



BOARD MINUTES – 03/08/2024

LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (Early Childhood Iowa Area) met on Friday, March 8, 2024 at 12:30 p.m. at Linking Families and Communities' conference room.

Members present:

Clarence Siepker
Bob Thode
Scott Becker

Pastor Nick Thackery
Justin Daggett
Tammy Varland

Members absent:

Kristin Teske

Community members present:

Elizabeth Stanek

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Clarence Siepker at 12:32 p.m. Quorum was met.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Siepker asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. No changes were suggested.

MOTION: Mr. Daggett moved to approve the agenda as presented.

SECOND: Mr. Becker

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Board Minutes

Mr. Siepker asked if there were any changes or additions to the minutes of the December 14th, 2023 board minutes. It was noted that Ms. Varland should be added to the present list and Mr. Thackery' name is misspelled under board membership.

MOTION: Ms. Varland moved to approve the board minutes from December 14th, 2023 with corrections as noted.

SECOND: Mr. Thackery

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously

Child Care Nurse Consultant Update

Ms. Jess Cook, the new Child Care Nurse at Webster County Health Department, presented to the board. Ms. Cook was hired recently and will finish her training at the end of January. She has been reaching out to child care providers in the area and reported there is a lot of interest in the IQ4K rating system, CPR training and Medication Administration training. Ms. Cook noted that she has been providing information to providers on a monthly basis through emails and newsletters and is always taking calls and email from providers. She reported that the following are pretty common requests of providers: health and safety checks, medication administration training and special health care needs plans for allergies, diabetes, etc.



Financial Statements

Ms. Stanek presented the financial statements to the board.

MOTION: Ms. Varland moved to approve the financial statements for November and December 2023 as prepared by Bowser & Richman.

SECOND: Mr. Becker

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously

Audit Report

Ms. Stanek presented the audit report as prepared by TP Anderson & Co.

MOTION: Mr. Thackery moved to approve the audit report for the year ending on June 30, 2023 as prepared by TP Anderson & Co.

SECOND: Mr. Daggett

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously

FY24 Budget Update

Ms. Stanek presented an update of the FY24 budget and provided projections for spending of each program in the budget.

Executive Committee Recommendations

Members of the Executive Committee made the following recommendations to the board:

- Utilize unspent program funding to assist child care centers that are struggling with program materials, building requirements and instructional support and use remaining funds for center design development services.
- Move forward with the new center project and issue an RFQ/P for center design services.
- Accept board evaluation results.
- Utilize a renewal budget request from current programs for FY25 funding.

MOTION: Ms. Varland made the motion to accept the recommendations made by the Executive Committee as presented.

SECOND: Mr. Becker

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously

Oktoberfest

Mr. Thackery reported that Oktoberfest is currently scheduled for September 14th at Oleson Park. He noted that last year was an educational year and there will be changes. He would like to request \$10,000 for the event and encouraged the board to be involved.

Data Updates

Ms. Stanek provided the update to the Strategic Plan's community indicators and the 6 month program performance measures. The board held discussion.



Administrative Update

Ms. Stanek briefly provided an update found in the **Director Update-3/8/24**.

- The Study Club fundraiser benefitting the new center will be held on April 4th from 6-9 at the Laramar Ballroom.
- Updates on the Child Care Project including roof repairs, greenhouse sale, processes to be completed for grants to be applied for including the grant received.
- Updates on Iowa Health and Human Services – legislatively it looks like there will not be changes to ECI during this legislative session, as this session is focusing on the Behavioral/Mental Health System in Iowa. As indicated in the HHS Service Delivery Alignment Assessment Report, there are several options that HHS may be considering for the future. The Association of Early Childhood Boards & Advocates will be keeping a close eye on what transpires with the Behavioral Health System this year as it may indicate changes to come to ECI and other agencies/initiatives put under HHS last year.

Adjourn

With no further business, Mr. Siepker asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Thackery

SECOND: Ms. Varland

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 1:32 p.m.

- Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Stanek

Next Meeting: June 13, 2024 at 12:30 pms