



Cedar/Jones County Early Childhood Iowa

Board Meeting

Thursday, October 17th, 2013, 8:30 a.m.

Olin Consolidated School, Olin

Members Present: Kelly Banowetz, Kandice Behnke, Paul Frederiksen, Dennis Boedeker, Larry Hanon, Jamie Nelson, Lesley Puffer, and Jean Sullivan.

Members Absent: Teri Jo Griebat, Deb Schultz, and Steve Williams.

Others Present: Sherri Hunt, ECI Director; Lynette Otten and Stephanie Snyder, LSI; Julie Orris, ISU Extension; Bonnie Butler, Cedar County Public Health, and Cindy Heck, CCR&R.

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Board Chair Kandice Behnke with quorum achieved with 8 out of 11 members present. Introductions were held by all members and guests.
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – Paul Frederiksen made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to approve the ECI Board meeting minutes from September 19th, 2013 as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- III. **FY14 ECI Financials – Acceptance of** – Jamie Nelson made a motion, seconded by Lesley Puffer **to accept the ECI FY14 financials as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- IV. **Child Care Provider Mini Grants – Next Steps** – Jean Sullivan made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to convene a committee to begin establishing policies and procedures for distribution of mini grants to child care providers and to provide oversight of the process.** All approved. Motion carried. Committee members will include Jamie Nelson, Sherri Hunt, Child Care Nurse Consultants, ISU Extension, and CCR&R.
- V. **Membership Exception to Policy for Deb Schultz** – Sherri noted that Deb Schultz has missed three consecutive Board meetings and according to policy, has submitted her resignation from the ECI Board. However, Deb would like to maintain her position on the Board and notes that changes within the Mental Health System have made it difficult for her to attend meetings lately and that she has spent a considerable amount of time out of the office attending meetings regarding this system redesign. Larry Hanson made a motion, seconded by Paul Frederiksen **to reject the resignation of Deb Schultz and allow her to continue in her term as an ECI Board member.** All approved. Motion carried.
- VI. **Quarterly Program Reports** – Sherri reviewed Quarterly Program Reports and Financials for the Child Care Alliance Response Team, the Cedar and Jones Child Care Nurse Consultants, the Child Care Resource Coordinator, LSI Home Visitation Program, the I-Smile Program Expansion, the Lead Testing Program, and Preschool Scholarship Programs in Cedar and Jones. Programs are all on target. No concerns were noted. Larry Hanon made a motion, seconded by Dennis Boedeker **to approve FY14 1st Quarter Program Reports and Financials as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.

- VII. **Lutheran Services in Iowa Parents as Teachers Training** – Stephanie Snyder, LSI Home Visitation Program Manager, told the Board about a Parents As Teachers training that is occurring in St. Louis later in the month. Because of staff turnover in Jones County, a staff member needs this training and cannot work with families on this program until the training is conducted. Stephanie is requesting an allowance for out of state travel for this staff person. Costs are included in the current budget. Larry Hanon made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to allow the LSI staff person to attend this out of state PAT training at the expense under the ECI/LSI current FY14 budget.** All approved. Motion carried.
- VIII. **Program Presentation – Lead Testing and Preschool Scholarships in Cedar County** – Bonnie Butler from Cedar County Public Health provided information to the Board on Lead Testing needs in Cedar County and the drastic cuts that her organization has had to this program. She also talked about how her organization is working to increase awareness of both the lead problems in the community as well as what a difference prevention can make and how lead testing should be done and at what ages for young children.
- IX. **Early Childhood Book Drive Update** – Paul Frederiksen told the Board a committee meeting where the Early Childhood Book Drive was discussed has been held. A drive will be held in March and the group is currently looking for a point person in each of the individual communities in Cedar and Jones counties. This person would be responsible for putting out the collection boxes, posting signs regarding the drive, and collecting books when the drive is over. Jamie Nelson talked about how committee members are talking to community businesses to sponsor ECI in this project. Sponsorship would include utilization of name recognition to add support to the project and could include financial support to purchase collection boxes, cover the costs of advertising, and distribution bags. It was mentioned that State Farm and Above/Beyond Care would also be good potential sponsors to contact.
- X. **Dolly Parton Imagination Library – Jones County Endowment Grant** – The EC Book Drive committee also talked about exploring the opportunity to apply for a Jones County Endowment Grant to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Jones County. Another grant application can be made to support this project in Cedar in February of 2014 if the Board so chooses. The grant requires a 25% match and a Fiscal Sponsor. Jean Sullivan made a motion, seconded by Paul Frederiksen **to apply for funds through the Jones County Endowment Grant and to utilize \$675 ECI dollars to support the grant match for the Imagination Library with a total grant application of approximately \$2700.00.** LSI would help with the operation of the Imagination Library and Jones County would be the Fiscal Sponsor. All approved. Motion carried. Applicants are notified in December 2013 of grant decisions.
- XI. **Public Comment** – None noted.
- XII. **Adjourn** – Jamie Nelson made a motion, seconded by Dennis Boedeker **to adjourn the meeting at 9:42 a.m.** All approved.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 21st, 2013, 8:30 a.m. Olin Consolidated School, Olin