

**GUNNISON/HINSDALE BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES
MEETING MINUTES
June 19, 2012**

The June 19, 2012 meeting of the Gunnison/Hinsdale Board of Human Services was held in the Commissioners' boardroom in the Courthouse located at 200 E. Virginia, Gunnison, Colorado. Present were:

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson	Renee Brown, Health and Human Services Director
Allen Brown, Vice-Chairperson	Matthew Birnie, County Manager
Hap Channell, Commissioner	Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board
Paula Swenson, Commissioner	Other Persons Present as Listed in Text
Art Trezise, Deputy County Attorney	

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Chamberland called the meeting to order at 9:39 am.

AGENDA REVIEW: There were no changes to the agenda.

MINUTES APPROVAL: **Moved** by Commissioner Swenson, seconded by Commissioner Channell to approve the April 17, 2012 minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVE MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORTS: Staff Accountant Maureen Eden presented the financial reports dated March 31, 2012 and April 30, 2012 for discussion and approval. **Moved** by Commissioner Channell, seconded by Commissioner Swenson to approve the March and April financials as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

BUDGET FORECAST: HHS Director Brown informed the Board that the Child Welfare budget is on course, but that there have been budget cuts to the LEAP program at the federal level. Budget cuts are also anticipated to affect food-assistance programming. Gunnison County will be under-spent in the area of Childcare Assistance this year, though HHS Director Brown has a corrective plan in place that will maximize the allocations. She explained that provider rate reimbursements will need to be examined because the current rates are far below the State level. On a positive note, she informed the Board that the release of Amendment 35 funding will enable the County to reinstate some health programming.

PROGRAM AREA UPDATES: HHS Director Brown provided the following updates to the Board:

1. Public Health. The current focus is on the sustainability of the Multicultural Resource Office. Grant funding will be sought.
2. Early Childhood Council. The Council received a grant award for \$59,000, which is an increase over last year's funding. An additional grant of \$130,000 will be applied for.
3. Senior Resources Office. This office is experiencing an increased demand for services. The County is continuing to work with community groups to identify the service demands.
4. Public Assistance. During the first four months of the year, the County provided \$540,000 worth of food assistance to the public. Approximately 140 new applications are processed each month, and there are approximately 1,450 ongoing cases each year. The need for food assistance has tripled since 2007.
5. LEAP Services. The County may contract these services with Goodwill in 2013 since it has an entire unit dedicated to managing LEAP programs for Counties. Goodwill provides this service for the cost of a county's administrative allocation.
6. Child Welfare. The focus in 2013 will be placed on establishing good basic child welfare practices. In 2013, the County will take part in the practice initiative, which offers additional clarity and continuous quality improvement. Deputy County Attorney Trezise confirmed that this has been working well thus far.

HEALTH CARE REFORM: HHS Director Brown has been working on this issue for the past several months. She stated her belief that reform will provide better health care services to our community. She plans to visit with officials from Routt County in order to gain information relevant to responding to the need for a healthcare system within our community and region, partnering for regional care via the Rocky Mountain Health Plan, and using an electronic medical records system.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION: HHS Director Brown informed the Board that the Commission will reconvene on 7/11/12 at 1:00 pm. The Commission, created in 2004 to enhance community collaboration, has successfully established many organizations and programs. She plans to provide suggestions to the Commission as she feels that the bylaws may need to be revised.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting was scheduled for July 17, 2012.

ADJOURN: **Moved** by Commissioner Swenson, seconded by Commissioner Channell to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04 am.

Minutes Prepared By:

Katherine Haase, Clerk to the Board

Minutes Approved July 17, 2012:

Phil Chamberland, Chairperson