

DHLW+M Early Childhood Area

Des Moines, Henry, Louisa, Washington

March 18th 2025

5:00pm

Location: online

Zoom meeting ID: 849 6850 5938

Passcode: 090177

Minutes

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

Members Absent: Shawn Maine, Melody Raub, Paris White

Advisory members and guests present: Tasha Beghtol, Rachel Albrecht, Kalisha Lutz, Jen Roberts, Amy McLaughlin, Kim Warren, Jacob Dornbush, Shane Orr, Rachel Patterson- Rahn, Jojo Green, Toni Krana, Ginger Knisley, Martha Hernandez

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

Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda, February 18th 2025 minutes, and administrative update as presented.

Moved: Cyndi Mears **Seconded:** Mike Steele

Jim Cary Abstains

Motion carried unanimously

Financial Report

Tasha Beghtol reviewed the financial summaries and the monthly postings report from Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center. The report now shows both Muscatine and DHLW finances for FY25. Muscatine 6 month contracts are reflected in a new column. The Muscatine bank account has been closed and funds transferred. CIJDC reported that the account was \$0.13 short. The difference will be applied to EC Interest. Tasha Beghtol noted that the shortage could have happened years ago and the amount does not warrant the time in research.

Motion to accept the financial summaries as presented

Moved: Tricia Lipski **Seconded:** Stan Stoops

Motion carried unanimously

FY25 Budget Amendment

Tasha Beghtol reviewed the budget amendment request for CCNC services in Louisa, Henry, Washington, and Muscatine counties. The program is requesting to move funds from salaries and benefits to mileage. Total contract amount does not change.

Motion to approve the budget amendment request as submitted by Trinity Muscatine Public Health for CCNC services.

Moved: Tricia Lipski **Seconded:** Mike Steele

Motion carried unanimously

FY25 Contract Amendment

Tasha Beghtol reviewed an amendment for dental services provided through Lee County Health Department. The contract language is amended to add Muscatine County to the service area. The contract now covers all 5 counties. Total contract amount does not change.

Motion to approve the contract amendment as presented with Lee County Health Department for Dental Services.

Moved by Cyndi Mears **Seconded** by Tricia Lipski

Motion carried unanimously

Program Presentations

Dental Services

Rachel Patterson-Rahn, Lee County Health Department, shared updates and answered questions about the dental program and services provided in Des Moines, Henry, Louisa, and Washington counties. The program has shown long-term success with reduction in decay. The region continues to be challenged by the reduced number of dentists who take Medicaid.

Preschool Scholarships

Kalisha Lutz, Community Action of SE Iowa, provided a background of the scholarship program and reviewed current program details. Enrollment is low and the program is looking at ways to provide additional support to current families. Kalisha noted that the quality criteria of IQ4K participation has been a struggle for some. The number of participating preschool has declined.

Imagination Library

Shane Orr, United Way of Muscatine, provided information about the Dolly Parton Imagination Library program serving children in Muscatine County. The program has served 1200 children and is funded through several partnerships including United Way, ECI, and Muscatine Charities.

Administrative update

A written report was provided. Additional discussion was held regarding handouts released following the ECI State Board meeting on March 7th 2025. The handouts provide information about membership requirements for the new ECI District Boards and the breakdown of proposed funding changes in FY26. Members agreed by consensus to add an April 15th DHLW+M Board meeting to the calendar.

Meeting adjourned by Chair at 6:32pm

Minutes submitted by Tasha Beghtol, Director

Approved on ____April 15th 2025_____