Topics and Discussion

General:
- Zone names
  - Identify counties in each zone to connect people to services
  - Goal: eliminate client/partner confusion when receive communication from a county other than where they reside (i.e. pilot project central intake)
  - Maintain federal reporting by county of residence
  - Implementation costs

Legal & Zone agreements/plans:
- Agreement should be brief and high level
- Zone plan includes detail information
- Intent to make it easier than multi-county district agreement
- Interim zone director makes child custodial decisions
- Discussion on who can serve as interim director and on zone boards that hire zone director
- Discussed clarifying duties and roles of county directors, interim zone directors and county commissioners during the zone formation process
- Interim director has authority to make binding decisions after zone is created (01-01-2020)

HR:
- HCBS staffing (64 slots to fill)
  - Map out FTE and caseload by county
  - County supervisors not carrying a caseload not included in HCBS FTE
  - Have no boundaries, so could have HCBS case manager assist in other counties/zones
  - 54 people said >75%+ of time dedicated to HCBS
  - 9 others want to do HCBS
- Border counties and dual state licensure
  - Discussed payment of MN and ND licensing fees for social workers in border counties who need to practice in other states
- Visitor reports ordered by courts
  - Meet community needs, business need, and provision of services when staff resources permit
- Planned retirements/workers who may want to relocate and work elsewhere
- FTE Report
  - Counties report 1,248 FTE
  - 188 are vacant - a higher rate than state
  - Some positions are being recruited for
  - Define what exists, determine FTE needed to provide services
  - FTE must be net neutral.
  - FTE will transfer (county to state), not people

Workers Comp premiums
- Auditors support solution discussed

Other:
- Authority to spend Human Services Fund dollars must be authorized by DHS
- Goals is to fix equity issues as a whole; not piecemeal