



## **Official Proceedings of the Buffalo Bridges Human Service Zone Board - March 1, 2022**

At 11:01 a.m., Zone Director, Emeline Burkett called the regular meeting (via Teams Meeting) of the Buffalo Bridges Human Service Zone Board to order. Steve Cichos, Tom Overn, Shawn Olausen, Tracy Johnk, Gayle Nelson, and Lisa Johnson was present. Wanda Larson Site Supervisor (Barnes Office), and Elise Miller EW Supervisor attended.

Overn made a motion, seconded by Nelson, to approve the presented minutes. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried.

Olausen made a motion to approve the presented vouchers, seconded by Johnson. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried.

Burkett updated the board on changes within the department. The Department of Health and Department of Human Services will merge and be called Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) beginning on September 1, 2022. Chris Jones will be the Commissioner and Sara Stolt will be the Deputy Commissioner. Burkett showed the board the new organization chart that includes these changes.

Elise Miller joined the meeting to talk about the changes in Eligibility with the redesign. The redesign is to balance the workload and efficiencies across the state. The state will be divided into 4 regions and the workload will be distributed amongst the regions.

In other business Burkett discussed the foster youth we have been housing. The state wants to have a conference call about the cost and transition plans for this youth. Path has observed this youth and has written up a brief of what type of a family they hope to recruit and put it on their website. Burkett also informed the board we have one open position in Stutsman and one open position in Barnes. References are being called for the Barnes position.

The April 5, 2022, Zone Board meeting will be held both in person and virtually through Teams. At 12:03 p.m., Overn made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nelson. Motion carried.

ATTEST:

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Emeline Burkett, Zone Director

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Gayle Nelson, Secretary