CDOT for \$75,112.

The Little Points of Light campaign raised \$18,905 to date. Ads for the Little Points of Light direct mail campaign ran in the Craig Daily Press, Rio Blanco Herald Times, and Sky Hi Daily News as well as two advertorials about the featured family.

In the Steamboat and Craig papers, there was a Thoughtful Parenting column about hearing loss written by Deirdre Pepin. In the Craig paper, Deirdre and Tracy Sheldon wrote a letter to the editor thanking the Knights of Columbus for the proceeds from their tootsie roll sales (\$2228).

Both Rainbow and Park Place decreased their energy use by 5% last year as tracked by Energy Outreach Colorado.

Horizons received a \$433 check from the Fraser Valley Lions Club for participating in the festival of trees in Grand County.

Horizons was awarded \$5000 by the Grand County Commissioners.

Joel Sheridan is no longer Horizons' liaison with Moffat County United Way. MCUW eliminated the liaison program and Joel resigned from the board to enjoy his retirement. Horizons' application to MCUW is due the 15<sup>th</sup>.

State news: As noted in the president's remarks, there was an audit of Rocky Mountain Human Services' use of mill levy funds and the audit revealed a pattern of misuse. One of the most significant results to date is that a Denver Senator is sponsoring legislation to make CCBs more transparent. It is unclear exactly what that will mean to Horizons. Given the heightened scrutiny of the CCB in Denver, the board asked Susan and Matt if the scope of our auditor's work is sufficient to ensure that Horizons can demonstrate appropriate use of its mill levy funds. Susan was asked to contact our auditor to see if he has any recommendations for expanding the scope of his audit.

Squire Patton Boggs started acting on behalf of CCBs two weeks ago. No word yet about any impact they are having.

Housing Update: Lynne reported that we are waiting for Energy Outreach Colorado to commit to a window replacement project at Rainbow.

Some offices in Craig were painted and carpeted.

The Breeze Street Day Program kitchen will benefit from grant funding from the Yampa Valley Community Foundation.

A bedroom at Rose is getting new vinyl flooring.

Appliances are being replaced at Star Place and the Villa.

The kitchen at the Oak Street office is being reconfigured.

Board News: Bob Grover, Michael Turner, Matt, Tatum, Amy, Lynne, Deirdre and Tommy joined Susan for the annual mill levy presentation to the Routt County commissioners.

Neither Lorna Mannon nor Susan Baird can attend the board meeting for personal reasons. They are both still interested in board membership and have the February meeting on their calendars. Finance: As noted above, Matt attended training about Horizons' accounting software. He also had half a day of training with Emma. In addition, Horizons responded to a department survey of case management and administrative costs, an Early Intervention rates audit, worked with Calvin to finalize the Horizons audit and the Soda Creek Apartment audit, and prepared for the mill levy presentation.

#### Finance Report

Matt presented a Statement of Activity through September 30<sup>th</sup> and explained significant variances. His summary included actuals and budgeted amounts through the first quarter of last fiscal year so that the board could see an historical perspective. Early Intervention revenue for example, is under budget but is already \$9000 more than last year at the same point in time. Some of the variances can be accounted for because of timing issues. For example, foundation grants and individual pledges are under budget but will catch up in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter because of the Little Points of Light campaign, year-end donors, and the CDOT grant. The bottom line is that revenues for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter exceed expenses by \$35,000 which is a great way to start the year. The board was pleased with the report and the format. For future board meetings, Matt's intention is to type up explanations of significant variances.

#### Program Presentation

Deb introduced herself as the Day Program Coordinator in Craig, a position she's held for seven years. Michael added that she was a finalist for Alliance's statewide Direct Support Professional Award in a previous year.

Deb highlighted some of the things she is excited about: increased use of the Smartboard, access to the Boys and Girls Club space, mall walking, art and reading classes at CNCC, swimming at the recreation center in Meeker, horseback riding and grooming at Freedom Hooves, Aging Well fitness classes, cooking classes, sewing and crocheting items for the Pregnancy Center and kids with cancer, and work outs at the Fitness Center. They are using an iPad to help an individual rehearse socially appropriate ways of greeting people. Their trips to the Fitness Center have helped one individual go off oxygen during the day. Deb emphasized that their purpose is to teach skills and to be person centered. When asked about things on their wish list, Deb and Michael replied: repairing the fence in the backyard, well trained staff, Person Centered Thinking focus, and PT/OT for aging clients.

Tom asked about the board committee to address maintaining quality programs and staff retention. Susan replied that it is a documented agency goal but the committee has not yet met.

The board thanked Deb and Michael for all their work and for an informative presentation.

#### New Business

Tom Soos talked about emergency preparedness for special needs populations. There are some basic Red Cross guidelines which Horizons has access to. Homes have extra food but no supplemental power. Having extra medications on hand in case of an emergency is a problem since Medicaid will not pay for them. Tom noted specifically that flooding may be a concern this spring.

Michael commented on the mass evacuation that the homes participated in about three years ago. On a Saturday morning, all three homes evacuated to the Boys & Girls Club as part of a community exercise held by the Red Cross. It was educational for us and for them.

#### Adjourn

Motion: "To adjourn the meeting."

First: Jeff Dockstader  
Second: Terry Jost

The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.