



## *Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa*

### *Board Meeting*

*Thursday, October 15th, 2015, 8:30 a.m.*

*Olin Consolidated School, Olin*

**Members Present:** Kandice Behnke, Molly Crowley, Teri Jo Griebat, Lisa Kepford, David Lorenzen, Jamie Nelson, Lesley Puffer, Deb Schultz, Deb Schwitzer, Steve Stepp, Jean Sullivan, Steve Williams, and Donna Young.

**Members Absent:** Dennis Boedeker.

**Others Present:** Melissa Tucker, LSI; Julie Orris and Holly Hall, Jones County Agricultural Extension; Dan Wendler, Midland Comm. School District; Pam Lynch, Child Care Resource and Referral, and Sherri Hunt, ECI Director.

- I. Call Meeting to Order** – Board Chairperson Kandice Behnke called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. with quorum achieved with 12 out of 14 members present. Introductions were made by all present.
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes** – Deb Schwitzer made a motion, seconded by Lesley Puffer to **approve the ECI Board meeting minutes from September 17th, 2015 Board Meeting with a correction regarding member adjourning meeting.** All approved. Motion carried.
- III. FY16 Financials** – Jamie Nelson made a motion, seconded by Teri Jo Griebat to **accept the FY16 ECI Financials as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.  
  
Deb Schultz called via telephone into the meeting at 8:45 a.m. Quorum maintained at 13/14 members present.
- IV. Review of Quarterly Program Reports** – Sherri reviewed all Quarterly Program Reports and Quarterly Financials with Board members. Sherri explained that some programs see very little activity in the summer months and really don't get into full swing until September. No concerns were noted. Jean Sullivan made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson to **approve the FY16 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Program and Financial Reports as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- V. Preschool Scholarship Program – Update and Exception to Policy** – Melissa Tucker, Preschool Scholarship Program Manager, gave the Board an update regarding the current utilization of preschool scholarships in Cedar and Jones counties. There is a 4-year-old child on the waiting list that lives in Scott County and attends preschool in Cedar County. There are no funds available for this child to attend preschool from Scott County Kids. Sherri is asking the Board if they would like to consider an exception to policy to fund an out of county child to attend Preschool in Cedar County. Steve Stepp made a

motion, seconded by Steve Williams **to make an exception to policy and fund this 4-year-old child from Scott County through scholarship to attend preschool in Cedar County for the FY16.** All approved. Motion carried. Sherri and Melissa will notify the family of scholarship eligibility.

- VI. LSI Home Visitation – Update** – Sherri gave the Board an updated regarding the LSI Home Visitation Program. Kandi Behnke and Sherri met with management from LSI to discuss the hiring of new staff, FY16 financials and projections, and goals with current staffing levels.
- VII. Child Care Provider Quality Improvement Project Update** – Sherri gave the Board an update on the Child Care Provider Quality Improvement Project and Contract with Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R). Grant applications are currently being requested, due by December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015 with QRS applications due by February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016 as needed. Programs wishing to apply must be participating or planning to participate in Iowa’s Quality Rating System. Programs must be DHS or DE Licensed or Registered and carrying for children 0-5 years old in the Cedar and Jones counties. Award letters are mailed out in March of 2016 and items will be purchased by CCR&R and sent to providers. Applications are available through local Child Care Consultants or Child Care Nurse Consultants and require a visit prior to applying. CCR&R will provide us with an update on requests received in February.
- VIII. Little Lion Learning Center** – Sherri let the Board know that Little Lion Learning Center in Olin will not be hosting the 16 Early Head Start slots as originally planned. The Little Lion Board determined it was cost prohibitive to move forward with these slots and the contract with Hawkeye Area Community Action Program.
- IX. Child Care Resource & Referral Presentation** – Pam Lynch with Child Care Resource and Referral gave a presentation to the Board on the services offered by CCR&R. Services available were divided between services for parents, childcare providers, employers, and the community.
- X. Public Comment** – No public comments were made.
- XI. Adjourn** -- Donna Young made a motion, seconded by Molly Crowley **to adjourn the meeting at 9:54 a.m.** All approved.

**Next Executive Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, November 11th, 2015, 8:00 a.m.,  
The Skillet, Mt. Vernon

**Board Meeting:** Thursday, November 19th, 2015, 8:30 a.m., Olin CS, Olin