

RSR Human Service Zone Board Meeting

RSR Human Service Zone Board met at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, February 27, 2024. This meeting was held at the Milnor Fire Hall and by teleconference with TEAMS.

Board members present were Terry Goerger, Wayne Ulven, Mary Schradick, Brenda Peterson, Julie Johnson, Christina Ferderer, Becky Devries. Board Members absent were Alisa Mitskog, Lyle Bopp, and Connie Gilbert. Community member Candace Jeanotte was in attendance for a portion of the meeting. Also in attendance were Sandy Fossum, Richland County Auditor, and Jessica Rydell, Richland County Assistant State's Attorney.

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Lynn Flieth, Director.

Wayne Ulven made a motion, seconded by Mary Schradick, to approve minutes from December 27, 2023, meeting. Motion carried.

Constituent Concerns: Candace Jeanotte, formerly licensed foster provider, shared feedback with the board regarding her experiences with a specific child welfare situation. The board expressed appreciation for her information. The board directed Zone Director to draft a response, in consultation with the Richland County State's Attorney's office to follow up.

Monthly Expenditures – for January 2024 were reviewed. Christina Ferderer made a motion, seconded by Becky Devries, to approve summary of January bills. Motion carried. Wayne Ulven motioned to approve February 2024 summary of bills; seconded by Mary Schradick. Motion carried.

Financial report for Year End 2023 and January 2024 –Year end 2023 revenue was 139.41%; Expenses were 110%. Brenda Peterson made a motion, seconded by Christina Ferderer, to approve the 2023 Year End Financial Summary. Motion carried.

January 2024 Expenses were at 11%; Revenue at 83.99%. Becky Devries motioned to approve the January 2024 Financial Summary; seconded by Wayne Ulven. Motion carried.

Items for Review – Discussion – Decision:

- a. Personnel Update; vacancies & new positions: Brienne Schlagel has been hired to fill an eligibility worker vacancy in the Sargent County office. Continued postings and interviews are being held to fill the Ransom office Administrative Assistant position, while Stephanie transitions to eligibility worker. Stacy Johnson has been hired to fill the Richland Administrative Assistant position. Denise Steffens, eligibility worker in Richland, is retiring March 31st, her position has been posted as well. Kristi Ford, CPS Supervisor has announced her retirement for May 31, 2024.
- b. Zone Plan Update: The Director reviewed the Zone Plan update submitted to DHHS. This plan is reflective of changes in zone board, assets, and other agency structural changes.
- c. Human Service Zone Standards of Administration. The Director reviewed the standards set forth by DHHS, which will measure zone performance in the areas of economic assistance, child welfare and fiscal administration. Measurement began January 1st, 2024. Performance will be reviewed quarterly, and results provided to each zone.

- d. Ransom County Board Member vacancy: This position is still open.
- e. Director's Leave: Director Lynn Flieth will be on medical leave beginning March 18, 2024. Likely out of office full time for 2-3 weeks and will gradually transition back to full time duties by the end of April. There will be no March Board meeting.
- f. Misc.
 - Any county updates (per Commissioner): No updates.

Date of next meeting: April 23, 2024 @ 1:00 pm. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Flieth, LBSW". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Chair