

DHLW+M Early Childhood Area

Des Moines, Henry, Louisa, Washington, Muscatine

June 17th 2025

5pm

Online meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83928965824?pwd=VUVHTGppd3BaWmF2OHZEQmtGb3pPUT09>

Meeting ID: 839 2896 5824 Passcode: 505809

Minutes

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

Members Absent: Jim Cary, Shawn Maine, Paris White

Advisory members and guests present: Tasha Beghtol, Amy McLaughlin, Toni Krana, Jacki McCracken, Jojo Greene, Ginger Knisely, Shane Orr, Jacob Dornbush

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

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda, May 20th 2025 minutes , and Admin update as presented.

Moved: Melody Raub **Seconded:** Cyndi Mears

Motion carried unanimously

Tricia Lipski arrived 5:04

Financial Report

Melody Raub reviewed the financial summary and the monthly postings report from Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center. The report reflects program expenses through April. Programs are spending as expected. DHLW+M budget for the Summit will show overspent until both reimbursements are deposited.

Motion to accept the financial summary as presented

Moved: Tricia Lipski **Seconded:** Unity Stevens

Motion carried unanimously

Executive Committee

Bylaws – 2nd and final review

Tasha Beghtol reviewed bylaw revisions as initially presented and approved on at the May meeting.

Motion to approve revisions of bylaws as presented.

Moved: Melody Raub **Seconded:** Tricia Lipski

Motion carried unanimously

FY26 Funding and Budget

Tasha Beghtol reviewed the new family support contract template provided by the state office and shared updates regarding the Shared Visions funding. The DHLW+M board awarded additional funding to LSI last month in order to cover the anticipated gap in PAT services in Muscatine county due to no Shared Visions funding. Since that meeting the application for renewal of that money has been released so the additional funds are no longer needed. LSI will move forward with the original RFR and amount requested.

HOPES Des Moines County

Members reviewed a revised budget from Lee County Health Dept for the HOPES program in Des Moines County. The program was awarded less than the amount requested. The revised budget reflects the amount awarded of \$49,500.

Motion to approve the revised budget as presented and to issue a contract with Lee County Health Department.

Moved by Melody Raub **Seconded** by Mike Steele

Motion carried unanimously

FY26 budget

Members reviewed and discussed potential use of the unallocated funds available in the budget. Members agreed to allocate funds under board policy 4.9a which allows for requests to fund one-time purchases or activities. The board may change the amount of funds in this line item as needed.

Discussion was held regarding Preschool Scholarships in Des Moines, Henry, Louisa, and Washington counties. Since Community Action of SE Iowa did not submit a renewal application this program the board will need to release an RFP or seek out an agency to help. Tasha Beghtol shared that there are new regulations specific to scholarship programs that will limit the number of eligible families and potentially increase the administration time for the program. A committee of the board will convene to review a draft RFP for scholarships only and release it no later than July 15th.

Motion to approve budget adjustments that include \$20,000 under Policy 4.9a and \$40,000 toward a Preschool Scholarship RFP.

Moved by Melody Raub **Seconded** by Unity Stevens

Friendly amendment by Tricia Lipski to increase the Scholarship RFP amount to \$50,000 to plan for potential added coordination costs.

Amendment accepted by Melody and Unity

Motion carried unanimously as amended

Family Support contract Bonus

Tasha Beghtol reviewed the contract bonus requirements and language regarding the ASQ screenings. The frequency of screenings in DAISEY includes multiple times per year. The Family Connection has reached out to the DHLW+M office and confirmed that they have not achieved the frequency as required in DAISEY and Tool FF, but believe that contract language indicates that the ASQ only needs to be done 1

time per year. Members reviewed and discussed the current contract language and it's reference to Tool FF. The new template used for FY26 is more prescriptive and the contract bonus is not included.

Motion to allow The Family Connection to be eligible for a bonus based on completion of 1 ASQ during the year and to provide documentation of screenings to the DHLW+M office.

Moved by Tricia Lipski **Seconded** by Melody Raub

Motion carried

Abstention by Unity Stevens

Administrative Update

A written report was provided.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm by Matt Latcham

Minutes submitted by Tasha Beghtol, Director

Approved on ____August 19th 2025_____