



Cedar/Jones County Early Childhood Iowa

Board Meeting

Thursday, September 20th, 2012, 8:30 a.m.

Olin Consolidated School, Olin

Members Present: Kandice Behnke, Paul Frederickson, Larry Hanon, Jamie Nelson, Mike Owen via phone, Deb Schultz, Annette Shipley, and Jean Sullivan.

Members Absent: Shelley Hilton-Cullum, Schelly Odeen, David Oldham, and Steve Williams.

Others Present: Lynette Otten, LSI; Phyllis Zalenski and Julie Orris, ISU Extension; Amanda Smith, Love is a Hug Child Care Center; and Sherri Hunt, ECI Director.

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** – Meeting was called to order by Board Chairperson, Jean Sullivan. Quorum established at 8 out of 12 members.
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes** – Paul Frederickson made a motion, seconded by Kandice Behnke **to approve the August 16th, 2012 meeting minutes as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- III. **Cedar/Jones ECI Financials** – Sherri reviewed the ECI Financials with the Board noting that a transfer was made from Cedar County ECI to the combined Cedar/Jones ECI fiscal agent. All business is now completed with the Cedar County ECI fiscal agent but is not reflected yet on the financials. Expenses paid are outlined. Kandice Behnke made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to approve the FY13 Financials as presented.** Paul Frederickson abstained as he had not reviewed the report. All others approved. Motion carried.
- IV. **Preschool Scholarship Programs – Update and Consideration for Additional \$\$ in Jones County** – Sherri reported that there is a waiting list for Preschool Scholarships in Jones County with currently three 3 year olds on the list and that the contractor is requesting additional funds for supporting these children if the Board wishes. Kandice Behnke made a motion, seconded by Jamie Nelson **to transfer \$2,300 to the LSI Contract for the Jones County Preschool Scholarship program from the Expansion of Current Program line item to allow for the additional children and possibly more thus increasing the contract to \$28,221.00.** All approved. Motion carried.

V. **Consideration for Head Start Wrap-Around Funding in Jones County** – Sherri reported that Little Lion Learning Center in Olin is requesting \$\$ for support for a 5th day of preschool that is not covered under their Head Start contract. There are currently five slots in Olin and they receive funding from Head Start for 4 half days. Funds are needed to support the preschool classroom for that fifth day a week. Paul Frederickson made a motion, seconded by Annette Shipley **to allocate \$1,800 to Jones Preschool Scholarship program specifically for 5 children at Little Lion to attend preschool for a fifth day at a rate of \$45.00/month starting October 1st, 2012 through May 31st, 2012 to wrap around the current Head Start program transferring \$\$ from the Expansion of Current Programming line item in School Ready funds.** All approved. Motion carried.

VI. **Consideration for Crib Funding** – Amanda Smith, Board member for Love is a Hug Child Care Center in Mechanicsville in Cedar County was present to request funding for cribs. When cribs were purchased for cribs from Cedar County ECI in FY12, Love is a Hug did not take advantage of the opportunity because of different circumstances. A request for any funding to help replace their 8 cribs is being requested.

The Board discussed at great length prior processes and funding from both ECI areas prior to the merge and how they wanted to move forward with this as a now combined area. It was noted that consistency among the entire area was important. Sherri noted that all other licensed child care centers in Cedar County and all in Jones County with the exception of one were current on meeting the new crib standards. Only various child care home providers throughout the entire are currently meeting standards for new cribs.

Deb Schultz made a motion, seconded by Larry Hanon **to only funds cribs in Licensed Child Care Centers noting that funds were not available for cribs in all Registered Homes.** All approved. Motion carried.

Larry Hanon made a motion, seconded by Paul Frederickson **to award Love is a Hug up to \$1,000 for the purchase of new cribs meeting federal standards and to allow up to an additional \$1,000 for any unidentified licensed child care center needing new cribs.** All approved. Motion carried.

VII. **Child Care Resource Coordinator Presentation** -- Julie Orris, Child Care Resource Coordinator with Jones County Agricultural Extension was present to talk about her role and what is currently being done to served child care providers throughout the area. She shared with the Board her newsletter for child care provider trainings and talked about her visits to programs in Cedar County.

- VIII. ECI Director's Meeting Update** – Sherri updated the Board on recent developments from the ECI Director's meeting she attended in September. She talked about the new Red Cap program coming for reporting for Home Visitation programs, Early Childhood funding change regarding the purchase of food with federal funds, possible changes regarding fiscal practices and approval of monthly invoices, and the move towards online annual reports, quarterly reports, and budgets.
- IX. Membership Terms** – Sherri shared with the Board the need for a determination of specific terms for Board members. If anyone had a particular request for a term length, Sherri would note that. Otherwise length of terms would be assigned and staggered by representation, county representation, and gender.
- X. Public Comment** – No public comment noted.
- XI. Adjourn** – Kandice Behnke made a motion, seconded by Annette Shipley to adjourn the meeting at 10:27 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, October 18th, 2012, 8:30 a.m. Olin Consolidated School, Olin