LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (Early Childhood Iowa Area) Executive Committee met on Tuesday, September 4, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. at Linking Families and Communities conference room at 822 Central Avenue, Suite 300, Fort Dodge.

Members present:

Clarence Siepker
Nick Thackery
Bob Thode

Members absent:

None

Community Members Present

Elizabeth Stanek

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Clarence Siepker at 2:00 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.

SEEDS

Ms. Stanek reported that a van is needed for the center. Committee members held a discussion and directed Ms. Stanek to check into additional options and present to the board.

Ms. Stanek reported that the SEEDS site needs additional grading as ponding is happening on sections of concrete and provided a proposal for review noting that this should be taken care of prior to winter. Committee members held a discussion and will bring additional ideas to the board meeting.

Early Childhood Iowa

Ms. Stanek reviewed the ECI budget approved at the June board meeting. The committee discussed the needs from the LFC *Strategic Plan*, *Tool O* and *Tool G*.

MOTION: Mr. Thackery made the motion to recommend that the board target the unallocated funds to expand preschool tuition on a sliding fee scale for families at 201% - 300% of the federal poverty level, pilot an early care scholarship program and support additional literacy initiatives.

SECOND: Mr. Thode
Discussion: None
ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Siepker announced that he had received the ECI Contract Amendment and it is signed. The amendment removed the required adoption of a chapter of state created policy manual and provided updated designation document titled, *ECI Designation and Monthly Monitoring Timeline Checklist. Ms. Stanek reported that all tasks have been completed through August 31st.*

Committee members reviewed the annual report as presented.

Operations
Ms. Stanek reviewed with the committee current financial accounts, fiscal processing and held a discussion on updating board policies.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Stanek

NEXT MEETING:
Oct/Nov 2026