

**Upper Arkansas Regional Service Council
Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, December 16, 2009
10:00 a.m.**

**Upper Arkansas Area Council of Governments Administration Building
Canon City, CO**

- I. Call to order:** Larry called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

- II. Introduction:**
Board Members: Bart Hall, Larry Lasha, Dennis Giese, Carole Custer, Sherry Haynie, and Don Farr. Staff: Judy Lohnes, Carol Roberts, Sharon McKinsey, Audrey Sandefur, JoBeth Palmer. Guests: Susan Touchstone and Dave Wall.

- III. Financial Report** – Carol – action item
 - a. Cash in bank \$56,677.50. May see additional funds come through from Holcium. Mr. Biggerstaff's may be coming through with a large donation. Larry recommended that we move this to CSAFE to draw interest. Bart made a motion to approve the financial report with a 2nd by Carole. **All agreed.**

- IV. Request for use of organization by other agencies**
 - a. The Canon Literacy Center

Dave Wall presented information regarding the Canon Literacy Center. The center will allow kids who are reading at least one grade level below their grade level to offer assistance to them. They are focusing efforts on 2nd and 3rd grades. This program is for children in grades 1 through 6.

They are hoping to move their 501(c)3 status from a church, which limits the funds they can apply for. They would like to use the Regional Service Council as fiscal sponsorship.

Dave had a handout that included the budget. The duration of UARSC fiscal agent would be until they receive their own 501(c)3 or one year. There were questions that their board had for our board and through discussion, those questions were answered.

Dennis asked if they work with the local school districts. Dave indicated that their individual teachers identify the kids. This is free one on one tutoring for children in 1st through 6th grades. Dennis wanted to know if they had plans to move into the Cotopaxi school. Dave said they had not planned to go there as of now. Dennis wanted to know the screening process of the tutors and Dave said that they do a background check. The site coordinator will match the tutors to the students. Carole asked if the protocol to screen the volunteers was the same as the school districts. Dave indicated the tutors need to have a high school education and be a good reader to help the students. Carol asked about the focus and wanted to know if they would expand to math skills. Dave said that they are going to focus on literacy and not math. Dave indicated they have a waiting list

of children that need help. Carol said to check with Fremont County DHS to see if they have additional resources if transportation is an issue.

Dennis moved that we allow UARSC to be the fiscal agency for the literacy center with a 2nd by Carole. **All in agreement.**

V. Updates on Activities

Sharon said the activities are continuing in Teller County and are working on eight projects. We still have the Prairie Sage subdivision, have sold four lots, and are looking at another four lots to be sold. The Self Help program has candidates for another group. At this time, we are waiting on Rural Development. There should be a new appraisal completed.

Sherry gave a report on her experience of building a home through the Self Help program. She said it was a different experience from what she first thought. She said there were many unknowns throughout the process. She is happy with her home and proud of her accomplishment.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 by Larry.