

TAMA COUNTY EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA

129 W. High Street, Toledo, IA 52342
PH: (641) 484-4788 (or) 1-866-484-4788
FAX: (641) 484-5447
E-mail: ljohnson@tamacounty.org

Tama County Early Childhood Iowa Board Meeting
Tuesday, September 6, 2011 – 12:00 p.m. – 12:40 p.m.
ISU Extension

Voting Members Present:

Joyce Legg, Tama County Public Health
Michelle Evans, Consumer/Citizen
Karen Christensen, Citizen
Anne Paullus, Meskwaki Settlement School
Richard Arp, Faith

Darla Thiessen, Human Services/Citizen
Mandy Lekin, Business & Industry/Citizen
Larry Vest, Board of Supervisors
Deb Schlichting, Pied Piper
Mary Sherwood, South Tama School

Others Present:

Lori Johnson, ECI Director
Jodi Rowe, Mid-Iowa Community Action
Frank Albertsen, ISU Extension of Tama County
Anne Bacon, Mid-Iowa Community Action

Royce Hickie, Mid-Iowa Community Action
Laura Kopsa, Tama County Auditor
Cindy Skopec, AEA 267

Apologies: Wendy Jenkins Michelle Gethmann Angie Dreesman Trisha Kennedy

Larry Vest, Chair, called meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Introductions – were done

Minutes of Previous Meeting –Tama County Early Childhood Iowa meeting minutes for July 12, 2011 were reviewed. Joyce Legg made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Deb Schlichting seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Financial Report – FY 11 Accrual Financial Report and July 11 Financial Reports were disbursed. June's expenses were included in the Accrual Financial Report and showed where we ended for the fiscal year for funding balances. The July 11 Financial report shows the detail of what was paid for June. We should be at 92% of our budget remaining and we are at 93%. Are waiting on some contracts to be returned. Mandy Lekin made a motion to approve the financial reports as presented. Karen Christensen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Input – none noted.

Provider Reports –*Child Consultant*–Angie Dreesman was not able to attend today, but sent e-mail stating that she “has 3 new recruits and have 2 follow-up visits from DHS spot checks. Other than that, it has been slow for August.”

Ms. Johnson also received an e-mail from Mary Jo Huddleston, Child Care Resource & Referral, stating she was unable to attend today's meeting as well, but hopes to schedule a meeting with the Poweshiek and Tama ECI Directors.

Nurse Consultant – No update provided.

Infant Toddler Specialist and Dental Hygienist - Royce Hickie shared that they were making some changes in regards to the ITDS. Tracy is no longer providing services in Tama County and has transferred to Poweshiek County. With the funding sub-committee's request (right before this meeting), she will be discussing this with her supervisors and then letting Lori know their decision, but the end of this week.

Nest (formerly Stork's Nest), Public Health Home Visitation, etc. – Joyce Legg shared that they have made revisions in the point system. Some attendees have voiced disapproval, but with funding cuts had to change system. Will see how things are received at their next Nest Meeting. August has been slow for home visits.

Coordinator – Ms. Johnson shared updated information regarding the following:

- Evaluation results – scored an average of 4.7 which was an increase from last fiscal year.
- Revisions made to the FY 12 Budget were shared and available for review.

- Updated ECI Area Map was shared.

Old Business – none noted.

New Business – *Approve & Authorize Chair to sign Contract Amendment for Early Childhood Iowa, increasing contract amount by \$15,597.* – Motion by Joyce Legg to have the chair sign the contract amendment. Darla Thiessen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Request to add annual report verbiage to current contracts with funding withheld until annual report information is received. Discussion was held. Karen Christensen made a motion to add this verbiage to current contracts. Mandy Lekin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Approve Annual Report (2 documents); Showcase Report; Approve & Authorize Chair & Fiscal Agent to sign the Annual Report; Approve & Authorize Fiscal Agent to Sign Financial Statements – handouts were disbursed and reviewed. Joyce Legg made a motion to approve the Annual Reports; Showcase Report; Approve & Authorize the Chair & Fiscal Agent to sign reports and financial statements as needed. Richard Arp seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Funding Sub-committee Recommendations - The Funding sub-committee met prior to this meeting. Draft minutes were disbursed. Motion by Richard Arp to approve the Funding Sub-committee recommendations as follows:

- Additional Preschool Scholarship funding = \$15,596 to ITDS, if they are able to hire additional staff as needed, if not then this would be equally divided between the 4 centers for co-pay purposes, with a maximum of 3 hours per day per child, with a maximum of \$2/hour charge, during their schools school year, with a maximum of 4 days per week billed.
- Additional Administrative = \$468 to Nest Program
- Decrease in General Use (other) = \$467 to Nest Program
- Request received, will allow \$4,627.91 allocated to Raggedy Ann & Andy; Crayon Corner and Pied Piper for Professional Development the flexibility to use this for co-pay (with above stipulations), as a one time exception for this year, or professional development.

Darla Thiessen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Board Professional Development – ECI Board Member Self-Evaluations – was disbursed. Members are asked to complete and submit them to Ms. Johnson to be compiled. This will help with determining where our board is and what additional information needs to be provided.

Tama/Benton Merger Update – Ms. Johnson shared copies of meeting minutes from August 9th, and sample logos that Kirkwood students had developed as part of their grade. “Better Tomorrows – giving children the gift of a brighter future” was the logo chosen, by Ms. Schminke & Ms. Johnson, as this had to be determined prior to the students ending their quarter at school and being graded on the “winning” logo.

Meeting Discussion Minutes; Updated Transition Plan noting red are completed items; green 1st meeting action items, yellow 2nd meeting action items; Revised Meeting Schedule with additional meetings in March, May and June; Organizational Chart; and Governing By-Laws.

Updates from the State – none noted.

Correspondence –

- E-mail from Deb Scowther (dated 9/1/11) – regarding article “Investing Early in Education – Protecting Brains, not Simply Stimulating Minds”.
- Child Care Resource and Referral Newsletter

Adjournment – Motion by Richard Arp to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Johnson, Tama County ECI Director

Reminder: Next Regular Empowerment Board Meeting will be November 22nd at ISU Extension Office at 12:00 Noon.