LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (Early Childhood Iowa Area) Executive Committee met on Wednesday, October 7, 2026, at 1:30 p.m. at Linking Families and Communities conference room at 822 Central Avenue, Suite 300, Fort Dodge.

Members present:

Clarence Siepker (online)
Nick Thackery (online)
Bob Thode

Members absent:

None

Community Members Present

Elizabeth Stanek

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Clarence Siepker at 1:30 p.m. Quorum was met.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Siepker asked if there were any changes to the agenda. No changes were required.

MOTION: Mr. Thode made the motion to approve the agenda as printed.
SECOND: Mr. Thackery
Discussion: None
ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and Approve Organizational Plan

Ms. Stanek presented the Organization Restructuring and Transition Plan for committee consideration. The committee discussed the plan and next steps.

MOTION: Mr. Thode made the motion to recommend that the board approve the plan to separate ECI from the non-profit with a goal of separate entities on July 1, 2027 and that an oversight committee for SEEDS be created immediately.
SECOND: Mr. Thackery
Discussion: None
ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

SEEDS Transportation Policy Updates

Ms. Stanek provided updates to the transportation sections of the SEEDS Staff and Parent handbooks for review.

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Preschool Tuition Assistance

Ms. Stanek presented the Preschool Tuition Assistance policy (13.2) for approval and recommendation. The policy expands preschool tuition assistance on a sliding fee scale for families between 201-300% of the Federal Poverty Level, which was approved at the September 10th Board meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Thode made the motion to recommend that the board approve policy 13.2 Child Eligibility – Tuition Assistance.
SECOND: Mr. Thackery
Discussion: None
ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Set Board Meeting

The Committee will poll board members in order to set a board meeting for October.

Director Update

Ms. Stanek provided an update on grant funding.

Meeting adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Stanek

NEXT MEETING:

Oct 2026