

COALITION Board Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2016

Digital Dakota Network – Sioux Falls/Rapid City/Pierre Sites

MEMBERS PRESENT: Margot Burton, Joanne Cleveland, Lorri Bohm, Tom Kober, David Scherer, Matt Cain, Colleen Moran and John Baxter.
MEMBER ABSENT: Ardell Fiedler. **STAFF PRESENT;** Shelly Pfaff.
OTHERS PRESENT: Interpreter(s)

OPENING ACTIONS: WELCOME - Margot called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and then followed with a roll call/ introduction of sites and attendees. APPROVAL OF AGENDA_– Margot asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda as mailed. Hearing none - **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED – MADE (M), SECONDED (S) AND CARRIED (C).** APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Margot checked to see if all had received and reviewed the minutes from the December meeting. She called for any changes and upon hearing none – **MOTION TO APPROVE THE DECEMBER 2015 MINUTES – MSC.** At this time Margot invited Shelly to provide the Executive Director’s Report.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT: OVW AGREEMENT – Bridging South Dakota entered its final grant year as of October 1st. There continues to be an expectation that there will be funds available to prolong this project beyond September – possibly through March or June of 2017. The project cannot request the ‘no cost’ extension until a certain timeframe, so in the meantime we continue working on project activities as if it were ending in September. DRS – BVR/SILC Agreement – Shelly explained that this agreement ends as of 5/31/16. She is aware of some pending conversations around the level of SILC Staff provided and a potential need for greater staffing levels. This is coming from SILC leadership, and it is at least partially based upon the change to the “SILC supervising and evaluating its staff.” She will be in touch as progress occurs. DRS – BT AGREEMENT – This agreement also ends as of 5/31/16. Shelly will be talking with Bernie Grimme, DRS Deputy Director, about its continuation and related funding resources. Benefits training events have been scheduled for five communities in the months of April and May. CDD – SDAC AGREEMENT – This agreement runs on the calendar year. Shelly

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provided a brief overview of this agreement, the work we do and who on the staff carries out those activities. It runs from January 1st through December 31st. CDD – OS AGREEMENT – This agreement also runs for a calendar year. It provides outreach and support services to the Council on DD Executive Director. It is also providing some support for staff time involved in monitoring legislation, coordinating DAN activities and some other DAN related costs.

FINANCIAL PICTURE: FY2015 AUDIT – Concern was expressed about our growing indebtedness and the need to address it. As of the 2015 audit, it is at approximately \$29,000 and some time was spent discussing decisions made that have led to this outcome, as well as the immediate need to take steps to address it. Shelly shared that two individuals have agreed to donate \$5,000 to support hiring an outside firm to ‘lead’ a fundraising effort on our behalf, since we appear to not have the skills, desire or ability to be successful in such ventures. There was conversation of events, appeals, donor outreach. **MOTION TO USE THE \$5,000 DONATION TO HIRE AN ENTITY TO LEAD A FUNDRAISING EFFORT ON OUR BEHALF – MSC.** A couple of possible entities mentioned were Maximizing Excellence and Leading Edge Solutions of SD. Colleen agreed to contact Maximizing Excellence and see what they might be able to do for the amount of funds we have available to support the effort. Shelly will check into Leading Edge, even though one Board member indicated hearing that they were possibly not as viable as they had been earlier in their operations. It was then suggested that we need to set a goal for fundraising efforts. **MOTION THAT WE RAISE \$75,000 IN THE COMING YEAR – MSC.** All recognize this is a very optimistic goal, and yet one that is needed if we are to have funding to remove our indebtedness and enable us to pay for staff time dedicated to the activities key to the mission of the organization. There was also talk about a donor idea – it takes two – starting with the board taking the lead. There was a definite lack of response or interest in this idea at this time. There was also some talk of previous fundraising efforts and their outcomes, including asking all board members to make an annual donation in support of the organization. FY2016 BUDGET – The Board had asked Shelly to pull together a budget based on four months. This was sent out prior to the meeting, and at this time reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that there aren’t many areas

where reductions can be found. There is the possibility of lowering some projections as some costs occur at only one time of year and need to be averaged over the year, and some costs end up being paid twice in a month e.g., rent based on timing. Shelly was asked, and agreed, to find a way to identify on the budget those items that are cost-allocated out to other sources. **MOTION TO ACCEPT THE FOUR-MONTH BUDGET AS PRESENTED – MSC.** A question was asked if the budget would be annualized, and Shelly indicated she would be doing so following the meeting.

AVERA KELOLAND TRADITION OF CARING – Shelly reported that she has met with a KELO contact, and he shared that they would like to have our piece ready to air by the end of March. They see April/May/June as the time period when it would be run – prior to summer and tourist season, as well as prior to fall and the election season. We can provide a spot to them ready to go; or we can have them produce it for us. We can write the script or they can do so. A lengthy discussion followed on what our message needs to be; some comments were – message of the ADA, freedom of choice, leadership, institutional dependency, the future of the rights of people with disabilities. Jack volunteered to work on two scripts, and have them to Shelly by Monday. In the meantime, Shelly will contact the KELO representative to see if we produce the pieces, can we have two and run one for several weeks, followed by running the other the remaining weeks. Shelly will also request a breakdown of what the grant award will 'buy' for us, and she will seek further information on what KELO can 'do' for us. Jack indicated he might know some people who would produce the pieces with no cost to us, which would allow for a boarder 'buy' with the funds the grant is providing to us.

OTHER BUSINESS: No other business was brought forward at this time.

CLOSING ACTIONS: SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – Consensus was to hold the next meeting face-to-face in Oacoma on April 6th.