

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
April 20, 2021**

The April 20, 2021 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, either in person or via Zoom, were:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson	Joni Reynolds, Health and Human Services Director
Roland Mason, Commissioner [REMOTE]	Marlene Crosby, Deputy County Manager
Liz Smith, Commissioner	Melanie Bollig, Clerk to the Board
Greg Levine, Hinsdale Co. Commissioner [REMOTE]	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Houck called the meeting to order at 10:28 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Chairperson Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to approve the February 16, 2021 meeting minutes, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. February 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes

HINSDALE COUNTY BOARD REPRESENTATION:

1. Hinsdale County Commissioner, Greg Levine. Greg Levine, as a newly-elected Hinsdale County Commissioner, was introduced to the Gunnison County BOCC. The Gunnison County BoCC then welcomed Commissioner Levine to the Board of Human Services.

FINANCE UPDATE: Senior Accountant Kelly Weak was present for the update. She advised the Board of the finances and funds used during the COVID program needs in 2020. Health and Human Services Director Joni Reynolds also discussed the staffing difficulties going into 2021 year, and possibilities for needing additional temporary staffing in the future. **Moved** by Chairperson Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to accept the Gunnison/Hinsdale DHS financial report and authorize the Chair's signature on the report, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

1. Gunnison/Hinsdale DHS Financial Report – Period Ending December 31, 2020

PROGRAM UPDATES:

1. COVID Financial Services Update and Community Service Block Grants (CSBG). Senior Resources Program Manager Betsy Holena presented the Board with a handout of the various grants received, many of these in the form of mini-grants from the CSBG. She also outlined petitioner eligibility requirements to various funds, as well as an identification of staff and the committees who determined assistance allotment. Contrasts were pointed out in the increased requests and dollar amounts needed in 2020, versus the significantly lesser amounts of 2019. For instance, requested utilities assistance in 2019 totaled \$97,000; in 2020, the total for utilities assistance rose to \$214,000. SRPM Holena further highlighted the demographics which revealed significant increases in requests from single parent females, as well as those from the Hispanic / Latin population.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES: HHS Director Reynolds presented the Board with the following topics for updates.

1. Child welfare reform bill. HHS Director Joni Reynolds informed the Board that it was yet to be seen what the finer details of this bill would be. She explained that they were blind in some ways because of the unusual circumstances of 2020. Last year, across the nation, the State of Colorado, and Gunnison County, they had actually seen a drop in number referrals, and so for the present time, they were unsure what was ahead in the way of reform.
2. Parenting program. HHS Director Reynolds advised the Board that they were continuing to look for a program that would fit into a rural community. Challenges included finding the right balance of therapy-based and action-based program, and she emphasized that this would be a sizeable investment.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for June 15, 2021. HHS Director Reynolds revealed to the Board that Gunnison County would again be receiving a prestigious award from the State Department of Human Services, as a result of Gunnison/Hinsdale County's Human Services performance goal results for 2020. She had requested that the presentation be part of the June 15th meeting.

ADJOURN: Moved by Chairperson Houck, seconded by Commissioner Smith to adjourn the Board of Human Services meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Melanie Bollig, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved August 17, 2021:

Jonathan Houck, Chairperson