

## **COALITION Board Meeting Minutes**

June 15, 2017

SD Rehabilitation Center for the Blind/Sioux Falls

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Matt Cain, Colleen Moran, Tom Kober and by phone Keven Moulton and John Baxter. **MEMBERS ABSENT:** David Scherer, Margot Burton, Jack Mortenson and Lori Bohm. **STAFF PRESENT;** Shelly Pfaff. **OTHERS PRESENT:** Rick Norris and Ann Munce, interpreters.

**OPENING ACTIONS:** WELCOME - Tom called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Tom asked if there were any additions or changes. Hearing none - **MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA – MADE (M), SECONDED (S) AND CARRIED (C).** APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Tom checked to see if all had reviewed the April minutes. He called for any changes. Upon hearing none, it was determined that Matt was the only member present – other than the Chair – who was at the April meeting. Action was deferred until the next meeting.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:** DRS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL BVR/SILC SUPPORT – Shelly reported that the new agreement is in process within the Department of Human Services (DHS). The total amount for the first year is \$190,639.61 which is a decrease over the last year of \$3,989.88; the decrease is based upon historical costs and thus more accurately reflects actual expenditures and costs incurred in carrying out these activities. DRS/BT AGREEMENT – Shelly reported that this agreement is in process within DHS. The removal of any support for the Freedom to Work website, development of success stories and information and referral has resulted in a significant decrease in the total amount of this agreement. It now purchases hours in support of actual benefits training services and preparation hours. The total agreement for the new year is \$10,844.70. We were expecting this decrease, and the board had been alerted to these pending changes at earlier meetings. OVW – BRIDGING SD – Shelly reported that an application has been submitted to the Bush Foundation for \$200,000 for two years. The collaboration is also pursuing an OVW continuation grant. We’re awaiting the outcome of these

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processes. The current agreement carries us through the end of September.

There were questions about maintaining current staffing levels, and Shelly reported that she will be examining funding we know will be continuing to see if any additional staffing adjustments will be needed. She is hopeful that we will be able to maintain our current staffing level.

**FINANCIAL REPORT: RAFFLE REPORT** – A written report was handed out and reviewed (see attached). Dialogue following the review of the report focused on pros and cons of the effort, how to build our relationship with Dakotamart to increase sales by their staff and what might be our future fundraising efforts. It was agreed that we need to fully evaluate what worked and didn't work with this effort, and then begin building on what did so future efforts are stronger and reap a greater outcome. A couple of other suggestions were raised – holding a raffle of a smaller item e.g., gun and again working with the Dakotamart in Pierre. An appeal to those working with us on advocacy issues seeking support of these efforts. Colleen, Matt and Tom agreed to work with Shelly on a future raffle effort prior to and during hunting season. **FINANCIAL REPORT** – A profit and loss year to date comparison report ending May 31<sup>st</sup> was handed out (see attached) and reviewed. Consensus was that we are now at a better place financially. Shelly went on to explain that we are not where we need to be in terms of securing our future. Of the positive balance showing on the report - \$10,000 is held for DDD, \$15,000 if held for BVR, \$5,000 is the SDCF and if we had to pay the remaining annual leave balances of our staff, it presently equals approximately \$19,000. She shared this so all would realize we need to continue on the current staffing and fundraising courses.

**REVIEW OF EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS POLICY:**

Shelly had prepared a handout providing some background information on these matters (emailed prior to meeting), and it was reviewed at this time. Dialogue followed on how employer approaches to these matters have changed significantly since we instituted our policies. Shelly was directed to gather information on what small employers are offering in terms of benefits and be prepared to bring it to the next meeting. There was also

talk of moving to PTO – paid time off – which is mechanism that many employers are now using in lieu of annual, sick, etc. This will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

**SD COMMUNITY FOUNDATION GRANT:** Shelly provided an overview of the intent of this effort. She indicated a desire to host the initial Sioux Falls and Rapid City meetings by the end of September. These initial meetings will involve current and former organizational/disability advocacy network members. It was suggested that we formulate the questions asked to get specific feedback that will truly assist us in formulating future efforts. Matt and Colleen agreed to assist in organizing the Sioux Falls event. Consensus was that holding a breakfast or lunch meeting will draw more people – food always brings people to an event...

**DEATH WITH DIGNITY:** Dr. Fred Deutsch has been in touch seeking our position on this pending issue in South Dakota. He has been persistent in following up to see what our position is and whether or not we will be a part of a coalition he is forming to fight a ballot measure that would seek to allow this in South Dakota. At this time, our board clearly stated that we are not ready to take any position on any issue until we know the exact language which is going to be considered and if, indeed, it is going to be on the ballot. If Shelly is contacted by Dr. Deutsch or others on this matter, that is to be her response at this time.

**DISABILITY ADVOCACY NETWORK REPORT:** The DAN has been meeting via conference call every other week due to the pending actions in Washington on healthcare and budget. Staff has also been posting a considerable amount of information on these issues using Facebook and email alerts, supporting those potentially impacted by these decisions in their efforts to contact decision makers about the impact of their decisions. There will be another meeting next Wednesday. Shelly is uncertain how long the DAN will meet at this frequency.

**BOARD ELECTION PROCESS:** Three current members' terms are due to end. Two have indicated a desire to not run for another term – David Scherer and Jack Mortenson. Matt has agreed to run for another term. We have received nominations from Beth Haug of Spearfish and Vicki Kerkvliet

of Sioux Falls. We are awaiting a nomination from Nancy Schlichenmeyer of Pierre. Shelly is not aware of any other nominations. Nominations are due in the office by July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING BOARD MEMBERS – Shelly asked if we wanted to present outgoing board members with some token of appreciation. We have done so in the past. Consensus was to do so. Shelly was directed to purchase such and present (send) it to the individuals at an appropriate time.

**CLOSING ACTIONS:** SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING – Consensus was to hold the next meeting on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, in Oacoma from 12 noon to 3 pm (CT). Staff will check on making needed arrangements for this meeting. One topic for an upcoming meeting will be board training.  
ADJOURNMENT – Hearing no other business, **MOTION TO ADJOURN – MSC.** Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:15 pm.