

RSR Human Service Zone Board Meeting

RSR Human Service Zone Board met at 1:00 pm on Tuesday, February 24, 2026. This meeting was held at Milnor Fire District and by teleconference over TEAMS. The Board members present were Valerie Nelson and Lynn Flieth. Present via TEAMS was Becky DeVries, Nathan Berseth and Wayne Ulven. Also present, Stephanie Cameron in-person and Sandy Fossum, Richland County Auditor, via TEAMS.

The meeting was called to order at 1:07pm by Lynn Flieth, Director. A motion to approve the minutes of Decembers meeting by Becky DeVries; seconded by Valerie Nelson. All in favor. Motion carried

Monthly Expenditures – Wayne Ulven made a motion, seconded by Becky DeVries, to approve the summary of January bills. Motion carried. Valerie Nelson made a motion, seconded by Becky DeVries, to approve the summary of February bills. Motion Carried.

Financial report -- Revenue and expenditures for 2025 Year End were reviewed and Indirect Costs were discussed. Revenue was 155% and Expenses at 96%. Wayne Ulven made a motion, seconded by Valerie Nelson, to approve the 2025 Year End Financial report. All in favor. Motion carried. Updated revenues and expenditures through January 2026, were reviewed. Revenue is 50.57% and Expenses are 8.75%. Becky DeVries made a motion, seconded by Wayne Ulven, to approve February financial report. All in favor. Motion carried.

Items for Review – Discussion – Decision:

a. Agency Updates

- i. Personnel Update: Julie Johnson has announced she will not continue her position on the Board now that her term is up. RSR will seek a new candidate for the Ransom County Board member. RSR Human Service Zone is fully staffed currently.
- ii. Economic Assistance updates: The “Big Beautiful Bill” is having a significant impact to Economic Assistance. State allocations are based on error rate for SNAP. Currently SNAP in North Dakota is 100% Federalyl funded. With the current error rate (9%), the state of ND will be required to contribute substantially to implement SNAP. Tim Eissinger is the new Executive Director of Health and Human Services and is facilitating discussion and planning between the state and zones to address error rates, as well as a 5-week backlog of economic assistance applications statewide.
- iii. Interim Legislative Workgroup Updates: The Director provided information on Interim Legislative Work Group and Task Force activities. One group is currently working on identifying service needs and gaps for youth with complex behavioral health needs. The Diversion task force has begun to identify barriers and priorities for addressing youth behaviors in schools and in the community. Additionally, RSR has taken part in a new work group to brainstorm needs for homeless and/or transients in the Richland County area.

b. Misc:

- **Commissioner updates**: Director Flieth brought up recent head lice situation. There was discussion about the refusal to provide any meaningful support by another county department.

Date of the next meeting: Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Lynn Litch, LBSW

Chair