

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 17, 2015**

The February 17, 2015 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Planning Commissioners' meeting room located at 221 N. Wisconsin Street, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson	Renee Brown, Health and Human Services Director
Susan Thompson, Vice-Chairperson (via phone)	Matthew Birnie, County Manager (ABSENT)
Jonathan Houck, Commissioner	Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Paula Swenson, Commissioner (ABSENT)	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairperson Chamberland called the meeting to order at 9:19 am. Commissioner Thompson participated via telephone beginning at 9:39 am.

**AGENDA REVIEW:** There were no changes to the agenda.

**APPROVE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS:** Staff Accountant Maureen Eden presented the financial report dated November 30, 2014 and December 31, 2014 for discussion and approval. **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Chairperson Chamberland to approve the financials for November and December 2014. Motion carried.

**LEGISLATION UPDATE:** Health and Human Services Director Renee Brown provided updates on pending bills as follows:

1. SB 87; Background Checks for Foster Care or Kinship Care Placements. HHS Director Brown explained that this bill will mandate all five levels of background checks prior to placement, and that waiting for fingerprint results can take up to 14 days. Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) would prefer to place children into kinship care while the results are pending. CCI is monitoring this issue.
2. SB 109; Mandatory Reporting for Adults with Intellectual Abilities. CCI's position is to oppose this bill due to insufficient funding and the lack of a structured timeline. Commissioner Thompson called into the meeting at this point, and Commissioner Chamberland updated her on the discussion that had taken place. Challenge from advocacy groups is expected.
3. SB 12; Pass-through of Child Support Payments for TANF Recipients. HHS Director Brown noted that progress could take a couple of years since the computer systems will need to be reconfigured. Currently, child support paid is used to repay TANF funds, and this bill seeks to change that practice. CCI is monitoring with amendments.
4. HB 1033; Development of Strategic Planning Group to Discuss the Aging Population. HHS Director Brown informed the Board that CCI supports this bill, with amendments. Currently, the composition group doesn't include any county-level subject experts.
5. Setting Fees Related to Food Facility Inspections. HHS Director Brown stated that this bill doesn't have a number yet. She will continue to follow the conversations. She opined that inspections could be managed through the Community Development Department, but that any found issues should be referred to Public Health.
6. Implementation of the Child Welfare Hotline. HHS Director Brown informed the Board that cellular capability in the valley hasn't been sufficient for her office to serve as the first responder, so her staff has reverted to using dispatch. When contacted, dispatch then relays the information to her department. She asked that the County keep tracking this item.
7. HB 1114; Collaborative Management. HHS Director Brown informed the Board that there is debate regarding which entity, either the Child Welfare Allocation Committee or the Board of Human Services, has the authority to allocate the \$2,000,000 in available funding. A decision wasn't made.

**MEDICAID INCENTIVE:** HHS Director Brown informed the Board that this is going very well and that agreements are in place. This program will give the County an additional \$17,000 of funding that is not associated with any one budget item. She would prefer that it be spent to improve access to healthcare.

**STAFF TRANSITION:** The new director, Joni Reynolds, will assume her role on 4/1, and HHS Director Brown will continue to serve in a limited capacity until that time. The two have been meeting to discuss and plan for a successful the transition.

**STRATEGIC RESULT MEASURES:** HHS Director Brown gave the following updates:

1. The department has over 21,000 annual contacts as defined by phone calls, walk in, etc., but it is still achieving a 95% customer satisfaction rate.
2. The child abuse and neglect rate increased to 25 per 1000 children in 2012, compared to nine for the State of Colorado. That number has since reduced in Gunnison County to 8.6, and the difference may be due to the data collection method.
3. In 2012, there were 4,019 days in custody for children. That number decreased to 1,097 in 2014, and she credits the decrease to the legal community's view of what work works best for children and practice changes.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** **Moved** by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Chairperson Chamberland to approve the minutes for the December 16, 2014 meeting. Motion carried. Commissioner Houck abstained from the vote since he was not present for that meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting was scheduled for March 17, 2015.

**ADJOURN:** **Moved** by Commissioner Houck, seconded by Chairperson Chamberland to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 10:13 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

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Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved April 21, 2015:

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Phil Chamberland, Chairperson