



***Cedar/Jones  
Early Childhood Iowa***

***Board Meeting  
Thursday, September 18th, 2014, 8:30 a.m.  
Olin Consolidated School, Olin***

**Members Present:** Kandice Behnke, Dennis Boedeker, Paul Frederiksen, Teri Jo Griebat, Jamie Nelson, Lesley Puffer, Jean Sullivan, and Donna Young

**Members Absent:** Deb Schultz and Steve Williams.

**Others Present:** Sherri Hunt, ECI Director and Lynette Otten, LSI.

- I. Call Meeting to Order** - Board Chair Kandice Behnke called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m. with quorum achieved with 8 out of 10 members present.
- II. Approval of Meeting Minutes** – Dennis Boedeker made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to approve the ECI Board meeting minutes from August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 Board Meeting as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- III. FY15 ECI Financials – Acceptance of** – Paul Frederiksen made a motion, seconded by Lesley Puffer **to accept the ECI FY15 Financials as presented.** All approved. Motion carried. Sherri noted that the paying of bills is always off to slow start every Fiscal Year.
- IV. LSI Home Visitation Program Update** – Sherri made the Board aware that LSI Program Supervisor has resigned from her position effective October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and that two Family Support Workers have also resigned in the past 30 days. LSI Managers Stephanie Snyder and Nancy Krause met with Sherri and Kandi Behnke to talk about the changes and to begin to address how the program will continue to serve families and children. A letter from Stephanie Snyder, LSI Early Childhood Coordinator, is included in the Board materials. LSI is to also submit a written Transition Plan with details on moving forward.
- V. Preschool Scholarships – Update** – Sherri provided the Board with updates for both the Cedar and Jones Preschool Scholarship Programs. Cedar County currently has 10 children approved for scholarship; 2 denied; 2 waiting on family income verification; and 7 possibly eligible for State Child Care Assistance. Jones County 24 students on scholarship; 7 denied; 2 waiting on family income verification; 2 possibly for State Child Care Assistance; and 3 on a waiting list. No actions taken regarding these programs.
- VI. Community Needs Assessment/Long Range Planning – Update** – Sherri told the Board that the Community Needs Assessment Committee met and talked about ideas for obtaining community feedback regarding the needs of young children and their families.

The committee decided that a monkey survey was the best way to obtain feedback. The committee discussed questions to ask. A link would be widely shared throughout Jones and Cedar counties through community partners. Hard copies would also be provided to all preschools, childcare centers, WIC clinics, and to participants in the Home Visitation program.

The committee also requested data regarding Early Access and ethnicity in the area.

All gathered information will be presented to the Board at their Retreat to assist them in re-establishing Cedar/Jones ECI priorities.

**VII. Jones County Foundation Grant** – Sherri requested the Board support an application to the Jones County Community Foundation to support the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in Jones County for high risk children 0-5 years of age. A 25% match is required for this application and the deadline for submittal is October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Donna Young made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to support the grant application for books to the Jones County Community Foundation and a 25 hard cash match or \$675.** Approximately 100 children could be served with these combined funds. All approved. Motion carried.

**VIII. Public Comment** – No public comment was made.

**IX. Adjourn** – Lesley Puffer made a motion, seconded by Dennis **to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 a.m.** All approved. Meeting adjourned.

**Next Meeting:**

Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, 8:30 a.m., Olin Consolidated School, Olin

**Board Retreat:**

Thursday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, immediately following Board Meeting

**Executive Committee Meeting:**

Wednesday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, 8:00 a.m., the Skillet, Mt. Vernon