



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (Early Childhood Iowa Area) Executive Committee met on Friday, March 6, 2026, at 10:00 a.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 11:00 a.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.

Operations

Ms. Stanek reviewed the current operations and benefits and shared concerns over potential changes to ECI, unknown circumstances and the child care project. Ms. Stanek reported that the auditor suggested moving to doing our own financials using QuickBooks/Peachtree, switching to a cash basis and utilizing a payroll service as a way to streamline efforts and reduce costs. The committee discussed fiscal operations as well as employee benefits. The committee recommended the following:

- Seek bids for book-keeping services and payroll.
- Eliminate Health Insurance benefit for staff and remove from policy manual
- Get bid for fiscal agent or employer of record from Central Iowa Juvenile Detention.
- Review organizational structure with auditor for suggestions for future circumstances (separate entity)?



SEEDS

Ms. Stanek provided updates on the project. She reported that site drainage options are currently under review with cost estimates in process as are dishwasher options.

Committee members set interviews for Thursday, March 12th.

Adjournment

Mr. Siepker called for a motion to adjourn

MOTION: Mr. Thackery made the motion to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Mr. Thode

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Stanek

NEXT MEETING:

March 16, 2026