



**MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING
MARCH 8, 2012
FISHER VIDEO CONFERENCING SERVICES**

COUNCIL CONVENED AT 10:05 AM and ADJOURNED at 11:40 AM on MARCH 8, 2012.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Billings: Tarra Thomas

Butte: Don Berryman

Glasgow: Isaiah Devereaux and Connie Wethern

Great Falls: Melissa Clark, Shawn Parker and Jan Wenaas

Helena: Debra Ekblom, Darwin Nelson, Diana Tavary and Nanette Whitman-Holmes.

Missoula: Jason Billehus, Rep. Tim Furey and Timm Vogelsberg

Baker: Barb Olind

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Janet Carlson, Sylvia Danforth, Keough Duffy, Kimme Evermann, Roger Holt, PJ Rismon-Beckley, Rudy Shiner, Jeff Sturm, Barb Varnum, Brenda Walters and Senator Carol Williams.

STAFF PRESENT:

Helena: Deborah Swingley and Dee Burrell

GUESTS PRESENT:

Great Falls: Sister Johnelle Howanach

Helena: Brett Romney

COUNCIL AGENDA:

The **March** agenda consisted of the Approval of January minutes, Executive Director's Report, Workgroup Reports, Agency 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 mailed 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.

WORKGROUP REPORTS:

The minutes of the Aging Issues Workgroup, presented by **Nanette Whitman-Holmes** and Dental Workgroup presented by **Deborah Swingley and Jan Wenaas** are attached to and made a part of these minutes.

AGENCY REPORTS:

Jeff Sturm, Title XIX was not present but submitted a written report which is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Timm Vogelsberg, Rural Institute on Disabilities shared that the University of Montana has a new President, Provost and Vice-President. The Rural Institute is moving to the office of the Provost. Their core application has still not been announced due to the University rule making. Timm shared that there are many transitions at the University with the addition of the new President.

Diana Tavary, Disability Rights Montana (DRM) – No Report.

MEMBER NEWS:

Jason Billehus, Missoula: Jason loves his new home and can't wait for the fountain to be working. At the next meeting he would like to share some photos from the S.A.B.E. meeting that was held in Las Vegas and he misses the weather there.

Melissa Clark, Great Falls: shared that she is going to Ft. Lauderdale on March 9th for a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum meeting which she connected with through the group Real People/Real Jobs. She also shared that they held two Birthday parties for Sister Johnelle who turned 78.

Isaiah Devereaux, Glasgow: when asked where his cowboy hat was shared that he was giving it a break. Connie shared that Isaiah has his learners permit and drove part of the way to Billings. She also shared that he has a new job as a barista and is learning how to make coffee drinks.

Deb Ekblom, Boulder: shared that her new grandson was born on February 24th. His name is Cain which is Gaelic and not pronounced the way it is spelled.

Timm Vogelsberg, Missoula: shared that he has 2 Newfoundland puppies which are siblings Rosie & Rufus.

Diana Tavary, Helena: share the she just filmed an episode of Aging Horizons on Lifespan Respite. She will be filming additional episodes in the future. She also shared that they estimate viewership as 850,000 persons.

Darwin Nelson, Helena: shared that he received \$40 to complete a survey on health from Meg Traci at the Rural Institute on Disabilities. He also shared that his niece and nephew too 1st place in a National competition for BB shooting.

Barb Olind, Baker: shared that her daughter Wendy has now been doing her dog biscuit business for 8 years. She also shared that her Grandson is bring a friend from California with him to visit over spring break.

Tarra Thomas, Billings: shared that her husband was gone for 3 ½ weeks for work and is now home. Her daughter Emma is going a skiing field trip and she is having a very hard time letting go.

Jan Wenaas, Great Falls: shared that she is registered to take to the Support Broker training March 20 – 21st. She also shared that she goes to Choteau Activities twice a month to teach Yoga classes.

Connie Wethern, Glasgow: shared that she has a cold.

Nanette Whitman-Holmes, Helena: shared that her oldest son is almost done with his Eagle Scout project and is starting the process of visiting colleges. Her middle son is doing CRT testing at the high school this week and her youngest son took 1st Place in wrestling at a meet in Anaconda.

MOTIONS REGISTER:

1. **Shawn Parker/Melissa Clark** second – Approve January 2012 minutes.
UNANIMOUS – ADOPTED