

**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
JANUARY 13, 2011  
VIDEO CONFERENCE**

COUNCIL CONVENED AT 10:05 AM and ADJOURNED at 11:35 PM on January 13, 2011.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Bozeman:** Sara Casey

**Butte:** Don Berryman

**Great Falls:** Melissa Clark and Shawn Parker

**Helena:** Debra Ekblom, Darwin Nelson, Barb Varnum and Nanette Whitman-Holmes.

**Missoula:** Jason Billehus

**Malta:** Janet Carlson, Isaiah Devereaux and Connie Wethern

**Baker:** Barb Olind

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Sylvia Danforth, Keough Duffy, Rep. Tim Furey, Kimme Evermann, Roger Holt, PJ Rismon-Beckley, Rudy Shiner, Jeff Sturm, Diana Tavary, Timm Vogelsberg, Sen. Carol Williams, Jan Wenaas and Brenda Walters

**STAFF PRESENT:**

**Helena:** Deborah Swingley and Dee Burrell

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

**Great Falls:** Sister Johnelle Howanach

**Helena:** Joli Schroader

**Baker:** Wendy Olind

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**COUNCIL AGENDA:**

The **January** agenda consisted of the Executive Director's Report, Agency Reports, Workgroup Reports and member news.

**Chair Connie Wethern** convened the meeting with welcome and introductions were made by each site.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT:**

**Deborah Swingley** gave the Executive Directors report which included handouts that were emailed to members prior to the meeting and a PowerPoint presentation, which was visible to members. Copies are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**Deborah** also shared with members that the Council has taken the lead on a Grant Application to the Mental Health Trust Settlement. The grant is for Law Enforcement and front line staff training for \$487,000. The settlement received 277 applications. Vocational Rehabilitation submitted an application for \$200,000 and DEAP also submitted one for Autism.

**AGENCY REPORTS:**

Written reports were submitted and are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**WORKGROUP REPORTS:**

The minutes of the Dental, Self-Directed, Direct Care, Council Awareness and Aging workgroups are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

**MEMBER NEWS:**

**Janet Carlson, Malta:**

Janet shared that the People First Chapter in Malta has disbanded because they had no activities planned. They are hoping to regroup and possibly join with Glasgow to for a new Chapter.

**Jason Billehus, Missoula:**

Jason shared that he just got back from the S.A.B.E. board meeting in Orlando and will present a written report to members at the June meeting.

**Melissa Clark, Great Falls:**

Melissa shared that she will be in Denver the end of January to tell her business story for digital recording.

**Sara Casey, Helena:**

Sara shared that her family just got back from 10 days in Mexico. Her son Bannack is now walking and says one word, Ball. Sara is now commuting from Bozeman on Thursday and Friday. Her husband is enrolled in an Architecture program at MSU>

**Deb Ekblom, Boulder:**

Deb shared that she will be a grandma again.

**Barb Varnum, Helena:**

Barb shared that she spent time in Portland Oregon with her daughter and it rained the entire time.

**MISC:**

**Deborah Swingley** shared with members that the Legislature is in town and they are moving very quickly on budget items. The Developmental Disabilities hearing is on January 19<sup>th</sup>. If members cannot attend they can listen to the hearing from the State of Montana website.

**MOTIONS REGISTER:**

1. **Barb Varnum/ Don Berryman** second – Approve October 2010 minutes.  
**UNANIMOUS – ADOPTED**