

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
October 17, 2017**

The October 17, 2017 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Board of County Commissioners' meeting room located at 200 E. Virginia Avenue, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

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

CALL TO ORDER: Vice-chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Messner, seconded by Commissioner Thompson to approve the meeting minutes in the packet. Motion carried unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: HHSD Reynolds stated that she attended the Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) meetings specific to Health and Human Services last week. Commissioner Houck discussed the health-insurance premium bill, which was initially supported by 70% of the CCI membership and then later designated as a Tier II support item after the request for a weighted vote process was made.

STAFFING UPDATE: HHSD Reynolds informed the Board that Laura Chambers, the new Adult Protection Caseworker, previously worked for a large organization in Denver. She has a Master's Degree and is certified as an Adult Protection Caseworker. Lee Eakin, previously tasked with eligibility work in the area of Economic Security, has accepted a position in the north end of the valley to lessen her daily commute from the Irwin area. The HHS team plans to ensure cross-training going forward to assist with staff transitions.

PROGRAM UPDATE:

- Child Health Plan Plus. HHSD Reynolds stated that this program is in limbo at the federal level; the State has enough funding to carry through to at least January 2018.
- Child Protective Team. HHSD Reynolds explained that, as statutorily required, this multi-disciplinary team had been meeting weekly to review all cases and make safety assessments. The statute was changed during the last legislative session, and the new language says that counties may have these meetings, but they are no longer required. The team decided that abuse and neglect prevention warrants ongoing discussion, so that will be the focus of meetings going forward on a monthly basis. Dr. John Tarr serves as the team's Chairperson.
- Community Health Coalition of the Gunnison Valley. HHSD Reynolds explained that this effort came out of the One Valley Prosperity Project (OVPP), and this OVPP subcommittee focuses on basic community, youth and health needs in the valley. The subcommittee is working well. The November meeting will focus on general housing issues. Chairperson Chamberland and Commissioner Messner will likely attend that meeting.
- Suicide Prevention. HHSD Reynolds stated that the Crisis Coalition has become part of the Community Health Coalition of the Gunnison Valley. A \$10,000 grant from the Center for Mental Health is assisting with the formulation of a strong plan related to suicide prevention. To date, there have been seven suicides in the valley, which is higher than usual but similar to what is happening elsewhere in the region. Those suicides primarily involved middle-aged men, though there were also a couple of seniors and a couple of people over 30 years of age.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for December 19, 2017.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Messner to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:49 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved December 19, 2017:

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson