

Early Childhood Iowa: Lakes Region and Decategorization Board Minutes
Thursday, April 4, 2013
Hartley Public Library
91 1st Street SE
Hartley, Iowa

The mission of Early Childhood Iowa: Lakes Region is to provide services collaboratively to families and children birth to 18 years of age for the purpose of improving the quality of life for families with children.

Attending:

Voting Members Attending

1. Mary Sloan
2. Arlene Roemmich
3. Barb Wilkerson
4. Jean Severson
5. Joe Skow
6. Rich Mattison
7. Merlin Sandersfeld
8. Paula Miller
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.

Voting Members Absent

- Connie Olhausen *
Daryl Streng*
Joyce Kruse
Cindy Barwick*

Others Present (Nonvoting)

- Betsy Moritz
Erin Binneboese
Linda Littlefield
Shakira Meyer
Travis Edwards
Julie Krogman
Peg Koester
Hope Paez

Quorum present. *Recorded excused absence. Arlene Roemmich left meeting at 10:20; quorum maintained. Joe left meeting at 10:25. Lack of quorum. Joe Skow rejoined the meeting by telephone at 10:40. Quorum present.

ECI

Call to Order/Adopt Agenda/Comments from the Public:

Chair Barb Wilkerson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

- A. Adopt Agenda – Jean Severson made a motion to approve the agenda. Second by Merlin Sandersfeld. All ayes. Motion passed. .
- B. Comments from the Public – Board members and public attendees introduced themselves. There were no comments from the public.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Mary Sloan to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2013 meeting. Second by Jean Severson. All ayes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report - ECI:

ECI Financials – Travis Edwards reviewed the ECI FY13 financials and expenditures through February, 2013. The report was emailed to Board members prior to the meeting. There was discussion of undesignated funds and the request for proposal process. Motion by Merlin Sandersfeld to approve the treasurer's report. Second by Joe Skow. All ayes. Motion passed.

Director's Report - Betsy Moritz, Program Services Coordinator/Interim Director

Betsy shared the April 2013 report and discussed the FY14 draft ECI school ready budget, cost allocation, and Request for Renewal process.

Old Business:

- A. ECI Director Position – Five applications have been received to date. The interview panel will consist of Joe Skow, Paula Miller, Mary Sloan, and Betsy Moritz. Applications will be sent to board members for review. Comments are to be submitted by April 12 with interviews April 19.
- B. Board Membership – Barb Wilkerson reviewed the legislated representation for ECI area boards and prior membership committee report. Board discussion followed. Motion by Barb that the ECI LR board be composed of two representatives from each county and meet the legislated requirements. Second by Joe Skow. There was further discussion regarding ECI and DCAT board meeting

schedules. Joe called for a vote. All ayes. Motion passed. Motion by Jean Severson to revise board by-laws to reflect changes. Second by Mary Sloan. All ayes. Motion passed. Motion by Jean Severson that the DCAT board be composed of the mandated membership requirements. Second by Merlin Sandersfeld. All ayes. Motion passed.

New Business:

- A. KIDS Presentation – Linda Littlefield introduced the KIDS staff covering the ECI Lakes Region: Julie Krogman (Clay and Dickinson), Peg Koester (O'Brien and Osceola), and Hope Paez (O'Brien and Osceola and Hispanic families across the four counties). Each described services provided to families and their responses, curricula used, and experiences specific to the county served. Staff reported seeing increasing ethnic diversity across the area. All spoke of positive, supportive partnerships and collaborations with other community agencies and organizations. KIDS staff and board members discussed potentially dangerous situations (drug use, domestic violence, etc.) that staff may encounter on home visits, as well as critical issues, such as mental health, that face families.
- B. Nature Connections – In follow up to the Nature Connections presentation at the March meeting, Mary Sloan moved to allocate \$1,500 in unobligated funds to support Young Investigators teams from schools in the four county ECI LR. Second by Jean Severson. All ayes. Motion passed.

Future Agenda Items:

- A. Board Membership

Chair Barb Wilkerson adjourned the ECI board at 10:30.

DCAT

Treasurer's Report:

Please refer to New Business, A.

Old Business:

None

New Business:

- A. Budget Detail - Erin Binneboese reviewed budget balances with expenditures through March. FY13 Community Partnerships for Protecting Children (CPPC) funds will be used for the DCAT Coordinator position because those funds cannot be carried forward.
- B. FY14 Contract Recommendations – Erin presented and discussed the FY14 contract recommendations. Motion by Jean Severson to send out FY14 Contract Recommendations electronically for board members to cast their vote before the next board meeting. Joe Skow joined the meeting by telephone at 10:40 .am. Quorum met. Jean amended the prior motion and moved to approve FY14 contract renewals. Second by Merlin Sandersfeld. All ayes. Motion carried.

Other:

- A. DCAT/DHS Updates
 - DHS updates – No new updates
 - DCAT – Erin reported the state parent partner contract was awarded to Children and Families of Iowa which was the only bidder. Negotiations are moving forward. On the agenda for the next CPPC meeting is discussion of FY14 programming and services.

Adjourn:

Jean Severson made a motion to adjourn the DCAT meeting. Second by Merlin Sandersfeld. All ayes. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Betsy Moritz
Program Services Coordinator

The next board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 2, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.
at the Hartley Public Library, 91 1st Street SE, Hartley IA.

Board members are encouraged to access the Early Childhood Iowa website at www.earlychildhoodiowa.org
and the local website at www.ecilakesregion.com