**Rural Housing Coalition**

**Meeting Minutes from July 21, 2016**

Attendance: Suzanne Marsolek, Lisa Lindner, Ashley Kanusak, Peggy Hakala, Katherine Halama and Jeanne Semb.

Jeanne Semb welcomed the group and introductions were made.

Agency updates: Lisa Lindner, Head Start: They are prepping for fall registrations and doing enrollment for Head Start and Early Head Start. They are hiring a center manager for Blair. Mary Anderson, Trempealeau County Human Services: They have some crisis funds left for energy assistance program. She also has Salvation Army vouchers for the county. Suzanne Marsolek, Western Dairyland Homeless Shelter Program: The shelters are full. Have homeless families call to be put on the waiting list. They also have some rental assistance funds for homeless people.

Jeanne checked with Anna at Western Dairyland, and WD currently doesn’t have a way to host or facilitate Go To Meetings. Jeanne then contacted the Balance of State Continuum of Care to see if our coalition could utilize the system to be able to have our local meetings in that format. She hasn’t heard back from them yet regarding this.

Point-in-Time Survey: The PIT will be on 7/27/16 from 11 p.m. on Wednesday night until 6 a.m. on Thursday. Suzanne Marsolek from Western Dairyland will be coordinating the count in Trempealeau County. Peggy Hakala from Bolton Refuge will coordinate Jackson County and Ashley Kanusak, Bolton Refuge will be coordinating Buffalo County. We have volunteers in all three counties at this time. Lori Peterson from Salvation Army donated back packs to give to any homeless people found. In addition, we packed them full of blankets, resource lists, and personal care items. Salvation Army also provided motel vouchers to offer to any homeless people that are found that night.

The next Rural Housing Coalition meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 1 p.m. at Western Dairyland in Independence, WI.

Suzanne Marsolek 9/6/16