

Three Fivers Human Service Zone Board
Meeting Agenda
Three Rivers Human Service Zone 1st Floor Conference Room
Mandan Office
210 2nd Ave. NW Mandan
10:00 AM – November 17, 2022

Meeting Call to Order:

- Dennis called meeting to order

Roll Call:

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

Carson: Charlie Steinkuehler

Fort Yates: John Pretty Bear

Others present: Vince Gillette, Jodie Leier, Mandy Garrett, Natalie Anderson, Jenny Wetsch, Wendy Bent, Theresa Gruenberg

Approval of Agenda

- Moved by Edgar Oliveira seconded by Heidi Peltz to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2022

- Moved by Edgar Olivera seconded by Charlie Steinkuehler to approve the minutes from October 20, 2022. Motion carried.

Review and Approval of November 2022 bills:

- Jackie Buckley came early to review the bills.
- Discussed the total of November's bills and stated next month will increase do to shelter care bills coming in.
- Moved by Heidi Peltz seconded by Rosemary Lawson 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 (Online)	Y
Heidi Peltz	P (Online)	Y
Marty Meyer	A	A
Charlie Steinkuehler	P	Y
Ken Snider	A	A
John Pretty Bear	P (Online)	Y
Dennis Meier	P	Y

Budget Review

- Cy 2022 budget was increased by \$91,000 through the budget recalculation done with the department in June. It was reviewed by the Morton County Commission. Dennis and Jason Coffey met to go over the year end budget projection. It is projected, at the end of December we will have \$239,000 remaining. A percentage of this was rollup from extended position vacancies through 2022. Currently there are only two openings: they are an Eligibility Worker I and an Eligibility Tech.

Zone Program Stats

Vince – Three Rivers Human Service Zone Tribal Liaison Report for November 2022

- Standing Rock Covid numbers as of November 10. There are 19 active cases on Standing Rock, with 65 cases in Morton, 2 cases in Grant, and 139 cases in Burleigh.
- There are 80 Active IV-E children and 48 cases on the South Dakota side.
- Amounts paid for Tribal IV E foster children in November ND IV E paid \$94,206.95 for IV E foster care maintenance and \$4128.32 for Subsidized Adoption Payments.
- Vince attends monthly TEAMS meeting with the ND CFS, SD CFS, Tribe, and Zone Staff. There are separate meetings for Licensure of foster homes, Tribal foster children placed in Zone Foster homes. Vince continues to facilitate visits for 77 children between zones SW and Zone foster homes and group facilities.
- Vince spends time on clearing up Medicaid issues and bills not being paid for foster children.
- Vince is part of the planning committee for the ICWA conference, which is being held in the Turtle Mountains this year and is being planned as an in-person conference.
- Turtle Mountain CPS expressed an interest in establishing MOU's. Vince had an initial Teams call with the Director Danielle Breland and Jan Birkland, the bookkeeper, about IV E admin reimbursement and FMAP reimbursement.
- Dean Stern, DHS is putting a meeting together with people who provide technical assistance to the tribes.
- Vince is in the taking stages of developing a Cultural Awareness for Native American Foster Children. We have about 124 Native children in foster care in the Burleigh-Morton area and about 400 Native children statewide. At this time there is no cultural presentations taking place that he is aware of.
- Meeting with Cory Peterson on 11-26-2022 to find out where the Native children are and provide enrichment for them.

Mandy Garrett – Income Maintenance/Eligibility Supervisor

- See the attached statistical copies for the complete report on Income Maintenance cases and programs.
 - LIHEAP opened for fixed income households on 09/01/22 and for all other households on 10/01/22. The total LIHEAP applications for the season are 422.
 - Mandy is interviewing for the EW Tech position that is open.
 - The EW I position is still open. Mandy will reach out to Cheryl Keeps Eagle from Fort Yates about the opening.
 - Redesign rollout for the call center is 02/13/2023, some of the zones are short of staff. Some of the zones are working to obtain the hardware for the call center. We will start working with Burleigh and Dakota Central Zones.

Jenny Wetsch – Child Protection

- See the attached Statistical Information which was presented during the meeting.
 - 66 total reports in 10/2022. 0 report in Grant County, 0 reports in Sioux County
 - 28 Assigned as Full
 - 2 ATP Assessments
 - 23 Administratively Assessed or Administrative Referrals
 - 0 Alt Response
 - 1 Child Sex Cases
 - 1 Prenatal Drug Cases
 - Courtesy interview requests 0 from another Zone and 2 LE assist
 - 0 Conflict cases for another Zone
- Dennis asked surrounding Zones for help. Dakota Central offered to take 2 cases, then someone resigned from their office, and they rescinded their offer. Jenny is asking for a new FTE to be approved. The cases coming in are larger families, which are very time consuming.

Natalie Anderson – Foster Care/In Home/ FP Licensing

- See the attached statistical information which was presented during the meeting.
- Currently we have 79 cases
 - 58 Foster Care
 - 34 In-Home Cases/ PATH
 - 2 QRTP/PRTF
 - 21 Relative Care
 - 21 In-Home Cases, ICPC, Courtesy Case management & Home Studies

Retention Bonus Discussion

- The board discussed reasons to give retention bonuses.
 - Zones have had vacancies for months or years.
 - Every position is hard to fill.
 - The turnover rate for Eligibility staff is 25% and 33% of Child Welfare for the last year.
 - A retention bonuses may help to keep experienced employees in the Zone.
- Reasons were given why employees leave the positions
 - Workload
 - Pay rate
 - Not what they signed up for.
 - Resources being taken away. Losing YouthWorks to house children on 12-18-22. This may cause the worker and child/children to spend a night in the office or hotel until a foster home can be found.
 - Stressful job – going to less stressful jobs.
 - Different positions in the community
 - School Social Worker
 - Nursing home Social Worker
 - Hospital Social Worker
 - Going into private practice
- Approval of Retention Bonus Task Force
 - Moved by Edgar Olivera seconded by Heidi Peltz to approve creating a Task Force to set up criteria for Retention Bonuses. Motion Carried.
 - Task Force Committee: Dennis Meier, Edgar Olivera, Jackie Buckley, Wendy Bent, John Pretty Bear, Mandy Garrett, Jenny Wetsch, and Natalie Anderson
 - The Task Force will meet Monday, November 21, 2022, at 10:00 AM in the Three Rivers Human Service Zone 1st Floor Conference Room.

Adjourn:

- Moved by Edgar Olivera, seconded by Jackie Buckley to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Next Meeting: December 15, 2022 - 10:00 AM, Mandan

Respectfully Submitted,



**Theresa Gruenberg
TRHSZ OA III**