

Three Rivers Human Service Zone Board Meeting Minutes
Three Rivers Human Service Zone Mandan Office 1st Floor Conference Room
210 2nd Ave NW Mandan
10:00 AM – May 20, 2021

Meeting Call to Order:

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dennis Meier.

Roll Call:

Mandan: Jackie Buckley, Rosemary Lawson, Heidi Peltz, Edgar Olivera

Carson: John Reinhardt, Charlie Steinkuehler

Fort Yates: Both members absent

Staff:

Jody Leier, Vince Gillette, Brenda McAllister

Community Guest:

Ron Leingang

Approval of Agenda

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

Approval of Minutes from April 15, 2021

- Moved by John Reinhardt seconded by Rosemary to approve the minutes from April 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of May 2021 Bills:

- Moved by Jackie seconded by Charlie to approve the May 2021 bills. With a roll call vote the motion was approved. Motion carried. Jackie came in early to look over the bills.

Name	Roll Call	Bills
Rosemary Lawson	P	Yes
Charlie Steinkuehler	P	Yes
Edgar Olivera	P	Yes
Heidi Peltz	P	Yes
John Reinhardt	P	Yes
Jackie Buckley	P	Yes
Dennis Meier	P	Yes

Budget Review

- As of May 20, 2021 the Zone is 4.5% under budget
- Will receive the state funding allocation approximately June 10th.

Zone Program Stats

Fort Yates Office – Brenda McAllister

TANF – 100 open – 5 pending – 2 denied

SNAP – 485 open – 6 pending

HCC – 1086 open – 5 pending

TECS

MA – 7

QS – 5

CCAP – 1 open – 1 pending

SNAP Reviews – 50

Passive Reviews – 82 – 9 pending

MA/QS – 11

Vision

MA 30

- Processing all TANF for Three Rivers Zone and the Roughrider Zone
- All positions are filled.
- Implementing a Zone Call Center
- Maybe in 2 weeks we will have air conditioning.

Vince Gillette – Tribal Liaison

- Tribal office is still closed to the public.
- Mask mandate is still in place on the reservation.
- Since the pandemic started, there have been 662 positive cases and 12 deaths. There are currently 5 active cases.
- 28 visits have been done for the tribe since the last board meeting.
- The Public Health Emergency has ended by Gov Burgum, so monthly visits to children in foster care need to be done face to face.
- 36 of the current 51 IVE cases are off the reservation.
- An email was sent by Dennis to other zone requesting their assistance in doing courtesy visits of SRTSS IVE children placed in their zone. Vince received positive responses from most zones which he was really glad about.
- Dennis mentioned Vince will be utilizing one of the zone vehicles for monthly visits of children in foster care.
- Vince and Dennis have been trying to set up a meeting with the tribe; as to the best way to get the visits done, but we have not had a lot of luck.
- Recently, the tribe has had an influx of babies coming into foster care.
- Most of my time has been spent helping workers complete paperwork, looking for birth certificates, SSN's so they can apply for foster homes.
- Vince has spent a lot of time working between SD Social Services and ND DHS.
- On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of this week, Vince spent 12 hours, emailing back and forth between SD Social Service and ND DHS to get a child placed in a ND Path home.

- We hope to get a meeting set up with the Director of CPS to develop a plan of how to get the visits done. Current policy states, workers should do the visits, which is a good policy, but they can use the help.
- Vince only had 2 requests to do visits for the tribe for May, until yesterday; when he got 8 requests from the workers.
- Vince's help in getting the \$189,000.00 seems to be on hold. Vince has had contacted every entity he can think of but cannot seem to get the verifications he needs to submit the paperwork.

Brenda Peterson – Mandan Office

Applications Received in April

TANF – 25

SNAP – 79

Medicaid – 101

Child Care – 16

GA Burial – 1

- Still cannot close Medicaid cases.
- LIHEAP will be moved into eligibility system on August 1.
- LIHEAP ends June 30th
- 222 cases in April
- 37 less cases in May than April – 2837 – 2800
- Brenda Peterson is the new Zone Supervisor as of May 3
- The specialists are Brenda McAllister TANF, Jennifer SNAP, Mandy Medicaid
- Brenda will be traveling to the other 2 counties.
- No applications for Darla's position
- No new staff with this transition
- Long term care and foster care will be at the State.
- Moving to a call center for all 3 counties – Possibly 2 in Morton and 1 in Fort Yates

Child Protection Reports – Jenny Wetsch

- 81 total reports in April – 9 Administratively Assessed, 16 Administrative Referrals, 15 Assessment Terminated in Progress
- Alternative Response cases – 1
- Child Sexual Behavior cases – 1
- Prenatal Exposure – 1
- Fully staffed.
- Vacant CPS position has been filled.
- Caseloads still high for some workers.
 - Requesting help from the state.
 - Cannot assign all the new cases to the new staff; then they will be overloaded.

Foster Care – Natalie Anderson

- April Case Load – 92
- Foster Care – 68
 - 33 in foster homes – PATH
 - 5 Group Care/PRTF
 - 30 Relative Care
- Jennifer Dirk is doing case management.
- Becka – assisting CPS.
- We will no longer get delinquent youth after July 1.
- Juvenile Court continues to give custody of delinquent cases to social services.
- Treatment facilities are being taken off the list as a care facility.

2022 Zone Budget

- Met with Laurel Sehn and recalculated the 2021 zone budget.
- Will be meeting with Laurel Sehn to work on the 2022 budget.
 - Requesting an increase in safety permanency funds.
 - Requesting an Increase in GA Burial funding.
- Placements of children in care not reimbursed through Foster Care will have its own line item.
- Travel line item will need to be included under every program account.

Legislative Updates

- Dennis gave a legislative update.

Other:

Next Meeting: July 15, 2021 – 10 AM, Mandan

Moved by John Reinhardt seconded by Charlie to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jackie Buckley

Three Rivers Zone Secretary