



Cedar/Jones County Early Childhood Iowa

Board Meeting

Thursday, December 19th, 2013, 8:30 a.m.

Olin Consolidated School, Olin

Members Present: Kelly Banowetz, Kandice Behnke, Dennis Boedeker, Paul Frederiksen, Teri Jo Griebat, Larry Hanon, Jamie Nelson, Lesley Puffer, Deb Schultz, Jean Sullivan, and Steve Williams.

Members Absent: None!

Others Present: Sherri Hunt, ECI Director; Lynette Otten, LSI; Sandra Busta and Jeanie Wade Nagel, GWAEA; Cindy Heck, CCR&R; and Dan Wendler, Midland Community School District.

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** - The meeting was called to order at 8:47 a.m. by Board Chair Kandice Behnke with quorum achieved with 11 out of 11 members present.
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – Dennis Boedeker made a motion, seconded by Kelly Banowetz **to approve the ECI Board meeting minutes from November 21st, 2013 as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- III. **FY14 ECI Financials – Acceptance of of** – Deb Schultz made a motion, seconded by Paul Frederiksen **to accept the ECI FY14 financials as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- IV. **Jones County Preschool Scholarship Program – Request for Additional \$ (Action)**
-- Sherri reported that Lynette Otten with the Jones Preschool Scholarship Program is requesting additional \$\$ to support three newly identified children in need, 2 in the Midland Preschool and 1 at Sacred Heart in Monticello. Steve Williams made a motion, seconded by Larry Hanon **to approve the Preschool Scholarships and move \$500 into the Jones Preschool budget from the Child Care Provider Mini Grants line item.** All approved. Motion carried.
- V. **State Child Care Assistance/Preschool Pilot Project – Approval** – Sherri talked to Board members about the opportunity for Preschool Programs to obtain wrap around dollars from the State Child Care Assistance Program to support additional hours of care for children. She would like to approach and work with a couple of programs to enroll them in the State Child Care Assistance Program with the goal of these programs not needing as much Preschool Support and freeing up ECI \$\$ for other needed priorities. A couple of programs would work as a Pilot for the remainder of FY14 and the success would gage next steps for Preschool Support \$\$ for FY15. Paul Frederiksen made a motion, seconded by Teri Jo Griebat **to move forward with a Pilot Project for FY14 and work with a couple of districts in need for State Child Care Assistance.** All approved. Motion carried.

VI. Child Care Provider/Preschool Mini Grants – Approval of policies – Sherri presented the Board with draft Child Care Provider Mini Grant Policies and a draft application. Committee members Cindy Heck, CCR&R, Jean Randolph, Jones CCNC with HACAP, Sandra Hill, Cedar CCNC with Trinity Muscatine, Julie Orris, ISU Extension, Board Member Jamie Nelson, and Sherri Hunt discussed and drafted the proposed policies. Jean Sullivan made a motion, seconded by Deb Schultz **to approve the Child Care Provider/Preschool Mini Grant policies and application as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.

VII. Program Presentation – Child Care Alliance Response Team (CART)
– **Sandra Busta and Jeanie Wade-Nagel, GWAEA** – Sandra Busta gave the Board an updated on the CART program in Cedar and Jones counties and explained four different avenues of service for child care providers and children. She also shared with the Board materials regarding the program, the Pyramid Model for Promoting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children, and testimonials from child care providers who have benefited from the CART program.

VIII. Board and Community Evaluation – Reviewing Results of Evaluation – Sherri presented the Board with the results of a monkey survey completed regarding both self-evaluation and community evaluation of Cedar/Jones ECI Board functioning. Common themes with areas of the lowest ratings included 1) Board effectively represents the organization to the community; and 2) All necessary skills, stakeholders and diversity are represented on the Board. It was noted by Sherri that this year’s community feedback had approximately 27 responses. Compared to results from 2012, common themes were also noted. Results will be utilized as the Board develops both their Board Professional Development Plan and Public Awareness Plan for 2014.

Deb Schultz left the meeting at 10:03 a.m. Quorum maintained with 10 out of 11 members presented.

IX. Review and update of Board Professional Development Plan – The Board discussed points to include in their Professional Development Plan. Suggestions included the continuation of understanding of local early childhood partners and early childhood research including Adverse Childhood Experience Research. Also suggested was more outreach to contracted programs for Board members that are available. This would include visiting the programs and participating in on-site visits. A draft Board PD plan will be presented for approval at next month’s meeting.

X. Grants for Dolly Parton Imagination Library – Update and approval for submission of the Community Impact Grant through the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque -- There has not been notification yet regarding the submitted Jones County Endowment Grant. Another opportunity managed by the same organization is the Community Impact Grant. This grant serves several counties in the area and funds could also be used to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library. Paul Frederiksen made a motion, seconded by Larry Hanon **to submit application for the Community Impact Grant for 2014 to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library.** All approved. Motion carried.

- XI. Early Childhood Iowa Day on the Hill – Save the Date -- February 12th, 2014 --**
Sherri shared information regarding the ECI Day on the Hill and encouraged Board members to attend if possible.
- XII. Public Comment** – Lynette Otten gave the Board an updated regarding Lutheran Services in Iowa staffing changes. LSI is currently in the process of hiring additional staff in both Cedar and Jones counties.
- XIII. Adjourn** -- Paul Frederiksen made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 a.m. All approved. Motion carried.

Next Meeting:

Thursday, January 16th, 2014, 8:30 a.m., Olin Consolidated School, Olin

Executive Committee Meeting:

Wednesday, January 8th, 2014, 8:00 a.m., the Skillet, Mt. Vernon