

**Three Rivers Human Service Zone Board
Meeting Agenda
Three Rivers Human Services Board Room
Mandan
210 2nd Ave NW
10:00 AM – March 17, 2022**

Meeting Call to Order:

- Dennis called meeting to order

Roll Call:

Mandan: Dennis Meier, Jackie Buckley, Rosemary Lawson, Edgar Oliveira

Carson: John Reinhardt, Charlie Steinkuehler

Fort Yates: John Pretty Bear and Ken Snider absent

Staff: Vince Gillette, Jenny Wetsch, Kim Anderson, and Brenda Peterson,

Approval of Agenda

- Moved by Charlie Steinkuehler seconded by Edgar Oliveira to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from February 17, 2020

- Moved by Jackie Buckley seconded by John Reinhardt to approve the minutes from February 17, 2022
Motion carried.

Review and Approval of March 2022 Bills:

- Jackie Buckley came early to review the bills.
- Another bill from Attorney for Guardian Ad Litem services.
- Moved by Jackie Buckley seconded by Edgar Oliveira to approve the bills as presented. With a unanimous roll call vote the bills were approved.

Name	Roll Call	Bills Approved
Jackie Buckley	P	Y
Edgar Olivera	P	Y
Rosemary Lawson	P	Y
Heidi Peltz	A	A
John Reinhardt	P	Y
Charlie Steinkuehler	P	Y
Ken Snider	A	A
John Pretty Bear	A	A
Dennis Meier	P	Y

Budget Review

- **CY 2021 expenditure report completed. 2021 remaining budget is 4.5%.**
- **Thus far, CY 2022 Expenditures are \$565,000 which is 14.84% of budget and below the 16.5 % that is appropriated for the first two (2) months of 2022.**
- **Dennis reported, a placement at Home on the Range (HOTR) in which ASCEND (entity that approves foster care placements in ND facilities) did not authorize a continued stay at the facility. As of 03/17/2022, the TRHSZ is financially responsible for this placement. The Case Manager has been working diligently to find a lower level of care placement. The funding will come out of the Safe Bed line item off the zone budget. HOTR agreed to continued placement for up to 30 days. The only other alternative would be hoteling in the Mandan office or in a local motel. Board member, Edgar Oliveira asked if the cost of hoteling would be equivalent to the cost at HOTR. Dennis stated, it would cost substantially more to hotel with rotating staff, meals, and motel room costs. Not to mention the potential liability and the stress on staff.**

Zone Program Stats

Vince (Tribal Liaison)

- **Standing Rock Covid report as of March 10th. There are 12 active cases in Ft Yates and 3 actives in Cannonball. There have been 27 deaths from COVID reservation wide.**
- **Vince assists the Tribe in getting FMAP reimbursement. Last Biennium, Vince was able to complete the paperwork and get the Tribe \$187,000. This biennium the amount is \$203,000. The state has been encouraging the tribe to sign the MOU. Vince was able to get the tribe to sign the new MOU and when they get him the necessary financial data, he should be able to get them the \$203,000.**
- **Standing Rock CPS director, Melissa White Bull resigned along with one of the case managers so, they are extremely shorthanded. They have 322 kids in care and have 4 case managers. It is a daunting task to get anything accomplished other than putting band aides on emergency situations. Al Nygaard, the Executive Director of the Tribe, was appointed Interim Director of CPS. Dennis and Vince were able to meet with him about CPS issues and will try and have Monthly meetings with him. Al says they are advertising for open positions.**
- **Vince has taken on a new job duty for assisting the tribe. IVE foster care is a pot of money that will pay for foster places, providing the child meets certain criteria. An application needs to be submitted and eligibility needs to be determined. This can take months sometimes. The foster placement needs to be paid and the Tribe pays this with 638 funds (another pot of Money). When IV E is approved, they go back and pay the foster placements, even though the tribe may have paid them already. Vince has taken on the task of contacting the tribe to see what's been paid then compare it our system to see what IV E paid. The foster placement needs to reimburse the tribe for the 638 Monies they paid for placement. Vince is working on 3 cases right now that need to reimburse the tribe. Vince is currently working on a placement at HOTR, which is about \$14,000 a month. The placement has been there since November.**
- **The Tribe has had a rash of babies born at home, (drug babies) that have ended up in care. Hospitals are reluctant to issue a birth certificate for the children, since they weren't born in their hospital. The parents need to complete some paperwork so a birth certificate can be issued. Vince has been assisting the tribe with getting paperwork signed and where to send it etc. Parents using drugs typically, do not receive pre-natal care, which causes medical issues.**
- **In February, Vince physically saw 9 foster kids. Vince helps facilitate 72 foster care visits statewide, via collaborating with other Human Service Zones.**

Brenda Peterson – Income Maintenance/Eligibility Supervisor

- See the attached statistical copies for the complete report on Income Maintenance cases and programs.
- Cases in our Zone continue to increase. From 02/2022 to 03/2022, increased 77.
- LIHEAP Applications are winding down. 695 Approved and 40 Applications Pending.
 - 31 – Morton County
 - 7 – Grant County
 - 2 – Sioux County
- CCAP applications and cases are increasing due to changes to the income levels.
- Carmen Erhardt Fichtner began employment in the Carson Office on 03/14/2022.

Jenny Wetsch – Child Protection

- See the attached Statistical information which was presented during the meeting.
 - 83 total reports in 02/2022. 1 Report in Grant County
 - 28 Administratively Assessed
 - 14 Administrative Referrals
 - 3 Assessments Terminated in Progress
- Parent Aide Caseload – 10 – 14 cases in 02/2022
- Dakota Central assisted with 3 reports.
- Vicki Zimmerman has been assisting the CPS unit as an emergency temp.

Natalie Anderson – Foster Care/In Home/FP Licensing

- See the attached statistical information which was presented during the meeting.
- Workers are carrying caseloads between 15-16 cases each.
- Currently we have 112 cases.
 - 38 Foster Homes/PATH
 - 3 QRTP/PRTF
 - 29 Relative Care
 - 41 In-Home Cases, ICPC, Courtesy Case Management & Home Study's
- We currently have 38 licensed Foster Care Homes in our 3 county Zone.
- Foster Care Licensing will be transitioning to the State April 1, 2022. Becka Koll and Rachel Suda have accepted positions on the new foster care licensing unit with the state.

Mandan Office Renovation Update

- Dennis reported, we are still in the process of the reconstruction but remain on schedule. Aside from doors and locks, we are hoping to have all construction completed by the end of March.

2023 Zone Budget Development

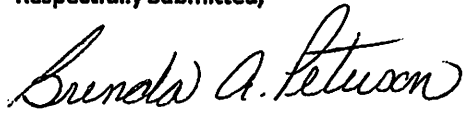
- Zone directors and fiscal staff meet with the department on 3/30/2022 to begin the process.
- The department will provide a guideline.
- Want Zones to work collaboratively to develop budgets and will give more latitude to in the creation of their budget.

Adjourn:

- Moved by Charlie Steinkuehler, seconded by Edgar Oliveira to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: April 21, 2022 – 10 AM, Mandan

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brenda A. Peterson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Brenda Peterson

TRHSZ Eligibility Supervisor

Three Rivers Human Service Zone