



**Early Childhood Iowa Area Board
Minutes
Thursday November 16, 2023
Union State Bank
611 Iowa Hwy 92
Winterset, Iowa 50273**

Board Meeting (Information)

Board Chairperson Martens convened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance (Information)

(x means attendance at the meeting)

Board Members Present							
Adair County		Dallas County		Madison County		Warren County	
Christine Lundy		Colleen Strohmaier <i>Required Business Representative</i>		Jacob Al-Mazora <i>Required Human Service Representative</i>	x	Catherine Reaman-Gerdes	x
Brittany Shinn <i>Required Parent Representative</i>		Deb Hansen	x	Wendy Sawyer <i>Required Faith Representative</i>	x	Nancy Hopkins	x
Jessica Petter <i>Required Health Representative</i>		Open		Rita Martens	x	Nichole Gunn <i>Required Education Representative</i>	

Board members Hopkins, Reaman-Gerdes, Hansen and Al-Mazora present by electronic means.

4 R Kids Staff Present (Information)

Debra Schrader, Executive Director.

Others present (Information)

Kelsey Marmon representing Warren County Health Services and Amy Clausi representing EveryStep.

Distinction of Quorum (Information)

Board membership consists of no less than 8 members and no more than 12 members, with 11 positions filled at the beginning of the meeting; 6 board members were present at the meeting representing quorum.

Open Forum (Information)

None

Introductions (Information)

Introductions were made by Board members and the audience.

Board Professional Development (Information)

Representatives from EveryStep and Warren County Health Services provided a presentation on child care nurse consultant services. The Board reviewed 4 R Kids board policy 3.10 – Communication Policy.

Agenda (Action)

Board member Sawyer moved to approve the December 21, 2023 agenda. Board member Reaman-Gerdes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes (Action)

Board member Hansen moved to approve the November 16, 2023 minutes. Board member Reaman-Gerdes seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Membership Recruitment and Retention (Information)

Board members continue with recruitment efforts and strive for gender balance. The board has a range of board members from eight to twelve. There is one position open on the board for Dallas County. Board member retention will remain a focus.

Board Annual Meeting*Election of Officers (Action)*

The Board conducted the annual meeting that consists of election of officers, review of board member terms and committees. Officer's terms are for one year and start January 1 and end December 31. Board member Reaman Gerdes moved to elect Board member Martens as Chairperson. Board member Sawyer seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board member Reaman-Gerdes moved to elect Board member Hopkins as Vice-Chairperson. Board member Al-Mazora seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Member Terms (Action)

Board member Reaman-Gerdes moved to approve Board member Hopkins, Shinn, Al-Mazon and martens for another board membership term. Board member Hopkins seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Committees (Information)

The board reviewed the committees that each board member sits on for the next year.

Community Plan Annual Review (Information)

The board reviewed the strategic plan, ECI result areas, board priorities, vision, and mission, guiding principles, and updated local indicator data. The information will be posted on the 4 R Kids website.

Finance Committee (Action)

The Finance Committee members reviewed budgets, payment vouchers, bank statements, and fund balance reconciliations prior to the board meeting. Board member Reaman-Gerdes moved to approve the November 2023 expenditures in the amount of \$117,074.05. Board member Sawyer seconded. Motion carried unanimously. It was noted the rate of spending for FY24 was 31.2% of school ready funding and 41.5% of early childhood funding.

Board Program and Service Committee (Information)

The committee did not meet. The next meeting is February 9, 2024 at 9:00 by Zoom.

Board Process Committee (Information)

The committee did not meet. The next meeting is February 8, 2024 at 9:00 by Zoom.

Administrative Update (Information)

Director Schrader disseminated an administrative update and items included:

- CCNC fidelity checks;
- 2nd quarter payment received;
- Board insurance increase;
- Dallas County schools approving bonds;
- Presentation on infant and early childhood mental health consultation and training;
- Opioid education offering;
- Preschool experience rate;
- Success story;
- Early Childhood committee updates;
- Professional development activities;
- Marketing and public awareness activities;
- Out of office dates.

Miscellaneous Board Updates (Information)

None.

Next meeting (Information)

Chairperson Martens adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m. The next meeting is February 15, 2024 at Union State Bank in Winterset.