

DIRECTOR  
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# FREMONT COUNTY

COUNTY BOARD  
Kevin Grantham Dist. 1  
Debbie Bell Dist. 2  
Dwayne McFall Dist. 3

## Department of Human Services

172 Justice Center Road  
Canon City, CO 81212

June 29, 2021  
2021 MEETING #6

The Fremont County Board of Human Services (BOHS) met in Regular Session Tuesday, June 29, 2021 in Conference Room 207 at the Fremont County Administration Building, 615 Macon, Cañon City, Colorado. Chairman Grantham called the meeting to order at 2:16 p.m. Those present included:

Kevin Grantham	Chairman	Present
Dwayne McFall	Chairman Pro Tem	Present
Debbie Bell	Treasurer	Present

Also present: Sunny Bryant, Fremont County Manager, Stacie Kwitek-Russell, Director, Department of Human Services (DHS), and Tony Carochi, Director-Elect (DHS).

**MINUTES:** Board Member McFall moved, duly seconded by Board Member Bell to accept the minutes of the May 25, 2021 meeting with no additions or deletions. Upon vote: Board Member Grantham, aye; Board Member McFall, aye; Board Member Bell, aye. The motion carried.

**AGENDA:** There were no additions or corrections to the agenda requested. Board Member Bell moved, duly seconded by Board Member McFall to approve the June 29, 2021 meeting agenda. Upon vote: Board Member McFall, aye; Board Member Grantham, aye; Board Member Bell, aye. The motion carried.

**FINANCIAL/CASELOAD REPORT:** Stacie Kwitek-Russell stated the HCPF and CORE allocations are forecasted to be slightly overspent, but can be covered with other funds. After discussion, Board Member McFall moved, duly seconded by Board Member Bell to accept the May financial and caseload reports. Upon vote: Board Member McFall, aye; Board Member Bell, aye; Board Member Grantham, aye. The motion carried.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT:** Stacie Kwitek-Russell provided the Board with a written report summarizing the last month's activity that has taken place within the Department. She informed those present that Anna Carochi was selected as the Homeless Outreach Coordinator position, and that there will be another meeting Friday for the Safe Outdoor Space. Commissioner McFall asked about DHS and COG looking into purchasing a hotel for transitional housing. Stacie said there has been a discussion with COG, the City of Canon City, and DHS. Commissioner Bell then asked how the transition of Directors at DHS is going, and Stacie Kwitek-Russell said it's going well. They are moving offices, and meeting with various groups and people. Director Kwitek-Russell also discussed Medicaid putting together an overflow processing center that will be open to counties to apply for the center to be housed and run by their county. She said she'll keep the Board informed of new developments. After a full discussion, Board Member Bell moved, duly seconded by Board Member McFall, to accept the monthly report. Upon vote: Board Member McFall, aye; Board Member Bell, aye; Board Member Grantham, aye. The motion carried.

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**The mission of the Fremont County Department of Human Services is to provide support and essential services to enrich the quality of life for members of our community.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Stacie Kwitek-Russell said no counties are buying TANF this year, but a plan to give stipends to kinship families will utilize \$127,500 of the remaining allocation.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

The first item under New Business was the appointment of Director to Tony Carochi and the ratification of signature on his employment contract. After discussion, Board Member McFall moved, duly seconded by Board Member Bell to approve the signature of the contract and appoint Tony Carochi as the new Director of DHS. Upon vote: Board Member McFall, aye; Board Member Bell, aye; Board Member Grantham, aye. The motion carried.

Stacie Kwitek-Russell then discussed the crisis in Child Welfare. She said staffing is at a critical level. Other teams are trying to cover the two FEM Facilitator positions that have been posted twice with no applicants, and we are at the point where we need to do something creative. Exempt employees are covering for the staffing shortage and they are getting burned out. There was discussion regarding possibly having hiring bonuses, and exempt versus non-exempt statuses. Stacie Kwitek-Russell will put together a proposal for everyone to review. Commissioner Grantham asked where the ideal candidates would come from and Tony Carochi said DOC would be an option. All agreed the entire county is struggling getting applicants.

Commissioner McFall then asked what impact the deputies have made working at the department, and Stacie said having them has been helpful.

With there being no other business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at approximately 3:05 p.m.



Chairman, Fremont County Board of Human Services

07/27/2021

Date



Secretary

07/27/2021

Date

STATE OF COLORADO  
COUNTY OF FREMONT

ATHORIZATIONS AND PAYMENTS MADE BY FREMONT COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

ELECTRONIC BENEFIT TRANSACTIONS FOR JUNE 2021

\$ 2,916,997.58

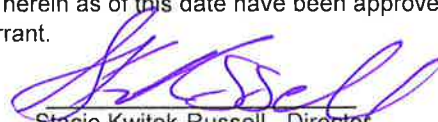
WARRANTS ISSUED JUNE 24, 2021 THROUGH JULY 21, 2021

6/24/2021	242,045.74
6/30/2021	160,538.67
7/12/2021	309,168.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>711,752.47</b>

I, STACIE KWITEK-RUSSELL, Director of the Department of Human Services, of Fremont County, Colorado, hereby certify that the payments as set forth herein as of this date have been approved and authorized to be issued through the EBT system or warrant.

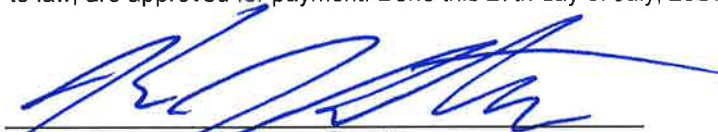
7/27/2021

Date



Stacie Kwitek-Russell, Director

We the undersigned Fremont County Board of Commissioners acting in the capacity of Fremont County Board of Human Services do hereby certify the above EBT authorizations and ratify the warrants issued, having been properly certified by the Director of Fremont County Department of Human Services according to law, are approved for payment. Done this 27th day of July, 2021.



Chairman Grantham



Commissioner Bell



Commissioner McFall

