



**Board of Directors
Yampa River State Park
Meeting Minutes
November 8th, 2023**

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

Members Excused: Julie Pearce, Beth Davison

Staff Present: Tatum Heath, Erik Petersen, Meghan McNamara, Madeline Landgren, Lindsey Garey

Call to Order

Terry Jost called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: "To approve the board meeting minutes from October 11th, 2023"

First: Annette DellaCroce

Second: Leslie Bjorgum

The motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report for October 12th to November 7th, 2023:

Program & Personnel

In so many ways, Horizons' case managers are at the heart of the mission and purpose of the agency. From client advocacy to person-centered thinking, our case managers work closely with staff, families, community members, and outside agencies to improve the quality of life of the people we serve. Case Manager Appreciation Week was October 9th through the 13th and we could not be more grateful to work with such an amazing team.

Individuals in Craig are being offered a ceramics class thanks to a lovely in-kind donation from David Morris. David will teach the class and provide supplies for an undetermined number of classes. This is a great example of how volunteers and donors can get involved and have a positive impact on folks in program.



The annual audit for Horizons is still in process with a few outstanding items to finalize. As usual, it went very well and the auditors were on site the last week in October.

Early Intervention staff participated in the Child Health Advocacy Meeting via Zoom on 11/01.

Horizons conducted an all staff training on 10/20 at Exhibit Hall in Hayden.

Meghan and Madeline met with CMC to discuss the possibility of providing internships for CMC human service's students.

In an effort to recruit staff, Horizons participated in the job fair held at the Commons in early October.

Jackie Smiley is the direct support professional of the month for November. Jackie is fun with a contagious personality that makes working with her feel easy. She brings this same sense of humor and fun to the individuals she supports and they soak in her positivity and encouragement.

On 10/16, there was flu clinic for people in services at Milestones. In Craig, Jen Kidwell supported several individuals at the Trunk or Treat in Craig. The event was in the Big O parking lot and folks in supported living services had a blast.

Every year, the Methodist Church in Steamboat hosts the Halloween Dance for people in program. People in program love this event and look forward to it fall. The church does in



conjunction with the youth group and Horizons always has a number of attendees from both Craig and Steamboat.

Resource Development and Public Relations

The donated meat from the Routt County Fair was processed and distributed between all

of the homes last month. While this has been going on for a number of years now, it continues to have a significant impact for the people in program. Not only does the donation save the agency thousands of dollars, but it provides people local and delicious meat for the entire year.

Mather's Bar held its first annual charity poker run in September. With the funds raised, they were able to donate \$3577.50 to longtime Craig resident Chris Trujillo and \$1192.50 to Horizons. Jesica McMillan and Elizabeth Skudneski were on hand Oct. 26 to accept the generous donation for Horizons. They shared that the funds will go toward supporting their adult-focused program, which currently provides services for just under 30 local adults.

Elizabeth applied for a grant of \$15,306 from the Mabel Y. Hughes Charitable Trust for various items needed for the risk management plans for group homes.

Knights of Columbus presented the Craig office with a \$3,000 check from their annual Tootsie Roll fundraiser.

Yampa Valley Fiberworks chose Horizons as the beneficiary of a glassware sale and donated \$376.

Bella Vista Estate included Horizons in their summer of giving back program and gave a total of \$6,450 over the summer and ending this month.

Michael Turner donated \$20,000 to Horizons in an effort to provide bonuses to Horizons' staff over the holidays.



Moffat and Routt had their HRC meetings this month. Jennifer Bruen is now running those meetings after the United Way merger. The Moffat grant cycle is being moved onto the same timeline and application format as Routt so there was no bi-annual report submitted this year. Jes McMillian met with Kate Nowak and new Moffat Community Impact Manager, Marco Borja, to discuss Moffat programming.

State & Federal News

The state budget process is underway. In the proposed budget, the two top policy topics are housing and education. That being said, there are a number of discussion items that relate to people with IDD:

- Targeted rate increases to achieve base wage increases up to \$16.55 statewide / \$18.29 in Denver. This equals \$1 in Denver and \$.80 statewide to keep pace with minimum wage laws.
- 1% provider rate increase (this is on top of the base wage increases)
- Increasing the regional center transition rate
- 411 emergency and reserved capacity DD resources statewide

Financials

Erik presented a budget in conjunction with the Finance Committee and the Leadership Team that includes a 10.07% increase for all employees. This increase moves the starting direct support professional wage in Moffat to \$20.00/hour and \$22.01 in Routt.

Motion: “To approve the budget as presented”

First: Dennis Kuntz
Second: Leslie Bjorgum

The motion passed unanimously

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

Motion: “To adjourn the meeting.”

First: Leslie Bjorgum
Second: Annette Dellacroce

The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.

The board went into Executive Session to conduct a performance review of the Executive Director