

DHLW+M Early Childhood Area

Des Moines, Henry, Louisa, Washington

January 21st 2025

5:00pm

Location: online

Zoom meeting ID: 849 6850 5938

Passcode: 090177

Minutes

Members Present: Jim Cary, Shawn Maine, Matt Latcham, Tricia Lipski, Cyndi Mears, Melody Raub, Mike Steele, Unity Stevens, Stan Stoops

Members Absent: Paris White

Advisory members and guests present: Tasha Beghtol, Jacki McCracken, Kirk Ryan, Rikki Heitzler, Rachel Albrecht, Melissa Tucker, Jojo Green, Dawn Lero, Toni Krana

Meeting was called to order by Matt Latcham at 5:00pm with a quorum present

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda, November 19th 2024 minutes, December 17th 2024 minutes, and administrative update as presented.

Moved: Stan Stoops **Seconded:** Mike Steele

Motion carried unanimously

Board officers

Members reviewed the list of nominations for Chair (Matt Latcham), Vice Chair (Cyndi Mears) and Treasurer (Melody Raub) as accepted at the November meeting.

Motion to approve the officers as presented.

Moved by Unity Stevens **Seconded** by Shawn Maine

Motion carried unanimously

Tricia Lipski arrived at 5:05pm

Discussion was held regarding the role of Secretary. Stan Stoops accepted a nomination.

Motion to approve Stan Stoops as Secretary.

Moved by Cyndi Mears **Seconded** by Jim Cary

Motion carried unanimously

Financial Report

Tasha Beghtol reviewed the financial summaries and the monthly postings report from Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center. The reports include separate summaries, one for DHLW and one for Muscatine. The reports will

remain separate until the Muscatine account is closed and carry over funds are transferred. The reports reflect spending through November 2024.

Motion to accept the financial summaries as presented

Moved: Melody Raub **Seconded:** Shawn Maine

Motion carried unanimously

Program Presentations

Bilingual Associate

Kirk Rayn, West Liberty Community School District, shared information about the Early Learning Center and services provided to students and families through the bilingual associate position. The district opened a new facility in 2023 and serve a diverse population with 39% English Language Learners. The playground has been updated with more green space and inclusive structures.

Southeast Early Childhood Project

Dawn Lero and Jacki McCracken, Henry County ISU Extension, shared updates about the Infant & EC Mental Health services they provide in 9 counties. The program offers in-person support for families and early childhood professionals including childcare centers, homes, and family support staff.

Administrative update

A written report was provided. Members reviewed the Family Support – FY24 Annual Report provided by the state office. Some errors have been found in the report and Tasha Beghtol has communicated those to the state office. Tasha shared additional information about ECI attendance at the Condition of the State and anticipated changes in both funding categories and geographical areas for all ECI boards.

Meeting adjourned by Chair at 6:40pm

Minutes submitted by Tasha Beghtol, Director

Approved on _February 18th 2025_____