

Rocky Mountain Development Council, Inc.
Board of Directors' Meeting
September 28, 2023, 3:30 p.m.
Neighborhood Center Card Room/Zoom Conference Call

Members present: Kate Anderson, Dannai Clayborn, Bruce Day, Susan Geise, Jen Gursky, Andy Hunthausen, Trever Kirkland, Teri Lilletvedt, Jerry Loendorf, Daniel Pocha

Members absent: Bob Mullen, Lindsey Richtmyer, Eric Schindler

Others present: Joan Anderson, Rod Applegate, Hayden Behm, Mindy Diehl, Diane Edgar, Steven Ferriter, Joanna Halland, Taya Hovan, Lori Ladas, Jean Leischner, Samara Lynde, Jim Marks, Kathy Marks, Liz Mogstad, Kelley Moody, Angela Nelmark, Ashley Peña-Larsen, Tom Robel

Call to Order/Roll Call: The meeting was called to order by Trever Kirkland at 3:30 p.m. and a quorum was present. No public comment was received. Trever introduced new Board member Teri Lilletvedt.

Approval of Minutes

Daniel Pocha made the motion to approve the August 24, 2023 Board of Directors' meeting minutes, and the June 29, 2023 Finance Committee meeting minutes. Andy Hunthausen seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Director's Report – Lori Ladas

Lori mentioned the potential government shutdown in the news, and reported that for now, Rocky will continue to operate with business as usual. Lori referenced the corporate resolution included in Board packets. Jock Bovington and Matt Maloy with The Investment Group are the advisors on Rocky's retirement plans, and they are moving from Cetera to LPL Financial as broker-dealer/custodian. The resolution allows for Lori, Trever, and Andy to sign on behalf of the full Board. The transition should be seamless on Rocky's side, and no fee increase is expected with the change.

Daniel Pocha made the motion to approve the corporate resolution as presented. Dannai Clayborn seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Finance Report – Joan Anderson

Cash balance is \$2,022,153. The total is down a little from last month, due to using county mill to close out FY22 funds and the purchase of a new Meals on Wheels vehicle. Accounts payable is \$33,256.35, which is current. Joan thanked Lori for her assistance in advocating for Rocky with DPHHS, to reduce a monitoring finding to half the original cost. Joan spoke about the letter from CNCS included in Board packets, citing Rocky for its late submission of the FY2022 audit to the Federal Clearinghouse. Joan explained her response to the finding, which has been sent to CNCS for review. Joan noted that fiscal staff is now closing funds for FY23, and audit field work is scheduled to begin on-site the week of November 6.

Annual Meeting Business – Jerry Loendorf

Jerry reported that the Nominating Committee met to discuss Board member term expirations, a new potential Board member, and election of officers for the upcoming year. Three Board members had terms that expire in 2023: Bruce Day, Trever Kirkland, and Eric Schindler. All three agreed to serve

another three-year term. The resume of Erin Lyndes, potential new member, was also discussed. Erin's appointment to the Board would fulfill the requirement that the Board membership include a licensed attorney. Jerry Loendorf has filled that role on Rocky's Board for nearly 50 years; he will fulfill the remainder of his term and plans to retire from the Board in 2024.

Jerry Loendorf made the motion to approve the appointment of Bruce Day, Trever Kirkland, Eric Schindler, and Erin Lyndes to a three-year term on the Rocky Board. Daniel Pocha seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

The current slate of officers has agreed to serve in their same roles for the upcoming year. The proposed officers include Trever Kirkland as President, Andy Hunthausen as Vice President, and Eric Schindler as Secretary/Treasurer.

Jerry Loendorf made the motion to approve the nomination of Trever Kirkland as Board President, Andy Hunthausen as Board Vice President, and Eric Schindler as Secretary/Treasurer. Daniel Pocha seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Head Start Director's Program Report and Budget – Ashley Peña-Larsen

Ashley Peña-Larsen reported that the Head Start Policy Council met yesterday with six active members. The group plans to meet monthly on the Wednesday prior to Board meetings this year. Ashley reported that staffing remains a big issue for the program. Employee-sponsored childcare may be explored as an option for Head Start staff. A radio campaign for staff recruitment is in progress. Whitehall's Head Start program will be starting on Monday. Friends of Head Start is hosting Extravaganza on October 5 at the Delta, tickets are available online and the Board was asked if they'd like to donate an auction basket for the event. Head Start's contract with PureView for mental health consultation should be signed soon. Head Start's Bookshelf Build is coming up in October. The budget is looking good, and program vacancy savings are being directed toward supply purchases. Ashley said she has been following news about the potential government shut down, and at this time, no significant impact is expected for Head Start if the shut down happens.

Andy Hunthausen made the motion to approve the Head Start Program Director's program and budget report. Kate Anderson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Head Start Enrollment Discussion – Ashley Peña-Larsen

Ashley reminded the Board about the under-enrollment notice received from the Office of Head Start, and that the program is required to be fully enrolled by September 30, 2024. Classroom enrollment data from the past five years was included in Board packets, along with answers to some general questions. Ashley requested input from Board members regarding a potential reduction, and Kate, Jen, Jerry, and Trever volunteered to be part of the discussion. All Board members will be invited to participate via Zoom on Wednesday, October 4. An enrollment plan will be brought to the Board for discussion and approval at either the October or November meeting.

Senior Nutrition and Transportation Program Presentation – Mindy Diehl

Mindy provided an overview of the Rocky Senior Nutrition Program, which serves the communities of Augusta, Boulder, Helena, Lincoln, Townsend, and Whitehall. Rocky's nutrition program is supported by the Older Americans Act, and operates congregate meals, home delivered meals, the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, and the Nutrition Services Incentive Program. Congregate meals are funded through Rocky's Agency on Aging, county mill funds, client meal donations, and private

community donations. Mindy explained that those over age 60 are not required to pay for their meals, but a suggested donation of \$5 helps offset program costs. Those under age 60 are charged \$7 per meal, and Rocky employees can eat at the Daily Dinner Club for \$6 each day. All menus are reviewed by a registered dietician and MyPlate is used as a menu planning guideline. Mindy noted the increasing cost of groceries, and various ways the program works to keep costs down. The home delivered meals program provides meals 7 days per week, though weekend meals are delivered frozen during regular weekly routes. Meals on Wheels receives funding from similar sources as congregate meals, along with additional funding from United Way and through the Medicaid Waiver program. The Meals on Wheels volunteer driver program currently includes 65 drivers and 9 sealers, along with 9 substitute volunteers. In Fiscal Year 2023, volunteers served over 47,000 meals. The Nutrition Services Incentive Program supplements funding for food used in meals under the Older Americans Act. The Commodity Supplemental Food program distributes food on a bi-monthly basis to income-eligible Montana residents, age 60 or above. The Helena Senior Center provides activities throughout the week, many in collaboration with Rocky's Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. Rocky also provides free transportation for seniors in Helena city limits, to and from Rocky's locations or for those participating in Rocky programs. Mindy spoke about numerous partnerships established in the past year for the Senior Nutrition program, and also highlighted the Rocky garden and the purchase of a new Meals on Wheels Subaru earlier this year.

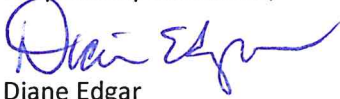
Other Business

Steven Ferriter spoke about the garden party held for Rocky donors in September. Over 50 attendees enjoyed a prime rib meal with sides made from Rocky's garden produce.

Daniel Pocha invited everyone to attend the 24th annual Last Chance Community Pow Wow at Lewis and Clark County Fairgrounds this weekend.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Diane Edgar
Executive Assistant

Approved by the Board of Directors:



Eric Schindler, Secretary/Treasurer

10/26/23

Date

