



**Board of Directors
Yampa River State Park & Zoom
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2022**

Members Attending: Terry Jost, Leslie Bjorgum, Annette DellaCroce, Ron Schaeffer, Jeff Dockstader, Dennis Kuntz

Members Excused: Beth Davison, Julie Pearce, Susie Baird

Staff Present: Tatum Heath, Meghan McNamara (via Zoom)

Call to Order

Terry Jost called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: “To approve the board meeting minutes from February 9th, 2022.”

First: Ron Schaeffer

Second: Leslie Bjorgum

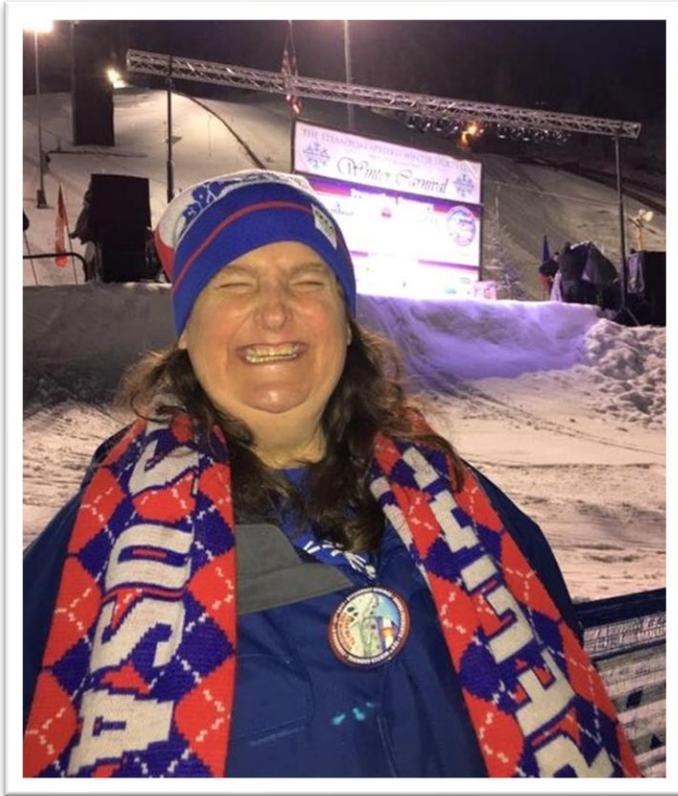
The motion passed unanimously.

Director’s Report for February 10th through March 7th 2022:

Program & Personnel

According to the CDC COVID case tracker, Routt is currently at 7.06% positivity rate, Moffat is at 5.22% positivity rate, and Grand is at 2.70% positivity rate. In these counties, Horizons will no longer be requiring N95s or KN95s unless a person works in a licensed group home (Maple, Villa, SCA, Rainbow, Rose, or Park Place). Surgical masks are still required in offices and working with individuals but the enhanced protection is no longer required at this time.

Unfortunately, the CDC COVID case tracker, does have all counties showing more than 100 cases per 100k people and our licensed group homes have to follow the most conservative precautions. Until these numbers fall to less than 50 cases per 100k people, group homes will have to continue wearing N95 masks and completing 2x weekly surveillance testing of unvaccinated staff.



In 2017, Sue White competed at the Special Olympics Winter World Games in Austria. Not only did she have her Special Olympics Colorado community cheering her on from home, but she also had her Steamboat community supporting her as well. By the end of the World Games, Sue came home with a gold medal. In an effort to commemorate this accomplishment, Special Olympics Colorado did a feature story. The video takes a look back at Sue's journey and the incredible people who helped make it happen. Hear how the Steamboat community has embraced Sue's incredible accomplishments and has treated her as just "one of the Olympians" by including her banner at Olympian Hall. "Most people don't go through their week without seeing Sue at some point," exclaimed her Special Olympics Colorado

coach, Tommy Moore. "That smile is hard to miss...you just want to say hi." Watch the video at: <https://specialolympicsco.org/about/iamaathlete>

As referenced last month, CDPHE (Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment), conducted a survey of services at all of the licensed health facilities or group homes. In Moffat County that includes Rainbow, Park Place, and Rose Street. In Routt, the survey includes Maple Street, Soda Creek Apartments, and Village Lane. The Health Department sent 5 surveyors to audit everything from medical care, living environment, training, COVID policies and procedures, service and support plans, and much more. Program continues to work on the Plan of Corrections and this process typically takes about six weeks to finalize. While there are always a few things that the state requires Horizons to address, the surveyors were very complimentary of the excellent quality of services and supports that stem from a person-centered approach.

Tatum is finalizing the federal and state Medicaid Revalidation survey process for all of Horizons' service locations. The process occurs once every 5 years to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements aimed at mitigating fraud. Something that is new for this process is a virtual site survey. The only locations left to finalize are the group homes in Routt County. Moffat County and both Day Program sites were approved.

The agency had a number of new staff and existing personnel attend the Person-Centered Thinking training on Feb 22-24. This 3-day required training is the benchmark for the field and is very helpful in providing guidance in supporting the people we serve.

The DSP of the month for March is Tommy Nelson. After 14 years with Horizons, he has a reputation for his experience, empathy, patience, and adaptability. Here's what a coworker said about Tommy, "Tommy is reliable and consistent in a field full of change. And he has a knack for perfectly timed humor!"

The Human Rights Committee met on March 2nd to review psychotropic medications and rights modifications.

The annual IDD Awareness Day at the Capital is scheduled for March 23rd and it will be virtual this year. Shannan Davis, Routt County DSP, was nominated for Alliance's DSP of the Year award. The voting window closes on March 2nd and the winner will be announced on March 23rd during the IDD Awareness Day virtual luncheon.

Horizons is very grateful for our friends at Colorado Northwestern Community College. A group of Dental Hygiene students came down and spent the day with folks in Craig with typodonts (fake teeth) and toothbrushes in hand. After some tips, tricks, and demonstrations, everyone is ready to flash their smiles. The hope is for this to be an ongoing collaboration to teach improved dental hygiene. There was a related feature report on the local radio.



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This past weekend, Steamboat Snowmobile Tours hosted the annual snowmobiling event on Rabbit Ears. Fun was had by all especially with the fresh snow.

Immediately following the snowmobile activity, a number of individuals in services went to the Special Olympics State Competition in Copper. As always, folks had a blast meeting new people and cheering on friends. Horizons is very grateful for all the amazing volunteers who made this happen despite the inclement weather.

Resource Development and Public Relations

Grants were submitted to the Bessie Minor Swift Foundation for Early Intervention and the WZ Giving Circle for a Routt County Early Intervention family.

The 2021 year-end report was submitted to Yampa Valley Community Foundation.

Jes McMillan and Elizabeth Skudneski interviewed with the Moffat County United Way Granting committee.

Mountain Valley bank kindly featured Horizons as one of three nonprofits in their “Show Our Love” Valentine's fundraiser. Between community donations and a matching fund, they raised \$1,000 for Horizons.

Tatum and Elizabeth took a bundle of Valentine cards made by people in Milestones Day Program to Marc Swanson and the Steamboat Ace workers expressing Horizons’ gratitude for their ongoing support. Not only do they employ a number of individuals in services, but Ace donated another \$10,000 for general operating.

State News

The JBC met recently on a variety of issues including figure setting for the Office of Community Living. As it stands, the 2% across the board placeholder is still in place but it does not apply to rates receiving a targeted rate increase - which are many of the IDD services that are receiving significant ARPA fund increases. The JBC is expected to close their work on the budget around March 18th and then it will move over to the House to begin its process through the legislature.

The Community Resource Center announced the creation of the Colorado Healthcare Corps. Colorado Healthcare Corps will recruit approximately 150 AmeriCorps members to serve in healthcare facilities statewide, providing critical support to the state’s healthcare system.

Recruitment will focus on individuals who have certifications as Certified Nursing Assistants, Qualified Medication Administration Personnel, and Medical Assistants, as well as those who are interested in earning those certifications. Several health care facilities will be able to provide additional training for participating members. Ultimately, the goal is for these 150 members to be resources for licensed health care facilities such as group homes during the hiring crisis.

Financials

There were no financials presented this past month as the CFO was out on paternity leave.

Program Presentation

Meghan McNamara provided a program presentation on all of Horizons’ properties and the related maintenance recently completed as well as upcoming scheduled maintenance. Horizons owns 10 properties that will continue to require ongoing upkeep to meet the needs of the people in services and the workforce.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Motion: “To adjourn the meeting.”

First: Dennis Kuntz

Second: Jeff Dockstader

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.