

# Board of Directors Meeting

Nov 16, 2022 • 11:00 AM - 1:13 PM • Rochelle Miller • Zoom

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**Rochelle Miller** 00:00

Quite a bit of wind wind. Yeah. But, I mean, and I'm sure, because it, you know, did you say Mary Jo, did you say you've been a hurricane before? Yeah, I have.

**Attendees: Rochelle Miller, Elizabeth Mahoney,  
Lou Steinberg, Kate Howell, Mary Jo Brockshus**

**Speaker 1** 00:14

I can't remember the name of it. I was probably too drunk to remember.

**Rochelle Miller** 00:17

It's a party, but we were a little drunk and, and only 19. Do you all know Allison handling? I mean, I can't imagine, you know, Allison handling. So we got in early, and we had to switch everything around, and we had to grab up whatever hotel we could, you know, it was just like a last minute grab this hotel that's close to Disney springs. Sean, my husband is on his phone. We're just like, we just checked in. We're sitting in, it was a holiday Inn right there, but it was like one of the old John Hammond ones that had like the bar.

**Rochelle Miller** 00:52

And the, we just looked for a place with a bar. Would have to, we like, does it have a bar? No, okay, that one. And it, but it would look like the Embassy suite, or the Embassy suites kind of had that. And, you know, all the hotel rooms face the inside, and it had the bar downstairs and everything. So we're sitting there and he's on his phone, and he's like, what the and he worked with Brian, Allison's husband at Ames for years.

**Speaker 1** 01:20

Well, and weren't they both in radio?

**Rochelle Miller** 01:22

But one point in time to Allison that you're thinking of Allison handling Alison Dunning, the balloon lady. Do you know the balloon artist out they own the merry makers?

**Speaker 1** 01:36

I don't know her.

**Rochelle Miller** 01:37

Oh, did I say handling. I meant Dunning. I'm sorry, the two, Allison's, I know both have similar names, but we're sitting there and he looking at like Facebook or something, and he's like, this looks like that event that's going on in the convention area, because we were going to message them and say, hey, there's a balloon thing going on here. Like anytime you go to some big green the event, and there's like a big balloon arch or there's some big balloon thing, that's the merry makers balloon folks. And, and that Allison is always in the Northern Colorado women's group. I think both of them are, but, you know, they're yeah. So he goes over to use the restroom, and he's messaging Brian and, and see someone, and he's like, hey, I'm just wondering, you know, are the, the handlings here from merry makers?

**Rochelle Miller** 02:28

And they're like, Oh my God, Allison. And she's right there. And so we like, we get to go into like the balloon convention and they're having like this big old rocket party and hurricane party. It was fun. It was so strange. It was so weird. And yeah, they're a bunch of, they're a bunch of balloon party animals.

**Rochelle Miller** 02:49

But if you don't like balloons popping, if that's an issue for you, it was a nightmare.

**Speaker 1** 02:54

But I hate balloons, period.

**Rochelle Miller** 02:56

Yeah, my, my daughter does too. She has like a terrible fear of balloon.

**Speaker 1** 03:00

Well, you're in my heights. Every little kid that's carrying a balloon is my face height. They got a string on it is like right in my face. I can't stand them. You sit there, there's, they're gonna be doing a big thing in Greeley where they're gonna do as many balloons as I mean, it's gonna be like a world with and it's a fundraiser.

**Rochelle Miller** 03:20

And I talked to her about that. What that it's next year, I think. Is it?

**Speaker 1** 03:26

Yeah, this coming year.

**Rochelle Miller** 03:29

I love balloons, but Mary Joe, it's gonna be really cool. They're doing one in Kansas right now. And because she told me to look at it up, and they're doing it for the children's sexual abuse fund of what used to be Saa, but it's just the one for children.

**Speaker 2** 03:47

Now that's what stories. Julie was a volunteer for Saa life stories.

**Rochelle Miller** 03:54

That's it. They changed the children's one. Thank you, Elizabeth. They changed to life stories. But I told her, I'm like, okay, and is the one for connections for people with disabilities? And she's like, yeah, we need to chat. That was fun.

**Speaker 2** 04:05

I just call me anyway.

**Speaker 1** 04:08

Hey, Rochelle, before we get into the meeting, when I was at my ambassadors meeting last night, they mentioned that they're going to do like a Greeley gives day, kind of like a Colorado gives day as well.

**Rochelle Miller** 04:25

Okay.

**Speaker 1** 04:26

And I was wondering if they reached out. They said they reached out to everybody in Greeley that was on the Colorado gives day list.

**Rochelle Miller** 04:34

Let me just check with Jessica. And it's Greeley ambassadors club ambassadors.

**Speaker 1** 04:41

Ben from my who's on the really chamber ambassadors. Mentioned it through the young professionals club. Barn, heart barn.

**Rochelle Miller** 04:52

Ben bar Hart, I'll make sure we should be on it. But Jessica gets that those emails, so I'll make sure that we've got it though.

**Speaker 1** 05:01

Okay, perfect. We miss I did update.

**Speaker 3** 05:14

Well, sorry, Mary joy. Should have texted you. I did update because she and I spoke a few minutes ago, but Tony had a kind of family emergency so he's potentially not going to be here. He hasn't texted me, so I would imagine he's not going to be here. Kate, I would have been in the office had I not that you were gonna be with Mary Jo in your private offices. Now I'm mad I'm not down there.

**Speaker 1** 05:41

She said, in our office.

**Speaker 3** 05:43

Oh, I thought was connections.

**Rochelle Miller** 05:46

Oh, no. Our room, office, that's nicer room than ours.

**Speaker 3** 05:50

I kept wondering, where is this room that Kate keeps showing up in?

**Speaker 1** 05:55

Well, I was good. I was going to be there, but I haven't had blinkers on my for the last two weeks. They can't figure out what's going on with it. So I really finally switched over to, I was trying to have a local guy that I work with, I've got his listing and he couldn't fix it, so I took it to Toyota. Supposed to have the part in two days, but driving without blink blinkers after last night, and about getting rearend because blinkers on. I said, you know, I think I'm not going to drive until I absolutely have to now or get back to the old hand signals. Well, hey, I did do that on the way home.

**Speaker 1** 06:37

Slow down. Yeah, slow down on Monday night. But last night it was by the time I got done with with a chamber ambassadors. It was 6:00, so it was pitch blackout. So I'm on 85. Trying to use hand signals. That doesn't work very well.

**Speaker 3** 06:52

No, not in the dark. No, it doesn't in the dark in general.

**Speaker 1** 06:57

Yeah.

**Rochelle Miller** 06:57

Okay, before can I please have everybody just go around and state their name. And hopefully that will help our Bot, our new meeting Bot that you'll see in the corner, if you're seeing a black box that just says Rochelle Miller with an apostrophe there, that is, that is the Sembly agent. That is a computerized, artificial intelligent meeting taker, meeting minutes and note taker that we are trying out. And you will receive your minutes in a totally different format this time. But you'll be able to go back to certain markers on the meeting and listen to something again, if you need to actually listen to it rather than just read it. And I would also ask, does anybody need captions on as well?

**Speaker 3** 07:54

I'll take them.

**Rochelle Miller** 07:56

I'll put them on.

**Speaker 3** 07:57

Thank you.

**Rochelle Miller** 07:59

Elizabeth, you start us off with reading, or just saying your name and what your position is, and that might help me a little bit.

**Speaker 2** 08:06

Elizabeth Mahoney cochair, blue ster finance chair, Mary Joe Bros cochair, Kate Howell, vice chair.

**Rochelle Miller** 08:29

Awesome. And Rachel Miller, I did the paragraph in Sembly ai. I might actually have you all sign up for a free account if we like this service. And then what it does is it just gives you a little paragraph I read from Alice in Wonderland, just like one paragraph, and then it recognizes your voice, and it will tag us through the meeting correctly.

**Speaker 3** 08:56

So got you.

**Speaker 2** 08:57

Thank you.

**Rochelle Miller** 09:02

The future is starting now.

**Speaker 1** 09:06

All right, what do we call the meeting to order at eleven nine. Elizabeth, do you want me to go from here, or do you want to go or what do you want to do?

**Speaker 3** 09:25

We, we haven't planned, we did not. If you want to, that would be great.

**Speaker 1** 09:30

Okay, we'll do well, there was, we there was no review and acceptance of any digital votes. So we're gonna move on to the financials review meeting. Minutes. Wait a second. Minutes. Hello, and go back to the minutes. Everybody has everybody had a chance to read the minutes?

**Rochelle Miller** 09:52

Yeah, I did.

**Speaker 3** 09:54

I have a few things. The bog is not great with punctuation.

**Rochelle Miller** 09:59

Those were those. That was not the Bot last time.

**Speaker 1** 10:03

Okay, okay. Okay, well, what are the changes?

**Rochelle Miller** 10:08

I'll just work with the Carol on them. If you say them, Carol's actually not going to be working on the minutes anymore. So if you put them in this document, I will make sure that they get done on the last one. Okay, if you out loud and say, we can say action item for minutes.

**Speaker 3** 10:29

Hold on. Okay, I don't have them up.

**Rochelle Miller** 10:34

I'm pulling, I'm sorry. I am going to pull them up. I was just trying to scroll back through. I apologize. I do have quite a few emails from being out well, and that's here you think.

**Speaker 2** 10:50

I mean, you get corrections, Elizabeth made, but we need to put them in this document.

**Rochelle Miller** 10:58

I appreciate that. I just want to get them into the ai document currently, if that's right. And I'm so sorry, I am not finding where.

**Speaker 3** 11:17

Let me, let me do it. But let me just get to it 1st.

**Rochelle Miller** 11:21

Sorry, I had everything else, and I have that too.

**Speaker 1** 11:28

I could have done it, but I don't know what I'm doing.

**Speaker 3** 11:30

So I can do it there, Matt myself, because I have all highlight yesterday and close out the document. So sorry, everyone. It's gonna take us some extra minute.

**Speaker 1** 11:52

Okay, not a problem.

**Speaker 3** 11:54

So 1st action item for the minutes under financial report. Second paragraph, between year and other, there needs to be a space 3rd or second action item under old business, there needs to be removal of a period before old business. 3rd action and item under operations, there needs to be a period removed after report. This is like heavy scanning right now.

**Rochelle Miller** 12:53

I'll grab one in the 3rd paragraph. Under new business, there needs to be a completion of the sentence level of sentence. Yep.

**Speaker 3** 13:01

Thank you for that. That was the one I was getting to. And in the under bucket of possibilities.

**Rochelle Miller** 13:19

So the last page, there needs to be a space removed between Wednesday and eleven, and one remove between at a and meeting in the second second sentence in that paragraph, that paragraph needs needs multiple spaces removed. Yeah, I think that was it for for me and Elizabeth, I will say, I don't think you're going to love the minutes that we're getting from Sembly ai. They are not going to look the way we're looking at them now. So they will lots of grammatical issues. And I just don't know that we've got the resources to go in and completely fix them, unless that something you want to put a board member on.

**Speaker 3** 14:02

Well, yeah, I mean, and I think that's a great question. The only reason why I feel like I am a little, maybe nitpicky is because it's public, but we don't have public minutes.

**Rochelle Miller** 14:12

We're not, they're not under the sunshine law.

**Speaker 3** 14:15

Okay, okay, well, that's good to know. All right.

**Rochelle Miller** 14:19

So can give them out. Good news.

**Speaker 3** 14:21

But yeah, and the good news is, I mean, that's definitely good to know. And the good news is, too, is that, you know, with Tony transitioning to secretary, I'll let him make that decision moving forward. But, but all right, we need to make your motion now.

**Speaker 2** 14:52

Sure. So moved to accept the as corrected.

**Speaker 4** 15:00

Kate, second, any discussion.

**Speaker 1** 15:05

All in favor a right now I can say we didn't have any digital votes, and now we're on to financials.

**Speaker 2** 15:17

We made money last month.

**Rochelle Miller** 15:22

Isn't that so exciting? Is it the so it was so exciting, wasn't it? That is the 1st we see.

**Speaker 2** 15:29

I made 3,000 change, \$3464.01. Now, what does that mean? Not because of the way we get funded and the way our operating expenses go, but it's nice to see that it's in the black and not the red as usual. So we've caught up to some of our funding, and that means a profit basically goes into reserve for any other month that we show a negative. And we're into new fiscal year. So basically it's very early in the year to be showing a profit.

**Speaker 1** 16:21

Well, looks like we get a good budget going.

**Speaker 2** 16:24

Yeah. So so far, so good. Our balance sheet looks good. Our aging, you know, we have a couple of 60 day, but totally \$675. And it's two clients, one of which is university Colorado and the other is Glenn Smith.

**Speaker 1** 16:52

Gina Smith. So is Gina Smith.

**Speaker 2** 16:55

I have no idea.

**Rochelle Miller** 16:57

A private client. And she has paid, every of those are paid up. Now we're totally caught up.

**Speaker 2** 17:03

Okay, so they saw up. But what about boulder?

**Rochelle Miller** 17:06

Boulder is on its way. We had to have a new page signed in order to process through the way that their piece goes. It's just, it's one of those longer processes because they are a large agency with federal and state money.

**Speaker 2** 17:25

I'm sorry, biotic, because we don't want what happened at UC there.

**Rochelle Miller** 17:31

Did you want me to pull up the p and L or the balance sheet or anything else?

**Speaker 2** 17:35

Lou, I'm sorry, he's got a copy. Did you make copies?

**Speaker 1** 17:38

Review the copies. I reviewed. I reviewed them.

**Speaker 2** 17:42

I don't know if everybody else has looked at does anybody have any questions about it? No, I think we're good. I mean, there really, there really aren't a lot of questions regarding it, particularly being we actually came out in the black this but so, and you answered to one question, who's Gina Smith? And what's happening with boulder? Those were the only two items. So we're in line. Perfect.

**Speaker 2** 18:17

Well, my report.

**Speaker 1** 18:20

Oh, all right. So then we're on to the director's dashboard, which I love this.

**Rochelle Miller** 18:28

I hate to, I hate to back us up for 1 s, because I do want to just make sure, can everybody see the financial dashboard that I have up on there? I wanted to remind you that we really should be in that eight to 9 % range each month. I because you are wanting to stay in that sweet spot, like we called it before. And so if you take a peek at this entire, you know, income and expenses list, that everything, and like Lou said, this was our 1st month of the entire fiscal year, but we should be close within that range. And as long as we're understanding why we would be popping out of that eight, 9 % sweet spot, then we're pretty well on target. If you see an anomaly outside of that, then we should be digging into, like, maybe it was because, I don't know, staff did not use their, their, their training budget, or we purchased cell phones. You will see an anomaly in October's budget.

**Rochelle Miller** 19:43

No, I'm sorry, November, or in November, in November's monthly budget, because we did decide to get rid of verizon one talk. It was terrible. We really tried. And we were a little attached to it emotionally, because Colin had started that project. And it was awful.

**Speaker 1** 20:04

And we, what was it? What is that?

**Rochelle Miller** 20:07

So it was VoIP voiceover internet provider. And it was supposed to be, you know, something, a replacement that people could transfer easily from work, from home and here and take. And people were like lugging their phones back at, like, like a desk phone. They were lugging a desk phone to and from back and forth. And that messaging service was awful. And so after a lot of figuring it out and figuring out how we, because we are, there's, there's still times where we have to have a fax line because of department of housing requires us to have a fax line. And we have to receive and, and do faxes and send out faxes.

**Rochelle Miller** 20:58

And we were just really kind of looking over who could use it, how they could use it. We've decided finally to work with our rep and we went to all cell phones.

**Speaker 2** 21:09

And so, you know, you can have e facts, there's a service for \$33.

**Rochelle Miller** 21:15

They won't accept it. It has to be over a phone line. And so we had to buy is over it. It was so we did keep, because of our internet, we were able to keep one phone line that was the same number. Department of housing, like is in the stone age. And so, because we have to send people six social security numbers, and it has to be HIPAA compliant. It was, it's just, we finally figured it out.

**Rochelle Miller** 21:47

We got rid of 16 lines that we weren't using. We've figured it out to the fact of that once we get our discounts and our rebates for the phones and everything, and part of our stuff was already using cell phones, and it was just very Mod pudgy. And so that's going to be a little bit of a bump that you'll see. But then we're going to be receiving a rebate. We should be within \$100 monthly of our budgeted amount for phone services, which is one of our more expensive utilities. But the good news is, is that we just got on the, is it a Lou or Allo or Allo. It's like the plant?

**Speaker 2** 22:26

Fiber optic.

**Speaker 3** 22:27

Yes, yes.

**Rochelle Miller** 22:29

So we are. We were, we've been on the waiting list. And the building next to us was get, they were in our parking lot and literally installing it in Colette pitch building next door, and we were not eligible yet. So they like hadn't brought it like 5 ft this way. And this past week they finally told us we're on it. And that's gonna be the hundred dollars.

**Speaker 2** 22:51

It's gonna and here's a funny story about all the guy that's here that runs the Allo having lunch with my son, and they're talking, and the guy says, yeah, I used to live in Northern California. And Rob says, where? And he goes, Oh, a town called Petaluma. And Rob goes, well, that's my hometown. He goes, well, that's our hometown. He goes, my kids go there back and forth because they consider it their hometown. My kids even graduate from high school there.

**Speaker 2** 23:30

So Rob says, well, when did your son graduate? And he graduated, like in 2008. And Rob said, my dad may given your son is diploma. The guy goes home, and he knows me because he's in the rotary, right? He goes home and he sends Rob a picture of me handing his son his diploma.

**Rochelle Miller** 23:54

Oh, my gosh. Small world. That's a good story, Lou, that is it. That's a very small world. That's scattering, Roy out all of your go from Petaluma, California to Greeley, Colorado to not, it's not like they went from a to Denver. That's pretty funny.

**Speaker 2** 24:20

That was pretty funny story.

**Rochelle Miller** 24:22

Okay, moving those so we are, I mean, that's just enough. Why I a couple of little budget things to look for, is that, and I did not actually include myself in the cell phone because I did not want to have to have people get used to a different number. And for the next like month and a half, my husband still works for verizon. So I will keep that. And so, but I don't know that that might not change in January if I am needing to be on our plan and he didn't get fired, they are laying on lot of people, but he accepted another position. And so he's going to be starting a new job in January, which does give you guys a little bit of a breather with me, because I don't think that I would accept anything new in the interim. I don't think both of us need to start new jobs anytime soon.

**Rochelle Miller** 25:17

And not that there's anything else out there right now. I'm just saying I still will be, you know, putting my hat in the ring for the Atlantis position. But like we said, that could be a very easy transition. But I do also want to say that my insurance, I'm the cheapest person we have in connections. Cheapest. I'm the cheapest person we have for connection insurance wise. And my insurance is going to go up.

**Rochelle Miller** 25:42

So I am going to be utilizing a little bit more of the reimbursement. So I may have to do a little tweak of that projection, but I know we put a buffer in there in case anybody's insurance went up. So that's all, that's the only thing I can kind of forewarn you for November to take a peek at.

**Speaker 1** 26:05

Okay, it was, I get the agenda, because it's and, okay, we're on the director's dashboard.

**Rochelle Miller** 26:16

All right. Can everybody see the director's dashboard on there? Now, did I share the correct screen?

**Speaker 2** 26:21

You make it a little bit larger?

**Rochelle Miller** 26:25

Yeah, this is always a fun one to look at, because it's the 1st one of the fiscal year, so there's not a whole lot of activity on this one, and everything's in green, because what could go wrong at this point, really. So that is where we are at. I did let, I did keep it on here that everybody participated in September at the board staff retreat to round out that goal, and let us know that that goal was completed for our fiscal year, that all of our state and private audits were completed. We will have a new finance policy procedure work a book for you to our finance not a workbook finance procedures and policy document for you to look at at the December. No, I'm sorry. It'll probably go out in a digital vote. And that included the recommendation from the state entity of what they would like to have us see in there, as there were three sections that we were going to update.



**Rochelle Miller** 27:36

I'm going through that right now with James, and we are making sure that that is all correct. We have had excellent meetings with our new auditors. I am super pleased with the response time with them. I thank you for choosing them. I think it was a really good choice so far. I know we're still in the honeymoon phase, but so far, so good. Our old auditor, BDO, I've had a little bit of a beef with, and you're going to love this one for our finance folks here.

**Rochelle Miller** 28:10

Normally when you change auditors, you have the one auditor make a request. There's a management letter that I have to sign that says it's okay for the old auditor to give records to the new auditor. It doesn't help, or it doesn't make a difference. That we have shared everything with the new auditor. The new auditor's responsibility under general accounting practices is that they have to specifically look at the way that the old auditor did our audit to say that there's nothing that they have to go back through in any indepth. Normally, this is part of your process. This isn't anything of any issue.

**Rochelle Miller** 28:54

I had a very difficult time getting a hold of video for them to share the records that needed to be shared with our new audit. And then I received a Bill for a thousand dollars. Oh geez, whoa. And I had a coronary. It was not a good day. And I basically sent them a letter saying that, that they were completely taking advantage of nonprofits, that I had had a really difficult time getting in touch with them. We had a terrible experience with their team.

**Rochelle Miller** 29:28

And on top of it, the cherry on the top was that they slipped in this fee, and that was unacceptable. Who do I escalate this with? I've heard back from them one time. And then I asked again, to whom do I escalate this with? And I have not heard back from them, so I'm letting it lie. And I've checked with our new auditor. I've checked with James.

**Rochelle Miller** 29:55

Neither of them had heard of this practice. James to the conference. He asked around, because they were horrified. He asked around and said, it is starting to become a practice, but it's usually given to folks way upfront and saying, this is something we're adding in, not just slow it in at the last minute, but B this is stuff that they should disclose in yeah, for the brand, Morgan from weld community foundation recently, within the last couple months, put a survey out to all the directors in Northern Colorado asking about our auditors. I would say ten out of the agencies said that they used to use BDO and all had changed. Every single one of them. Nobody.

**Rochelle Miller** 30:40

So they're bleeding clients. And I don't think they care about the small nonprofit anymore. We are not their fish.

**Speaker 2** 30:47

Yeah, they, their fees were exorbitant because we're not their fish.

**Rochelle Miller** 30:51

So I think that was their plan is just to get the small ones out. Well, they did. But I will fight.

**Speaker 2** 31:00

And board members work for larger ones that require audits, right?

**Rochelle Miller** 31:05

They're gonna, that one be earning the small bridges doesn't keep the large bridges protected, right?

**Speaker 2** 31:13

Well, I mean, it's like, if you look at the board of directors with the small ones, most of our multiple boards and tend to be on some of the larger ones as well. And if they get burned on one, they're gonna, they're gonna take them out on, on the large board that they're I mean, that stupid practice.

**Rochelle Miller** 31:48

I actually had even thought about it that way, Lou, so that's, that's a really good point. But I was, I will let you know that I'm going to do everything I can to not have that fee. I just, it was just ridiculous. Our new auditor said she spent it. They gave them a link and a file, and she went in and spent maybe 35 Min in there getting what she needed. And they were both, I mean, they're all, our new auditor and James were all willing to like, help me write a letter to dispute the charge. So that's where we're going to go with that.

**Speaker 2** 32:29

I'll move along now down there in Albuquerque, really nice.

**Rochelle Miller** 32:35

Yeah. And they've really responsive. We have everything ready to go. We start our, we've already started our new audit process, and we will be officially beginning on November 21. So next week, audits are off to the races. You will all keep you updated. And when you get that letter, when you will let you know when you'll be receiving that letter.

**Rochelle Miller** 32:57

But I think this one's going to go a lot faster than last year, because they're a lot more responsive.

**Speaker 2** 33:02

Well, they have more staff.

**Rochelle Miller** 33:06

They have more, they have less staff, but they have more designated staff to us. I mean, yeah, yeah, that the ADC Grant is going well. We had a very large presence at project connect, and that was extremely successful. We had a lot of folks that needed information about long haul covered. We had a lot of folks that are coming to us now with needing support with long haul covered. And you might have received an email from Michelle mesh, our ADC representative, and she would like any meeting opportunities that you have. She has a beautiful presentation that talks about long haul covered symptoms and what to do when and what kind of support connections can give for anybody who has any long haul covered symptoms.

**Rochelle Miller** 34:01

Also heard the terrifying term of the trie used this morning with SR. RB, rsv, thank you. I got the letters mixed up. Rsv, covered in the flu. That's why we're all back in masks over here. State general funds in part B Grant. Quick update on the going to stop sharing my screen right at this moment.

**Rochelle Miller** 34:28

Quick update on the contract negotiations. We are being told by the state of Colorado that our contract with them is going to be extended one year. We asked, as all of the state directors, we assembled some questions and asked whose decision that was. And it turned out that that was Peter Pike's decision, kind of made in a vacuum. So we are questioning that decision. And we have a meeting with Joe Barre, who is the director of the Colorado department of Labor and employment at tomorrow. So we have some other questions on that.

**Rochelle Miller** 35:06

If we can renegotiate some of our items on there, including being reinstated back up to our original fee structure, and there's a couple of other smaller pieces in there. The piece that I'm working on the most is that there's not been any structure that the state has ever provided to us in how we negotiate these contracts. We have no scope defined. We have no committee that gives advice. We have no one from the Feds who helps us negotiate this contract. And it's been very organized in the past. And out of the directors that remain of the nine directors, only two have been through this process before, and neither of them could explain it to any of us.

**Rochelle Miller** 35:58

So that's where we're at with the state.

**Speaker 2** 36:00

It is what services we're providing under this funding.

**Rochelle Miller** 36:04

We do know the five services, and they are the five core services. So those stay the same. The questions are really more about how we can Bill. Are indirect cost rate that we can Bill. And some of the questions around how the state does not apparently provide us with correct uniform guidance on how we Bill back. They are supposed to do block funding, which kind of is like an escrow account, and then you draw down as you need it, like our part C funding does our our federal funding does. Instead of this very Labor intensive, resource draining, costly invoicing process that we have to do, that we are required certain reports from our staffing services, our time card ADP pieces, our my so are.

**Rochelle Miller** 37:01

It's just, it's an incredibly Labor it takes four of us to build the state every month. It takes multiple hours. So that's up for discussion, as well as their monitoring of us through that financial audit that was near the top. Also sitting in on the state recertification. And I was the peer recertify for our boulder agency last week. Week. Yeah, I lost my time.

**Rochelle Miller** 37:33

I did that November 7 and 8th. Nope, I did. Yep. Yeah, I did that on November 7 and 8th. For boulder, the the process is really ridiculous. Our contract is supposed to be for three to five years, yet they only certify us for one to three years, none. And there's other ways to do that.

**Rochelle Miller** 37:58

They could look at our audits, they can look at monthly reports that we're forced to set there. It's just, it's, there's a lot of duplication that they require of us. And it seemed, I said it, didn't know whether or not it was me being sensitive to it, but it seemed like there were a lot of questions in that recertification that were outside their scope of contract. And so we're really trying to narrow that in and make that process a little bit better. I am not Peter Pike's favorite person right now. Just so you know, and I don't really care because of the process position, or is he a civil servant? He's a civil servant.

**Rochelle Miller** 38:35

Joe bar position as a plagues a lot of it. Yes. And Joe bar is appointed, which is why we wanted to wait to meet with him until after the election, because we didn't know what was going to happen. And so we will be meeting with him tomorrow. I don't keep you guys up to date, but I did want you to know, I am not Peter Pike's favorite person. And I am glad for that because I think there things that are not good, and I'm just trying to make things fair and good for all of our agencies.

**Speaker 1** 39:08

Yeah. Well, I wasn't his favorite person for a while either.

**Rochelle Miller** 39:11

So yeah, I just say, well, as I has been asked of me before, it is difficult to tell whether or not sometimes some of the answers that we receive are due to ineptitude or are deliberately incorrect. And now that the nine state directors are much closer in our relationships, we find a lot of inconsistencies and answers. Says that is a point of contention that we are dealing with right now. I would say 20 to 25 % of my time now is currently being spent at that state level to try to fix this, our par Grant. I do apologize for not getting the figures put in here. We did do a drawdown. Currently we have only done one drawdown of twelve.

**Rochelle Miller** 40:09

I was waiting when I was doing this report for the amount to hit, because it was different, and this was our 1st one, but I will add that in there. I can tell you it was 11,000. And it's on the, it's on the p and L. Yes, sorry. It is on the p and L. It was \$11091.41. It's right here, right there we go.

**Rochelle Miller** 40:53

369 active unduplicated consumers. Project connect. 17 new consumers broke the record, and never have had 17 new consumers sign in and receive services and begin services with connections in one month, ever in the for that it was project connect. Or why were we so popular at project connect this year? Because this is our 8th year doing it. And I said, why do we have so many people who need this? So the answers from the team, we had really, we had really good positioning at project connect.

**Rochelle Miller** 41:39

So please thank is it Margie Martinez who, yes, Margie the for the really good real estate that we hunt. And then we had really good swag. And many people who are coming to see us are due to long haul covered symptoms. And then a lot of people were experiencing homelessness and needed vouchers. And we had extra vouchers to get them in line for so I would say those three things put together the great position we had, I think it was right where people got their drivers licenses or ID renewed. Like Margie put us in a really Prime location. And then it was the housing issues and people who had long haul covered issues that need some support.

**Rochelle Miller** 42:27

I send Maria an email banking or yeah, but 17 in one month is that's awesome. A lot the team is working on how to phase through making sure that everybody receives services correctly and what, what level of services people need. 375 services is a lot. So lot of services delivered in a month. And yeah, that outreach was a huge spike.

**Speaker 2** 43:05

Speaking of which, I had an opportunity to have lunch with Roy or Ray, or our city manager. Very Greeley. Yeah, I had known Roy pretty well, but I had never met Ray. And he was talking about housing and homelessness. And I jumped in and said, and we need to make sure that we're servicing our people with disabilities. And he agreed that 100 %. And said that they are going to be making sure that any new housing projects that are developed through the city will include units for disabled, accessible units.

**Rochelle Miller** 44:05

Yeah. And thank you for that, Lou. That's really, I mean, the more we can stress that, the better. Anytime you have the ability to, when somebody says the word affordable, I have a little light that goes off, a little buzzer that goes off in my head where I try to get them to understand accessible.

**Speaker 2** 44:20

Well, that's exactly accessible.

**Rochelle Miller** 44:22

Affordable to be accessible.

**Speaker 2** 44:24

Yeah, that's exactly exactly what happened. The light went off. He said affordable. I said accessible, accessible. And, and he's on board with that 100 %.

**Rochelle Miller** 44:39

So Diana and Josh have been really pounding the pavement on getting to those meetings and making sure that that new village that's going up has more accessible units. They're really trying to do that. And I, like, I did want to point out on here, we did 24 pre intakes for the month. That is normally it's like five and six, 2041.

**Speaker 3** 45:06

Would you say? Well, you said long haul covered.

**Rochelle Miller** 45:11

What would be maybe the, the second thing I'm wondering if like the mental health stuff is starting to come through as, I mean, I know we don't necessarily serve primarily with mental health, but I would say the second one is, is definitely people who are either in threat of it's more people in crisis, predominantly due to losing housing, people who've lost jobs, or who are unable to keep their job and for one reason or another, lost jobs, lost income and are at a threat of losing their housing. And that's been our biggest, that's been our biggest draw. Thank you. Yeah, it's, and I'm, from what I hear from every agency in the state, we used to say we were in a crisis, and almost every agency in the state is just receiving mass amounts of people in crisis now. Multiple people a day in crisis. Okay, sorry, the little screen hijacked my up there. We have 35 people on our waitlist.

**Rochelle Miller** 46:27

The list for housing will open up again in February. I'll let Diana speak about that. Section eight vouchers is our largest and most busy and most resource draining area. Transitions has two pending transitions right now that Brad doesn't have a lot of hope for, but he is working on very closely to see what we can do. We've been working a lot with the department of justice and their investigation and with hick puff, which is the health care policy finance section, and that was still on the Olmstead disability lawsuit that happened for people in congregate care. We are trying to give our opinion and guidance on how to correct those issues that the state was sued over. Interpreting is pretty, pretty decent.

**Rochelle Miller** 47:35

It's not up, it's not down. It's kind of in that middle space right now and with the holidays. But we do have a couple of new contracts, and we put in two requests for proposals, one with the Colorado department of Labor and employment, and another one with a large employer that I don't want to disclose the name of at this time, but it's a, it's a very large employer, and we'll see how that handle, how that fleshes out. There's some privacy things around that, that one. And if you want to know privately, I'm happy to share it privately. Thank you for the reminder. On Colorado Gibbs day, we are doing our ask this year on property owners and managers who assist us with the housing deposit assistance program.

**Rochelle Miller** 48:25

To date, we have assisted people with over \$13500 in housing deposits. And that is just the year, the calendar year of 2022, so coming up on almost \$15,000 in housing deposit assistance. And many of those pieces of deposits are half of what they need. So they need 500. We give them to 50. We have not turned anybody down, nor had any reason to turn anybody. And we've now expanded the program a tiny bit to our partners at center for people with disabilities in boulder, who do assist people with housing vouchers within weld county, but in South, in the carbon valley area.

**Speaker 1** 49:17

Is there an opportunity that we could get just a like, just like a one paragraph, like elevator speech that we could copy and paste, put on Facebook, on our own Facebook, or like, for me, I would like to, before Colorado's give Colorado gives day, I'd like to blast it to my office, to the office.

**Speaker 4** 49:41

Good idea.

**Speaker 1** 49:42

Good job. Yeah, because we get stuff like that all the time. And this time I'm not, you know, so no one's selling the an appliance aggravates me. But I mean, I think this would be, if we could just do it right before Colorado gives day, say, look, you know, Kate and I, you know, serve on the board for connections for independent living. There is a huge need out there for housing for people with disabilities.

**Speaker 3** 50:07

And just something just like a small, quick paragraph that we could copy paste, thinking, Kate and I could, you know, talk about it at December's norco web event. And we eventually, even November, really beautiful, or nowhere in November, we had that one December.

**Rochelle Miller** 50:30

I'm going to share this with all of you on the screen right here. But I will share this in an email. This is the one sheet that we have for this. And I will absolutely send this out. And you can take this, how you can help paragraph and put it in your own words, or add in there, like, connections helped people. We help people with over almost \$15,000 worth of housing deposits. I believe we're at like 18, 19 folks that we've helped with housing deposits.

**Speaker 3** 51:07

And, and I think, like, if we're telling a story, and I mean, especially for I mean, I think Lou, you too, but me, Mary Jo and Kate, I mean, like, we were pivotal in starting that program as a board. So, you know, that's, it's a passion project.

**Rochelle Miller** 51:22

You kind of, you did, we did start, yeah, whole program. You get all the credit.

**Speaker 3** 51:28

Yeah.

**Speaker 2** 51:29

So I think that's kind of part of the story. Have a question. If somebody receives deposit assistance, and then they leave that property, do we get rebated that amount that we have contributed and the person who's moving get the full deposit?

**Rochelle Miller** 51:49

No, no, no. The name, it is never in the fund. The funds itself are never in the name of the individual. They are only in the name of the property manager owner, whomever would you would normally write that checkout to. And that property manager owner is required to sign a Grant agreement with connections. And in that Grant agreement, it does state that they should give us the funding back if it is available. I've had a conversation with one property manager who thought there might be some of that funding returnable, and it turned out there wasn't.

**Rochelle Miller** 52:32

And nine times out of ten tenants because they utilize it for, as Josh says, the wrong thing, they, they, they utilize it, they claim that it's for maintenance and damages that need to be repaired, but most of the time it's for things like painting and cleaning. And those aren't things.

**Speaker 2** 52:52

They, those are not things that they can use, but they do it for. Yeah, they do. Damage. Can be yes, but not for normal word.

**Rochelle Miller** 53:01

Tear. Wear and tear? No. And they, they do, they use it for wear and tear items. And we can't really call them on that. That's something you all have to change in the real estate rental property owner business. But so far we've only had one that said they might have a little bit left, and they were going to let us know.

**Rochelle Miller** 53:19

But what I have told them is, is that you guys are just, you know, you're doing yourself a favor if you do, if you are able to return that to us, because then we could put it in the pot and just get it back out there. For somebody, so you have that fast deposit. The word has gotten out, at least for agencies and for property managers, owners that have section eight units, that we are a really great agency to if somebody is with our agency and their consumer with us, that they have kind of a gold star, because, number one, they have support with reading release and finding, you know, things like we've had somebody who had issues with their mailbox key, their, their independent living specialist was able to assist them. Rather than them going to the office and trying to or talking to the property manager, they were able to like, kind of walk that person through, okay, this is what this says. It says you owe them a hundred dollars because you lost your key. Let's figure this out and see what we can do. So we, we are a good buffer, and they know that.

**Rochelle Miller** 54:26

We, we've also had multiple property owner managers. And this, I'm a little leery of this, and I don't advocate for it, but they've let our consumers move in prior to receiving the check from us, just by getting the good I'll let them know that, yeah, your dad can't either, and he's, I'm gonna go see him on Monday, Tuesday.

**Speaker 2** 54:54

She's a staff meeting Monday, and doctor's appointment on Tuesdays. So, so I'll let them know Friday, but they don't have to come down from Chico. We'll do, set up a zoom call. All right. Thank you. Thank you. Glad to hear that.

**Speaker 2** 55:16

All right.

**Speaker 3** 55:17

All right. Bye bye. Lou, were taking a break.

**Speaker 2** 55:28

You took a break. I'm sorry. I got a phone call, and, you know, that goes, yeah.

**Speaker 3** 55:38

Why we dig? Oh, I'm just joking. It just seems like you were on the phone and we could hear so we've just, everybody else took a break.

**Speaker 2** 55:46

I'm sitting here wishing I had no, okay, I'm back. I'm sorry. I'm working on a rather substantial deal, and my clients been in South Africa, and he's getting, he's on, in the air on a 30 hour flight today. Oh, wow. We were trying to set up a meeting, and, yeah, he says he's going to be wiped out for a few days to us to do it on zoom. And the other party, I had to confer that he was available for writing, just all the things, all the moving parts we all have talk about him.

**Rochelle Miller** 56:36

Hi, Diana. By Diana. We're gonna, yes, hear from Diana and Jessica now just gone the housing department. Yeah, good right there. And my big thanks to Diana and Jessica for making time to chat with you today and give you an update. Let me know if you can hear them.

**Speaker 4** 56:58

Okay, ours to sounds good. Fantastic. So for anybody who really doesn't know, we manage a small section a voucher program. Most of our vouchers are housing choice vouchers, and they help the consumer, of course, with their rental portions of the consumer only has to pay a 3rd of their gross income for rent. And then, of course, do h then picks up the rest of it. We have, now we are managing three different vouchers. We have, of course, the housing choice voucher, which is our normal voucher.

**Speaker 4** 57:37

It's the most abundant that we give them out on a regular basis. And then there's our state housing vouchers. And those vouchers are vouchers that the CCT transition program uses to get people out of nursing homes. And then now we have a new state voucher that we're managing. That's the emergency housing voucher. So far, we've, then we referred three people on that voucher, but supposedly, really here we're supposed to be getting 16 referrals those new vouchers we will be managing. The difference between the vouchers is that we do not seek eligibility for the consumer.

**Speaker 4** 58:23

It's referred to us from another agency. That's working with the continuum of care program. And so they take all the information for the people that are eligible for the emergency housing voucher and they just send them to me. Connections will then do the briefing and then lease them up. Normally like any other voucher. Hh2s inspections on the units. Some of these emergency housing vouchers are already supposed to be leased up, which is going to continue to help pay their rent so that it can alleviate the program that has taken them off the street.

**Speaker 4** 59:04

The difference to between the programs is our regular housing vouchers pays connections \$43 a month per voucher, and these new emergency housing vouchers pays connections \$60 a month. So it's a little bit but better for admin fees and stuff. We did get permission from do to hire an Inspector to help us with these emergency housing vouchers to get them leased up faster. Do h has said they would pay for the Inspector. We're just trying to get everything sort of ironed out with that. But do h will be paid for our Inspector that will be for that emergency housing voucher. Right now we are actively leasing up one to two people a week.

**Speaker 4** 59:52

I am, I mean, it is really, we're on fire right now. And part of that is due to the deposit fund, that connections is able to give people. We can house people up when they found a house because we've got the deposit. And that's probably the number one reason. But right now, weld county is the highest as far as leasing, getting those leases completed. Do is rented and raved about how freely is leasing up when nobody else is leasing up. So we're pretty proud of that.

**Speaker 4** 60:28

Another reason I feel people are leasing up is because we have, Jessica and Stephanie have kind of reorganized some of the housing program. And so I brought Jessica here because she can really answer more questions about that. But one thing is that now our ills is, are our point of 1st point of contact. I to see the I can help them with the form that they need help with, or or something else they need before they come to me. And I think it has really, really helped having the Ios be their point of contact. But one thing I was hard to get a hold of, and now the consumer can at least be heard by an independent living specialist. And don't think that they're just out there Willy nilly with me trying to play catch up.

**Speaker 4** 61:23

So that's been a huge improvement. Also, the Ios is how our helping process the annuals, getting the letters ready, sending that out. Stephanie, does the e V. So that has taken a lot of pressure off of me, and that's probably one of the very own reasons that I can take on these new vouchers and build our program to be more than just what it is we get to the what's an e I V?

**Rochelle Miller** 61:53

Oh, what are those initials? It's an Enterprise income verification. It is a way to verify a consumer's or a housing participants income. So if they are receiving SSI, SDI, any social security benefits, if they are earning wages, it is reported to that system, and that is how income is verified at you.

**Speaker 4** 62:25

Thank you. Is there any other changes you want to talk about the that ies are doing?

**Rochelle Miller** 62:33

And so we wanted to alleviate as much stress off of Diana as possible. And so we started to look into the types of calls that Diana was receiving on a daily basis. And a lot of those calls for people needing more than just housing services. So we got together and compiled way to remove that heavy call list. What would you say? How many active voucher holders do you have right now?

**Speaker 4** 63:07

And it's around 130.

**Rochelle Miller** 63:10

So 130 people on her caseload that are actively calling her on a weekly basis needing more than just housing services. And so we were able to split up all of Diana's caseload, to all of the iols, for them to also provide other services outside of the housing realm. So it really has been beneficial for Diana and our consumers to be able to, to have that point of contact who they can talk to outside of housing needs. And they can also help them. They've received training for some of the housing processes, so they've been able to help consumers fill out paperwork. And so that can be turned into Diana for moving along any other process, like instate transfers, ports to other States, housing reexamination paperwork. So it's, it's been beneficial to both Diana and the consumers.

**Speaker 1** 64:12

So what is the process thing? Guys? When someone calls and they, they go to an ill 1st, and how does it work?

**Speaker 4** 64:21

Well, they, they, they have a question, and Stephanie usually sends them to their I L and the ill. If, if the independent living specialist cannot answer their question, then they will come to me and have me explain how it complete, what needs to be done. And then they go back and work with the consumer on how to complete whatever it is that is in question.

**Speaker 3** 64:43

It seems very much like a more holistic approach to helping people get engaged. I mean, obviously, if they're coming in for housing, they're potentially needing our services. So helping them to get engaged with their office a little bit more holistically, maybe than it was in the past. And certainly, you know, more efficient, right?

**Speaker 4** 65:03

Definitely, definitely. And I think our consumers get better assistance, because we had one man that was trying to get older me desperately, and he couldn't. So he started going, do do division of housing. Doesn't like that. That's why I'm here. They don't have to be bugged by those. So they emailed me, and so you need to handle this individual.

**Speaker 4** 65:23

And so I made sure that he knew who is los is, so that I told him, if you can't ever get all of me, please get it. Get all of your ils. They will make sure your voice is heard, if nothing else. And that's all he needed. His voice just needed to be heard. He wasn't really in an emergency crisis. But that definitely made him feel more comfortable.

**Speaker 4** 65:44

And is definitely going to get division of housing off of our backs, because our consumers aren't like to get a hold of that because they can't get a hold of me.

**Speaker 3** 65:53

I did have a question too. So the emergency housing vouchers, what are those typically for? Or is it like fires or, I mean, I would mention, maybe not primarily people that are right now in shelters okay, so we go ahead. But we're from the Greeley transition house. Okay, okay. So more shelters for people that can't, can't afford, like, potentially DV shelters too.

**Speaker 4** 66:26

Yeah, yeah. Just they can't be living with their family members. It does say on the application, because I looked at it, that they have to be in some type of shelter, not on a family members couch.

**Speaker 3** 66:37

That's not right.

**Speaker 4** 66:39

That's, yeah, yeah. We're looking for the people who don't have any assistance out there.

**Speaker 3** 66:44

Okay, okay. Thank you for clarifying that. Wow. It's amazing to see, I remember what, two years ago, year and a half ago, I guess, Diane, when you 1st came to our 1st board meeting, and we started the deposit program as a result of you coming and chatting with us, and amazing to see how the program's been growing and how you all have been, you know, restructuring it and figuring out how to, you know, support the program and you better as well as, you know, the consumers.



**Speaker 4** 67:14

So thank you. Yes, yes, yes. And I know a lot of that to Roche for allowing us to do it. Yeah.

**Speaker 1** 67:24

And I doing a lot of the hard work on getting it, or we wouldn't have known if we wouldn't have talked to you the situation. So thank you.

**Speaker 4** 67:32

Thank you. Thank you. Yeah.

**Speaker 3** 67:34

Thank you guys for stepping up.

**Rochelle Miller** 67:41

Thank you. Absolutely. Anything that? No, I think that's pretty I'm going to add something I never have anything to say, right. The the housing program is the one division of our agency that I think has undergone the most change. As you said, it's a, it's been really completely overhauled from the top, from the upside down. And Jessica and Diana are, they are the force that has pushed that.

**Rochelle Miller** 68:15

And Jessica has supported that in a way, because she knows the job that Diana does. And Diana is the subject matter expert. And we've really made sure that everybody who comes to work at connections or understands our consumer pieces, that Diana's our subject matter expert. The rest of us are here to support them their work and the work that Diana does. But I really am incredibly proud of how they have completely overhauled the entire program to make it better. It's better for our consumers. It's, like you said, it's more holistic for the consumer.

**Rochelle Miller** 68:52

It gives them the support. Sometimes they didn't even know that they needed and they saw problems and fixed them. And I mean, they've done amazing blue sky work that you never thought you could do with an entity as restrictive as this government voucher. This is a very restrictive, very rural mandated program. And they turned it into something that was actually truly accessible for people with disabilities in our area. And I want do to give us that email, like in writing, that says, we're the most successful program. I'm still looking for that, but I know we are.

**Rochelle Miller** 69:38

We keep hearing that, and I know how much our how much better ours functions than most other agencies. So, but that is all, that is all Diana, and then the support of Jessica and the rest of the team. So and I thank you guys for starting that Grant program. It's incredibly helpful. And you see its success when you see anybody who sits on the weld trust board out at your meetings, or anybody who has any kind of contact with them, thank them a thousand times over. And the women's fund, too, for funding again, that housing deposit program. I would love for us to expand the housing program to provide 139 active vouchers that are being managed right now.

**Rochelle Miller** 70:25

And we're going to have that up to every time we get somebody successfully leased up, they get some sort of assistance basket or probe or something that. Diana and I talked about this things that you need, like, remember, welcome wagon, like the welcome wagon bucket, you know, trash cans, a home depot gift card, you know, cleaning supplies, some pantry staples, all the things that cost so much every single time anybody who has moved in their lifetime knows. And we just, and that is like a care package that goes with that. I would love to find the funding to make sure that every single one of our people that leased up get that package that, you know, started program, because that is the other thing that they have brought to us. That said, this is so hard people, you know, you get into your new place and to turn your utilities on is expensive to, you know, that, that we really want to encourage people to utilize the little bit of savings they might have to keep it for their deposit, for their utilities and will help you with your housing deposit. But I would love us to take that even a step further and really support people in this situation with that type of, of a welcome wicket, a welcome wagon housing voucher package. I don't know what else to call it, but that would be, I think that would really solve and just give people a little bit of breathing room for the 1st month or two that they were in their home.

**Speaker 3** 72:01

Yeah, I love that idea. It makes me think of, so when my nieces, like when they went to college, like it kind of somewhat of a similar thing, totally different, I realized. But also like that was their high school graduation gift from me was like, this, these are all the things you don't realize you're gonna need to have when you move into your dorm room in college, like the electrical cord, you know? I mean, just like the, the things that we don't necessarily have the access to, or in their case, like the realization or, or knowledge that they needed me working in higher education. I was like, I knew what, you know, freshman 1st, 1st day and needed.

**Speaker 1** 72:39

So that's made me think of that. Are we having problems finding housing? I mean, we have the vouchers. You can have all the vouchers in the world, but if we don't have any apartments for them to go into, that's an issue as well.

**Speaker 4** 72:52

Yeah. We're leasing up one or two people a week. They're finding them. I got to turn in a lot of requests for higher payment standards, but we are changing the I is to get them done in the way do h says they need to be done. So then they've been granting the higher payment standards. And I've been having to really push that because our payment standards aren't the same. So what was the new place that opened up to city line station.

**Speaker 4** 73:23

And they're above our payment standard, but we can get that payment standard. If, if the consumer finds a reason the house is their disability, and that could be a no stair entrance. They have a physical disability. Or it could be the area the person lives in because they have PTSD, and they know that area. We've got those higher payment standards for all those reasons. And our ills have been and real good about getting that for our consumers.

**Speaker 1** 73:56

And how, how fast does that happen? Once you know that you that it's above the standard, you're going to have to apply for it.

**Speaker 4** 74:03

Does it happen pretty quickly? Well, then that depends on the consumer's doctor, because we need the consumer to ask for the higher payment standard. Give us the reason, and the doctor has to validate the consumer does have that disability. And because of that disability, they do need that accommodation. That's what takes the longest. Once our consumers have that, then my point of contact now only takes about two days to get back to me. It's very quick process.

**Speaker 4** 74:32

Now that's the longest process is who is their doctor appointment.

**Rochelle Miller** 74:40

Another area of improvement that we have is a better relationship with disability law Colorado for people who are experiencing any kind of it used to be that there were just scared of Diana telling them that they were violating the Ada. Now we've got a little bit of teeth to that with a really good relationship with disability law Colorado. And Denver fair housing has also started covering our area, even though it's called Denver fair housing. We know that we've got some bulldogs in our pen. I hate to use that, but we've got some bulldogs in our pen for, for any kind of support where anybody's being explicitly discriminated against and not allowed to have access to housing due to a disability. So I think those are two broader areas of connection and support that we didn't have before. It used to just be connections kind of banging the drum on that.

**Rochelle Miller** 75:38

And now we can say, hey, if you don't work with us on this and allow folks to have access, we're going to bring in the big guns. And we're doing a lot of just better jobs, I think of and we're going to start working on a campaign for property owners, small property owners, on why working with somebody who has a section eight voucher specifically from connections is such a good it's such a good tenant to have. They have such great support, and they have such a great network of support from our agency that you're not just leasing up to somebody with a disability, you're leasing up to somebody with a disability who has a great support network.

**Speaker 3** 76:26

And where would where do you like, I mean, to me, that kind of makes me think of like an awareness type, like speaking events and that type of thing. Are there places that you would go or think you're gonna go for those types where people are to speak to that?

**Rochelle Miller** 76:41

Because she and Josh have been actually formulating that list because that is who we are focusing our campaign for, for Colorado.

**Speaker 3** 76:50

Yeah.

**Rochelle Miller** 76:51

So Diana and Josh have compiled a pretty hefty list of land watch, property managers, different types of people who rent. And so I am working on a letter campaign to email to all of those people, you know, kind of explaining what we do, how it's beneficial to them, and kind of just make that connection that, you know, these people were able to get this help through this program, but you're also benefiting from it as well. So it would just be passing that information on and along. So I have sent you an email regarding that, by the way.

**Speaker 3** 77:37

It's in by you. It's all news to you.

**Rochelle Miller** 77:40

I'm just kidding. So, yeah, we're, we're in the process of, of building that campaign campaign out and making sure that that's, that's being reached by the appropriate people. And Denver has a pretty good jump on that as well. And they're trying to get us some speaking engagements at larger property owner they Oh, good. Being a little bit more of an educational program with them. I think Mary a question for you all too, but she had be a start barking at something.

**Speaker 1** 78:18

So get, sorry about that. I have an electrician here today, so it's got everybody a little wound up, Mike. I think there is a Greeley apartment Association as well that meets on a regular basis. I know there is a homebuilders Association, so I'm pretty sure there's a partner apartment too.

**Rochelle Miller** 78:37

Yeah, I think Josh has got that one on the list, because I think he's, he meets, he, he goes to those meetings.

**Speaker 3** 78:44

He's kind of our subject matter expert on that other side. Well, thank you all for all that you do for housing.

**Rochelle Miller** 78:58

Yeah. But thank you for, yeah, you be amazing. Go eat pizza and pizzas here.

**Speaker 4** 79:08

There you go. Right.

**Speaker 3** 79:09

They have to stay home.

**Speaker 1** 79:13

Sorry. Sorry. Got a hot babe.

**Rochelle Miller** 79:16

Look at the babe.

**Speaker 1** 79:43

Okay, nominating committee report. I got see the agenda. How did the, the interview go with Tim?

**Speaker 2** 80:01

My you went? Well, yeah, he's a wildcat. So that was a plus.

**Speaker 3** 80:09

And he meant that as far as, like that was, yes, where he went to school, not that he was a wildcat. Yeah, he's funny to yeah, he's great.

**Speaker 1** 80:20

He's in the Greeley chambers ambassadors group. That's how I connected with him, by the way.

**Speaker 3** 80:33

So do be a good fit? I think we're going to wait to talk about that more in executive session. Okay, yeah. So I think as far as the nominating committee update, I think we'll just wait till executive session for, for that update, because there's not more, much more than, than what we need to discuss there.

**Rochelle Miller** 80:57

So, okay, sounds good. I would ask the nominating committee and the board if they would like us to back off of the, now that we have, I think, three candidates that are going to be interviewed, or at least like spoken to. We've got several names. Would you like us to back off of the campaign? We had that digital campaign running and lots of messages out to chambers and social media.

**Speaker 3** 81:27

So my initial idea of what my conversations have been going like is that, and maybe we need to again, revisit an executive session, but, or after real quick. But I would say that we probably do need to continue.

**Speaker 2** 81:41

Unless, if I'm missing some people, my question is, do the current candidates all live really, or are they out there in some of our outreach areas? Some of them really would like to have representation from Yuma or many, you know, sterling fort Morgan, right?

**Speaker 3** 82:10

Yeah. As far as I know, and that I will be up, I guess, I guess I'm confused on what I need to be updating on this, whether it's during executive session or now. But the particular person that was out in, outside of our, outside of, well, county, did say no. So, yeah, so we're still looking for that area, Lou, to answer that question, and there may be more that I just am not necessarily aware of, or on their geographical location.

**Speaker 1** 82:45

Sounds like a plan. Okay, so then we're gonna move into it. So then we're on 2023 board goals.

**Rochelle Miller** 82:56

We know that you've only had the opportunity to come to half of that meeting about that. We've only had half of it on that big, you know, the big, hairy idea, the bucket of possibilities one, but was there anything in those 1st two sections that popped out to you that might work for board goals for 2023?

**Speaker 3** 83:20

Do have them? Okay, that's good. I have one that I have, I kind of have in mind. But one thing I think that just as we're getting some of the, I just think for all of us in general, but, you know, engagement and building in a little bit more like board training opportunities as a board. So like development opportunities as a board outside of just the board meetings. And when I say that, I mean more kind of like for engagement.

**Speaker 1** 84:05

And are you talking about more socialization?

**Speaker 3** 84:08

Well, yeah, some socialization about that, where we get together and maybe a cocktail or just outside of just meeting, like we, we are now and, and seeing where, like, how do board members want to be engaged, maybe differently to support for those that do, to support the organization. And it's okay if, if others don't. I mean, as we're growing and hearing from some of our board members that they are not necessarily feeling as engaged as they would like to be with like connections in general. So just seeing what are those different opportunities for engagement? Oh, like remove the pin so I can see other people, all of a sudden all my people, all the people went away. But yeah, I think part of that, Mary Joe, is, is definitely that piece of it. So, yeah.

**Speaker 3** 85:06

So is this, is it the capital piece?

**Speaker 1** 85:14

No, well, definitely. We know we need to do some capital improvements, as simple as that, but it's like, which one do you pick? Or pick one and go for it and find the funding, find the funding for it.

**Rochelle Miller** 85:28

And so I think that there are some opportunities in what you, you've all identified, 1st and foremost, which would be to improve the current board members relationships and engagement.

**Speaker 3** 85:43

Yeah, experience, relationship engagement. Yeah. And I think as we're growing, there's like rooms to be kind of strategic on and on our effectiveness within the board as well with our committee, you know, and maybe even looking at, you know, as we're growing right now, we have our very core foundation of what committees do we need? Are there other ones, you know, that we want to so maybe a little revisit there? I think that kind of all goes with that. But then even, like I see right there, you know, maybe having more of a separate, like board retreat, potentially, which I think that kind of goes under that board engagement piece.

**Rochelle Miller** 86:26

But, yeah, capital improvements, I mean, and I'm adding this to the list, and I will send these out, and that way you all can give feedback and discussion. And as long as we've got these listed for January, maybe perhaps just three goals, and like, we can break that down. We can say, in a other other personal time together, planning a board retreat, a specific board retreat, and we can break those things down, if you're all in agreement on those. And then if you would like to start any type of fundraising for anything specific, then we can look at things like that. I know, Kate, we talked about things for you had a really good interest in the stroke camp scholarship, but, and we did find out that stroke camp didn't happen last year, and they do have a scholarship program, but I don't think that, I don't think that negates the fact that there could be other things that people want to go to. There could be just a scholarship program for people that want to attend any kind of function that is like a training, like a stroke camp or a brain injury. There's a kind of a brain injury conference or a, you know, and it could be a conference training bucket that you all fundraise for.

**Speaker 3** 87:51

That's just for consumers. I mean, I, well, I'm kind of, I know that we did a lot with the housing thing, but I mean, I think to the point Rochelle that you had of, you know, there's, there's still that maybe barrier gap for people being able to say, yeah, I'm going to go for this even with what we've done, because they maybe don't have the things that they need when they get into their new place. And not that we can provide at all, but if we can, you know, help with just building that program more and making it better, that may be my maximizer strength talking, because I like to take things that are good and make them better.

**Rochelle Miller** 88:40

But, but so I think those, those are both great ideas. And I loved where kind of Kate was going to with, because this came up a lot when we were fleshing things out from this list, was that a lot of folks in the consumer area wanted some sort of social program. Like they wanted a social program. They wanted a and a, you know, food hygiene assistance scholarship for stroke camps. And that got me thinking, and like, you all can take this and do whatever you want with it. If we had the bucket that we were raising funds for that was specific for people who had, you know, like, well, I'm going to call it the welcome wagon bucket. And we found some sort of social scholarship program that we could find funding for.

**Rochelle Miller** 89:35

And that could be, you know, little bits we could maybe make a goal of like \$2500, their little micro grants that we Grant out. There were several guys that were in the brain injury group that wanted to go to a Rockies game. And they need a bus. They need a tiny, little accessible bus. And that cost that cost like \$500. Yeah, they need transportation to take them down there. We can get them the Rockies tickets.

**Rochelle Miller** 90:03

But getting there, yeah, it's a different story, you know, things like that. Or if there was like the stroke camp, someone could apply and do that. Or if they wanted to go, I don't know, go on the go to the casino. I don't know, whatever.

**Speaker 1** 90:17

I don't know, maybe not the casino, but you go to something that, you know, improved your life in some way, and you need to get there, you know, Rob her from red wing shoes, bought the the bus that had been going down to the Rockies games. And I was I could reach out to him at some point in time to see if he would be able to use the bus to do something like that.

**Rochelle Miller** 90:43

But wouldn't it be great if somebody wanted to do that? Then we did that once a year for folks, and we could give Rob gas and bus driver money. Yeah, I think it's that fund.

**Speaker 3** 90:54

I think you're bringing a good point. And it's like, it's the, it's the nice thing to have, like, we we can offer this, but what is the barrier in between and maybe removing that. So maybe it's not as important to actually give them the Rockies tickets, because they accidentally, yeah, it's access to get there.

**Rochelle Miller** 91:12

It's not the ticket, it's the in between. Yeah. And so it wasn't the stroke camp, but maybe it was something else. Maybe it was that they needed a pet sitter or that needed in order to get them, that would be the thing, whatever the barrier is to get you there and do the thing that you want to do as a person with a disability, they could apply. And we could put parameters around that. I mean, the just like we did with the I'm spit balling and throwing out ideas, but nobody in the entire state of Colorado had thought about doing housing deposit assistance program before you all. And we figured it out.

**Rochelle Miller** 91:55

So if I hate replicating, this is what he told the staff, I don't want to run bingo. I don't want to run a social program. There are tons of social programs out there. But if the person that we are serving is having problems getting to the thing, the stroke camp, the camping, they want to go accessible camping, and they need a thing. If it's something in between, if we can assist with that barrier to provide that social outlet, I think that's a really good space for us.

**Speaker 3** 92:29

Yeah. And I think that's neat. Because I mean, again, it could be back to that scholarship idea of then it's not one thing and one size fits all. It's very unique and individual to what the person's wanting who applies for it, again, within parameters, I'm sure.

**Speaker 2** 92:45

But yeah, I hope with like some lucid and I appreciate this discussion, but I don't think it's a board meeting discussion. I think we should plan a workshop or a retreat where we can go through the ideas that maybe look at some of the solutions, you know, yeah. And do that. And the other thing is, if we've got one, two or three new board members coming on, we're gonna have to relook at some of the development programs that we went through last year for our current board members, and maybe doing something along that line to incorporate and help the new board members understand the organization and thing, and at that time, then revisit our goals and objectives, see where we are on those, maybe eliminate some that we've achieved and add some new ones on. But that's a discussion for a retreat or, or some kind of a development workshop.

**Rochelle Miller** 94:00

Yeah, agree. And the only reason that this is brought on here is that you all were double star, gold star a students, and the goals that we set, that were supposed to be three and five year goals, you all did them.

**Speaker 3** 94:14

You did them all well. Yeah.

**Speaker 2** 94:16

So we need, that's why, that's why once the retreat, yeah, you have a retreat. Yeah. And go back and say, okay, we did this, we did that, this, we tried, it didn't work. And now, Oh, because we've done all these now we can move on to some other things. I like your idea about creating accessibility. Maybe we do a fundraiser, we buy a handicap bus.

**Rochelle Miller** 94:42

You know, I don't want to manage a bus.

**Speaker 2** 94:44

Well, I'm just saying, I don't want to manage a golf tournament or a bus. We don't criticize. We're just throwing out ideas, right? Know what I'm saying is, like, we have a van. Yes, we do. And it's a handicap accessible. And how many people can you take in that?

**Speaker 2** 95:04

Two with tie downs. Yeah, yeah. Okay. So that's a lot of trips. If we have six or seven people want to go with anyway. I mean, there are solutions. Yeah, their solution.

**Speaker 2** 95:18

But, you know, I don't think we need to talk about boarding. Let's, let's establish, once we've got the new people on board, then let's set up a date for development retreat. Yeah. And we can talk about all these ideas and go from there.

**Speaker 3** 95:35

Because I do think to your point, like a good onboarding, again, I kind of get back to whatever engagement, but yeah, good onboarding of our new members. And yeah, we're all restructuring to within the board.

**Speaker 2** 95:48

I mean, bring our buddy down. We bring our buddy down for best part.

**Rochelle Miller** 95:53

And he can go back through retired, he retired on high for you as clients. It's like, but you know what I'm saying is, there's, there's very few of us. I am in the middle of recreating my website, because there's so few consultants right now. But we can, I can run us through this. This would be like a mini retreat, and I'm free for you guys.

**Speaker 2** 96:15

So there you go. Yeah. And, and if you want, I've got people in California, so we just flying out. And, but, yeah, these are all great ideas, and I'm all in favor of them. But let's, yeah, let's do a retreat where we can really has them out. But we've got our 1st issue. It's going to be onboarding the new members, Tim and whoever else is on there.

**Speaker 2** 96:47

And to be honest, Tony needs some of this as well. And whenever comes back and America comes back, you know, they missed all that. Yeah, they really did. And, and we really need to reset that up for them.

**Speaker 3** 97:04

Yeah. Because, I mean, and covered was, I like, it just was weird with everybody's timing.

**Speaker 2** 97:09

I got it. I got it. Yeah, I got a little and sound to sleep on my desk. Oh, yeah. Julie had a doctor's boy, she went into a Tizzy. Fit, because Julie was leaving and finally decided it was okay for me to give her bottle and to go to sleep on my lap. That's nice.

**Speaker 2** 97:30

You know, three year olds are three year yeah.

**Speaker 1** 97:36

So thank you. So then are we thinking that the rest of the items, the 2020 calendar meetings? I mean, do we want to go past like January, because we don't know what we but it's going to work for everybody.

**Speaker 2** 97:51

What's the thoughts? Well, I thought the issue there was these Wednesday meetings that some of the new people could yeah, it on Wednesday. Maybe we need to look at doing it either in the evening or some other day. Yeah, that was the topic of discussion.

**Speaker 3** 98:12

So I've been talking with the, the folks that aren't here, like all of them, Tony, Erica, and then Tam and I know we're not there yet, but Wednesdays were difficult. I seems like we had a bit of a discussion when Michelle, Mary Jo and I met about this as well initially. And so, you know, wanting to know, obviously, Kate, lo and Mary Joe, what your ideas are. I mean, from what I was thinking, it seemed like Tuesdays were going to be potentially a better day, and especially if we wanted to keep it more during, kind of during a day. I know Tony said that he is fine he only has a commitment from 1 30 to like, three on Tuesdays with north range. And I might be jumping, putting the cart before the horse here, but if we're ready to move on to the meeting discussion, but I do want to go to the executive session.

**Rochelle Miller** 99:13

Is that what you're saying? I do need you all to set your January meeting while you're not, while you're in this meeting. So I want to leave for executive session and come back and set it.

**Speaker 1** 99:23

You can do that, but I think we need to do that because we're there.

**Speaker 3** 99:29

We're there now. And, yeah, and that's fine. So, okay, so we're done with like, the engagement training and other opportunity.

**Rochelle Miller** 99:38

Those are gonna be at a I'm just gonna set, if that's okay with you all. I'm going to undergo setting that says November 2022, because I need, I need you all to have at least one goal that you're working towards in the 1st quarter. That's part of our requirement for your board.

**Speaker 1** 99:55

Well, my goal would be to onboard.

**Rochelle Miller** 99:59

Yeah, new folks. Yeah. And can I say that in the 1st quarter you are going to decide on a retreat for a couple of other high priority goal setting focus areas?

**Speaker 2** 100:16

Yes, yes. And then look at fundraising.

**Rochelle Miller** 100:20

That'll be, we'll just, yeah, that, that'll, I'll include that in the the high priority potential areas. So, Mary, Mary Joe or Elizabeth, you would just then ask for someone to ask for a motion to close this meeting if there's no other discussion, and you and then state the reason that, state briefly the reason, and I wrote it on your agenda, that you would be going into executive session, and I will end the recording.

**Speaker 3** 101:15

Then. Did we wait? Do we want to do that? Before we do do that, I'm sorry, the calendar, I thought we were doing the calendar 1st.

**Rochelle Miller** 101:20

So I just, I'm, I didn't know if you wanted to come back in.

**Speaker 3** 101:24

Oh, is what I was. Okay.

**Speaker 1** 101:27

I'm, I'm fine with either. I'd like to come back in, like, go out and come back in, if that's okay.

**Speaker 3** 101:36

All right. So move to adjourn the meeting for executive session to discuss the board membership candidates. So second, thank you.

**Rochelle Miller** 101:47

Lo all in favor. I okay. And I will ask Sembly to end the recording of this meeting or not.

**Speaker 3** 102:16

Okay, to be good now. Okay. Okay. So I think, 1st of 1st discussion I'd like to have, I do believe we have a quorum, so we can go ahead and make a motion and vote on you cannot make a motion or vote in an executive session. It's for discussion. Okay, okay, thank you. So all right.

**Speaker 3** 102:45

So let's discuss. 1st thing I'd like to discuss is Tim Wilson's application to serve on the board and see what everybody thinks that has had a chance to meet with him.



**Speaker 2** 103:00

I'm in favor of bringing him on board.

**Speaker 3** 103:04

I know I start, I'm totally in favor of it.

**Rochelle Miller** 103:14

So, okay, kidney is leading, what is Tim's relationship with people with disabilities that he wishes to join an agency that serves in this capacity?

**Speaker 2** 103:29

So his go ahead. Mother in law's sister was born with down syndrome, and he has spent his whole married life watching that interaction of his mother in law and his mother in law's sister. And has a lot of respect for what she did. And would like to opportunity to work with people with disabilities.

**Rochelle Miller** 103:58

He's strictly focused on D D, on developmental disability area, or is there other was his just young, she wants to help.

**Speaker 2** 104:07

He saw his mother in law help spend her whole life helping her sister, and he thought that was a good thing. And he liked the opportunity to assist in something similar, not specifically down yeah.

**Speaker 3** 104:28

And he's, I mean, kind of as a different note, but, you know, he's had a between me and Mary Joe, he had quite a bit of conversation. And he really feels like through those conversations that he's even more passionate about serving the organization, this organization that's a good fit for him. I know that he was being very mindful and taking some time around it just to make sure we had a, we had discussion about time and, you know, being stretched or not. He is a brand new board member and, or new to board service, I should say. And he, you know, really felt like this was a great organization to join a healthy board, to learn how to be a board member, to also give back in that way. And, you know, like Lou was saying, definitely wants to help. He and when he and I talked initially, and that's where I kind of get to our conversation, is getting around that engagement piece too, but I know that he was trying to figure out how did he want to help serve.

**Speaker 3** 105:37

So he really wanted to help and find something that would be of, you know, of service and helping a little bit differently. And he wasn't sure if he wanted to do more of volunteering, like directly with an organization or potentially serving on a board. And I feel like that between probably me, Mary Joe, and we've made it clear, like, and Michelle, I know you're going to even do a better job than we have of like the roles and responsibilities of a board, you know, and that type of thing. But what I'm saying is that I feel like that he has realizing that, yes, he would like to be engaged in the mission. Any time that he has those opportunities to attend vents that, you know, board members are welcome to, he's likely going to be trying to engage, which that was exciting for me. So I feel like he's gonna be an engaged board member, but realize that that's, I think, the role that he would like to be in more than the volunteer, like directly with connections or an organization.

**Rochelle Miller** 106:34

So very Joe, I don't know if you have a and, and he is not a person who identifies with a disability.

**Speaker 3** 106:41

He does, yes. He's surprised to know that he had a disability, but yes, yeah, yeah, yeah. He is in, well, county he's in. I, I know, I thought you would like that.

**Speaker 1** 107:00

He, he does, like he's in the intense I T where they're working on finding out. Well, he audits, he audits companies to find out where they have an opportunity to have somebody come in and sabotage their networks. Security. Yeah, yeah, exactly. And he's a, and he is a diabetic.

**Speaker 3** 107:26

He's a really, he's a, he's a great guy. He's, he seems to be, you know, fun. I think, I think like fit, he, he would do great with, fit with the board. So that's, you know, he, he really connected, which that was fun to, to watch and, and that type of thing. And so, but I think he's a dedicated person. Like he did not take it lightly. And knowing he's a really, I mean, he's a chamber ambassador.

**Speaker 1** 108:00

So, you know, I think he told me it was probably the 5th or 6th time that I Grove that he thought that, yeah, it could be, that, that this might be the place for me. So in part of when I'm talking to people about connections, I'm talking about with them to say, if you want to get on a board, you're gonna learn how to be a board member. This is the board for you to be on, because we really focus on how to be a board member, the correct way to do it, not just showing up saying yay or nay, but actually being engaged in the board.

**Speaker 2** 108:36

Yeah, yeah. He and I talked about him listing in on the all hands meetings to really learn what nuts and bolts of the organization are. But he's also looking at this as a and Mary Joe just mentioned it as a learning experience how to be a board member. And you have to learn how to be board. Yeah. And that, you know, your job deals more with policy and not administration, and that's a hard lesson for a lot of people. So, yeah, I liked him.

**Speaker 2** 109:16

I thought he'd be a good dish. And I'd make a motion when we get into, back into session.

**Speaker 1** 109:24

Yeah, thanks to accept him. So, you, who else are we? Have you been talking to Elizabeth?

**Speaker 3** 109:31

Well, I want to check with Kate real quick. Kate, did you get a chance? And did that come through? The video? The video? Yeah, yeah, I sent a video. I sent an email and a video of his interview with me.

**Speaker 3** 109:45

And Lou, I didn't know if you got it or not.

**Speaker 4** 109:47

Okay, I think it's in my email, but I haven't had a chance to look at it.

**Speaker 3** 109:50

Okay. I just wanted to see if you had seen it. I wanted to hear your, your input to for sure. Go. That's a good question. The two people from the Bo from the board matching event, I did not have a chance, like I reached out to them. I never heard back from them.

**Speaker 3** 110:09

I can certainly follow up with them again, but I was giving them some time to decide. The other person, Alicia, that I believe Kevin spoke with, and she was the one that was out in, out East. She and she has a a son that has a disability. She does not, but definitely is, is living, living that experience. Talk to her before the board meeting today, and could tell you had been through a very overwhelming experience in the last couple of days, last ten days, she said, with hospitalization with her son and, and that type of thing. So certainly is not feel like she has a bandwidth to serve on a board. I just said, you know, is, and this is where I still feel like, and I know you feel like you showed me the other day.

**Speaker 3** 111:04

And of course, when I was put on the spot, I was like, where the heck is this stuff on the website? Anyways? So, you know, I wasn't sure. I mean, is that somebody that we help support, or what's the referral for a son?

**Rochelle Miller** 111:17

Yeah.

**Speaker 3** 111:17

And how old is her child? I don't know. I get into that.

**Rochelle Miller** 111:22

Cerebral palsy is, is what the, what he has, but has to be a certain age. Her youth transitions. And she's always welcome to call and Josh and the information and referral folks can give her some direction if she doesn't have it already. But I, I, yeah, I mean, it's, it's got to be somebody who's of a certain age. We don't serve children.

**Speaker 3** 111:50

And, yeah, yeah.

**Rochelle Miller** 111:51

Okay, well, I'm just gonna but there's, I want to say, I think that the, they have to be in high school.

**Speaker 3** 112:00

Okay, yeah. And so, and I didn't know if we had, I honestly didn't know if we had any, like support services for families or I thought we had some care give her support, but maybe I was wrong on that.

**Rochelle Miller** 112:11

So no, we do. And so, yeah, there's a, there's a bunch of referrals. It just depends on what she needs of where she to just call in or fill out the intake form on our website.

**Speaker 3** 112:24

Okay, I'm going to have her call in. I think that just is gonna be the easiest for her because what she said to me is, when I went to the website and saw all of the things that the board had to do, there's no way I have time for that. And I was like, what in the world were you looking at? So I mean, so I was like, okay. I mean, I was like, I can tell that this is not going to be a good I mean, I said, you know, I'd love to chat with you more. And she's like, and I could just tell she was very overwhelmed from her recent experience. I said, this does not seem like it's a good time.

**Speaker 3** 112:55

And if ever it is, you know, let us know, and let's see if there's anything we can help help you either refer you to or provide services for for you and your son, if that's applicable. So I'll email her with the connections main number and let her invite her to call, just because I figure that at least somebody I just really sense, like the overwhelm and I'm like, I don't think that she's got the support, because certainly she said all I can do is deal with my kids to their home schooled and then having the highest, very high needs kid. O so, yeah, so those are the that's so I'm not feeling like that we have very viable options. Okay, outside of Tim's application at this point, I do want to say that I do, and I've talked about this person, Norma is her name, and she's a financial advisor. I'm hoping to chat with her about the the board. I don't know necessarily about disability or anything like that, but she's getting financial advising and at the very least to potentially be on the finance committee. Yeah.

**Speaker 3** 114:17

So, but that's still one. She's going through a bit of transition. So I meet with her every once in a while and we chat. And so then I say, hey, what she's very interested in, in serving on a board. So, and I think, I don't know if she's served on a board before, too, but, but yeah, as far as the, the rural aspect or anything like that, I don't really have much more of an update. I did think about reaching out to a friend of mine whose family lives out there. His brother actually ended up with a brain injury recently due to an aneurysm.

**Speaker 3** 114:55

And when I say that was a couple of years ago, but, and they live in sterling. So, Kate, that brings me to asking the question to you. I forgot you had somebody that, that I, and I have not touched base yet. Elizabeth, I will, I will try. Okay. I mean, if it's, if it helps, I'm happy to. I know I called once, but I could call again, but I feel like, you know, sometimes that friendly aspect.

**Speaker 3** 115:28

So, and even if she isn't able to, I know that she knows a lot of people. So really just trying to get her to, to maybe recruit someone and, yeah, just have not been able to catch each other.

**Speaker 1** 115:43

So, yeah. What about getting some directions with the ills that are servicing that area?

**Rochelle Miller** 115:51

Are you asking for a consumer representative on the board? Doesn't necessarily have to be a consumer but if they're out there and engaging, yeah, yeah, no, that's Hannah. And the two folks that are in outreach have been sharing all of the information that we had. And that's where the one person came from that Elizabeth spoke with was from our outreach department. Yeah, in this last so we got two from, I thought that was pretty good. Stats from our out, from the outreach that we did. We got two from Greeley and one from the outer rim, outer county.

**Speaker 2** 116:33

Sorry, guys. That's okay.

**Rochelle Miller** 116:37

Hold on. So I will, we will continue to do that since we're continuing that campaign.

**Speaker 2** 116:42

Okay, sorry, I had to take a phone call.

**Speaker 1** 116:48

I got okay, all right.

**Speaker 3** 116:50

So we distill the executive.

**Speaker 2** 116:52

We got, we're executive.

**Speaker 3** 116:55

Okay, any other issues? No, just that the the people that were potential, either I haven't heard from, or one directly told me. No, Kim's or Kim, sorry. Kate is still trying to reach out to one of the other people that she knows and sterling, just to see if they know anybody else.

**Speaker 2** 117:16

You know, I have somebody in sterling that I'm thinking of in my, in our rotary club.

**Speaker 1** 117:23

That's what I was going to say. Can you got anybody in your rotary club that we could reach out to at well, we do have the accountant children. Are you talking about children.

**Speaker 2** 117:38

No, no, no. We had in our rotary club, there's a guy that lives in sterling. Oh. And he's an account. He's a bookkeeper for an accountant. He's not an account, and he's a designated whatever. Anyway, and older guy, bald headed, you know.

**Speaker 2** 118:06

Anyway, I'll talk to him next time I see him.

**Speaker 3** 118:12

I know him, Mary Jo, Rachel probably does.

**Speaker 2** 118:14

I don't get our German. I'm not a anyway, you know, darling, he lives in sterling. He, yeah, he goes back and forth between stern and and Greeley, but he's a public accountant. Can't the it's not ringing a bell. Thin, not too tall, bald head.

**Rochelle Miller** 118:46

Well, next time you see him say, hey, you, do you know anybody who is, yeah. Available? Do you want me to, do you want to go back into your meeting so you can set your January meeting date maybe, and then we can change it if we need to, but to get two on people's calendars. I know my January, February calendars are getting real full.

**Speaker 3** 119:08

Oh, it is for me to.

**Speaker 1** 119:10

And then we also have a matter from the session we need to vote on to so, but did you talk to Tim about times for meetings?

**Speaker 3** 119:21

Okay, what did he say? He said that he's pretty open it's up for Wednesdays. He can pretty much make anything work, but Wednesdays.

**Speaker 1** 119:27

Okay, so Tuesdays would work for him.

**Speaker 3** 119:29

And to yeah, so, I mean, and I believe Erica was fine too. Eco said Wednesdays were the worst, Tony. And then, and it's not just, I just was after no one lose. Got rotary on Thursdays. And, you know, who likes a board meeting on a Monday? I mean, Tim did say Monday would be kind of a he can make it for sure. But Monday would be a difficult one, because everything happens to business security on the weekends.

**Rochelle Miller** 120:01

But, and I would ask for no Monday, just because my Mondays are, like, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.. Are stacked already with meetings.

**Speaker 2** 120:09

It sounds like Tuesdays will work for me. My biggest problem on Tuesdays was we have this one, but now we get our Monday Wednesdays, because Julie's got medical, yeah, on Tuesday.

**Speaker 3** 120:26

So I'm gonna be a little bit tighter on Tuesdays. So I'm gonna have to hope that we can do it on the one I can do, because I'm part of leadership Northern Colorado.

**Speaker 2** 120:35

But we will, as long as it didn't interfere with lunch air time, because I have rotary or Fridays are open Friday, but we do Fridays. I'd recommend the Friday morning. But you know, some people don't work on Fridays anymore.

**Speaker 3** 120:52

I'm not, that's just a tough one. Yeah. Okay, yes, I'd say let's go back out of executive session. And or, I mean, because we can talk about that in the regular right?

**Speaker 2** 121:08

Yes, yeah.

**Rochelle Miller** 121:09

Okay, all right. And I'm going to click the button, right? Okay, you have to recall the meeting back to order.

**Speaker 3** 121:20

Okay, so we are recalling the meeting back to order at one. Oh, two from executive session.

**Speaker 2** 121:32

Welcome back. Okay, if we're going to change the time the day, can we also change the time? I'd rather do it like ten to twelve or two to four.

**Speaker 3** 121:46

Yeah, I was gonna say we don't overlap lunch hour, right? I think if we were to do ten to twelve, at least for me, that's gonna work. I've got a couple of things on Tuesday, so we'll just need to figure that out. And when I say that, that means it will be consistently, I can't do the 3rd or 4th Tuesday. So I was hoping for maybe the second Tuesday of the month. And I would, I would also go for the ten to noon, because Tony does have that 1 30 to three program with north range in the afternoon on Tuesdays.

**Speaker 2** 122:26

If we do a Tuesday, how does that deal with our being able to get our finance tell me, and tell me what day you are looking at again.

**Speaker 3** 122:42

And actually, yeah, Tuesdays.

**Speaker 1** 122:44

Okay, second Tuesday of every month.

**Rochelle Miller** 122:46

That couldn't be really rough on the finance team. What about the times? Because January, the 1st is on a Sunday, and that would mean they'd have to have everything closed out and financials to me. But yeah, I I can't get those to you by then. I really can't. So I mean, we could do 17 January or 24 January, but I have to have financials done a week ahead of time to get you your board packet.

**Speaker 3** 123:13

Okay, so I can't do any of I can't do either. The I can't do the 4th Tuesday of the month, from January till June at all. And then the 3rd I can't do. I can't do in the morning, and Tony won't be able to do in the afternoon, but you know what you have. So we may need to decide on a different day. If you want Thursday, let's go back to the Thursday.

**Rochelle Miller** 123:40

I do you want to wait to lose gotten in January? That would be either the 19th or the 26.

**Speaker 3** 123:49

She's not that you pay, so I don't care, Lou, I know Thursdays are not ideal.

**Speaker 1** 124:00

Could you do Thursday mornings?

**Speaker 2** 124:02

Lo I can do Thursday morning, but I'll tell you, I'm going to be out of here by a 11:45. Right? That's fair. I mean, do we really an hour and a half for boarding? I know today it's been long, but right? Yeah, we did ten to 1130.

**Speaker 1** 124:20

I'm good with that. That's perfect. Okay.

**Speaker 3** 124:25

Does that work for you?

**Speaker 2** 124:28

Yes, it does.

**Rochelle Miller** 124:29

Good. The 3rd week of the month, I do have multiple federal meetings. Is there a way to move it to the, to the 26th?

**Speaker 3** 124:39

I'm okay with that.

**Rochelle Miller** 124:42

I'm in Tampa, and then that would also be 23 February. It would be 26 January, 23 February.

**Speaker 3** 124:53

Who's in Kapa? I am in Tampa on the 26th. The 23rd. That would be fine for sure.

**Rochelle Miller** 125:09

For me. Does that mean you're not able to attend on the 26th? Are you on vacation vacation? Yeah. But I'm glad for you. So what was the date, 26th of January? It's every 3rd Thursday.

**Rochelle Miller** 125:25

I have back to, I have like 5 h of federal and a meetings on those 3rd Thursdays, the 4th so yeah.

**Speaker 1** 125:39

Elizabeth, is that the only time that you are not available is that particular 4th Thursday of the month?

**Speaker 3** 125:53

I'm looking one, two, three, four. Yeah, it looks like that at this point, for sure.

**Speaker 2** 126:03

One, two, three, four.

**Speaker 3** 126:08

Well, we'll excuse you.

**Speaker 1** 126:10

You should take your vacation.

**Speaker 3** 126:13

That what I think your vacation get about us wait one to yeah, the 26. Yeah.

**Rochelle Miller** 126:22

I mean, 22, 23 and three, 23, right.

**Speaker 2** 126:27

And 3 23. Yeah, that works for me.

**Speaker 3** 126:30

Because, yeah, the time, again, with nine to eleven, I would say, let's do what if we just, could we just do 9 30 to like eleven, and then if it goes a little bit over on the rear instance, 30 to eleven works for me. Well, yeah, in your, your time. If we're over by 15 Min or whatever, right? I mean, for your next meeting, and then you got a break 11:45. I'm, I'm way off the door. Yeah, we know. Yeah, yeah.

**Speaker 2** 127:02

Well, I appreciate your flexibility. 30, 30 year eleven sounds good to be.

**Speaker 1** 127:09

Okay, I'm good for that too.

**Speaker 3** 127:10

I may or may not be awake, so there's that.

**Speaker 1** 127:16

Yeah, just kidding. You need to drink some, so Celsius when you get up in the morning, then get your vitamins in your caffeine all at once.

**Speaker 2** 127:23

Boom, just like that. I get plenty drinking my deca coffee.

**Rochelle Miller** 127:30

All right. I've got us down for January 26. February 23 and March 23 from 9 30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.. Is that correct? Yes, yes. Elizabeth, I will make adjustments to our agenda calendar, and I will get those out to everybody with the link and done. Then you had one vote item, and I know everybody's got to run.

**Speaker 2** 127:58

Yeah. Okay, all right. Make a motion, except him last name, I don't know. Wilson. Wilson. I make a motion. We accept Tim Wilson to the board of directors of connections for independent living.

**Speaker 1** 128:18

I'll second it. All. In favor. Any any more discussion?

**Speaker 3** 128:25

Favor on favor a and if we're not allowed to vote, right?

**Rochelle Miller** 128:30

Nope, you can vote. You can. I would like a, I'm going to call for a what's it called? I want an individual of an individual roll call for this one, please, with your name.

**Speaker 3** 128:42

Mary Joe Bros yes, I Elizabeth Mahoney, yes.

**Rochelle Miller** 128:51

Hey, how yes. Since we're using the New Bot system, I just want to make sure I have it correct.

**Speaker 1** 128:58

Yeah, that sounds motion passes. Elizabeth, do you want to call Tim then?

**Speaker 3** 129:04

Yeah, yep. Okay, wonderful.

**Speaker 1** 129:07

All right. And then, Maria, will you be following up with him as well?

**Rochelle Miller** 129:10

Then if you would, please send me his information. I'll make sure to get him on the roster and get all of the other things to him. And Elizabeth, I said to a little packet that boulder shared with me. There was some new things on engaging board members on there. I would love by the second meeting, we get them into one of the peer support group meetings and all kinds of stuff.

**Speaker 3** 129:31

So good stuff. Awesome. And, yeah, thank you for that. And I'm excited to have him join our board. So, all right, thank you everyone.

**Rochelle Miller** 129:41

See you in January. I need a call for something to yeah, to adjourn.

**Speaker 3** 129:48

One thing. Can we just talk real quick and share about the holiday party? Just hope to see everybody there.

**Rochelle Miller** 129:54

Lou move to adjourn. We could do that outside the meeting.

**Speaker 1** 130:00

I will.

**Speaker 3** 130:02

Then second it. Can I favor? I I just a reminder that we have the holiday party on Wednesday, December 14. I have twelve to four.



**Rochelle Miller** 130:15

Is that correct? It is because we're doing a murder mystery after lunch. So if you would, please, yeah, and and more details to come, I will email those out. But if, and if you have somebody that you would like to bring, if Brad would come, if you feel, and we'll keep everybody up to date on how the situations going with being in area, together inside. But if significant other would like to come along, then please have them come. We'll just do a head count.

**Speaker 1** 130:47

And since we are doing a nice lunch, okay, what are we doing for lunch? What are you doing for lunch? I don't know, but it'll be nice.

**Speaker 3** 130:58

Okay, sounds good. Thank you, Alex.

**Speaker 1** 131:02

Good day.

**Rochelle Miller** 131:03

Bye everybody.

**Speaker 3** 131:04

Thank you. Thank you.

**Rochelle Miller** 131:06

Bye guy. Ellie, bye viy. Oh, that's bi.

**Speaker 2** 131:11

Oh, sorry, it's cute. It's a little one.

**Rochelle Miller** 131:13

Ellie, is in school? You're so big. I thought you were Ellie. See you later, guys. Have.