



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

LINKING FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES (Early Childhood Iowa Area) Executive Committee met on Monday, March 6, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at Linking Families and Communities.

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 10:02 a.m. Quorum was met.

Agenda

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

MOTION: Ms. Thode moved to approve the agenda as printed.

SECOND: Mr. Thackery

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Board Policy 5.29 – Federal Funds Procurement Policy

Committee members reviewed the policy. Ms. Stanek noted that the policy is required in order to meet the requirements for the Child Care Business Incentive Grant that was received from Iowa Workforce Development because the grant is 100% federal funding.

MOTION: Mr. Thode moved to approve policy 5.29 as printed and recommend to the board.

SECOND: Mr. Thackery



Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Strategic Plan Data Update

Ms. Stanek shared and reviewed the Strategic Plan Data Update, which looks at the community-wide indicators as listed in the plan. A couple of data sources lag behind in publishing data. Mr. Siepker recommended looking for a different source in order to be able to review more current data across all indicators.

Budget Review

Ms. Stanek reviewed the FY23 budget with projected spending by contract and requests received.

MOTION: Mr. Thode motioned to recommend to the board the following for FY23:

- Increase YOUR Head Start's contract to \$52,498.06, an increase of \$5,880.06, and add provisions to utilize \$15,000 of the contract amount for a sunshade for their playground.
- Amend the contract with Calhoun County Public Health's Family Foundations program to include incentives, such as diapers, wipes and formula for a maximum of \$10,000;
- Commit \$100,000 for furnishings for the collaborative child care center project.

SECOND: Mr. Thackery

Discussion: Ms. Stanek will reach out to St. Olaf regarding needs.

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

FY24 RFP Process

Ms. Stanek provided two applications for the committee to review. The first **FY24 New Program Application** contains all the directions and links to our strategic plan, as well as, to the State ECI tools. It is longer form in which the applicant will provide more information on bench marks, target audience, goals, program processes, etc. The second, **Linking Families and Communities Program Renewal Application**, is a two-page form for those programs that are currently being funded to re-apply for funds. The renewal includes a brief description,



notes any changes that are planned for the upcoming year and a budget request.

MOTION: Mr. Thackery moved to approve and recommend the use of the two application forms to the board for FY24.

SECOND: Mr. Thode

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Evaluation

Ms. Stanek presented the results of the Executive Evaluation that was completed via an online survey of board members. Committee members reviewed the data, noting that the results were very positive and no issues were noted.

Project Updates

Ms. Stanek provided updates on the projects in which she is managing, including:

- Breathing to Balance KIDS;
- Child Care Center Director Meetings;
- Fort Dodge Play and Learn Center; and
- Child Care Project

Ms. Stanek also provided a legislative update from Eide & Walton, including the child care bill tracker. See **Director Update 3/6/23**.

Mr. Thode mentioned that he has been opening the Greater Fort Dodge Growth Alliance building for Child Care Resource & Referral's Child Net class and it is going well. He also noted that the Foster Grandparent program is experiencing a shortage of grandparents. Referrals of seniors can be made to the new program director, Mary Solverson. This may possibly be a source of help for child care centers.

Adjournment

Mr. Siepker asked if there was a motion to adjourn.

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



SECOND: Mr. Thackery

Discussion: None

ACTION: Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted By: Elizabeth Stanek

NEXT MEETING:

TBD