



**Early Childhood Iowa Area Board
Minutes
Thursday December 19, 2024
Virtual Meeting**

Board Meeting (Information)

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

Attendance (Information)

(x means attendance at the meeting)

Board member	Representation	Attendance
Catherine Reaman-Gerdes	Human Service	x
Christine Lundy	Education	x
Colleen Strohmaier	Business	
Deb Hansen	Citizen	x
Jacob Gunn	Parent	
Jessica Petter	Health	x
Nancy Hopkins	Citizen	x
Nancy Krause	Citizen	x
Rita Martens - Chairperson	Citizen	x
Shelley Flanery	Citizen	x
Wendy Sawyer	Faith	x

4 R Kids Staff Present (Information)

Debra Schrader, Executive Director.

Others present (Information)

Kelsey Marmon (Warren County Health Services), Emily Eide (Matura), Amy Vigon (Every Step) and Kristie Vasey (Orchard Place/Child Care Resource & Referral)

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; 9 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)

Ms. Marmon representing Warren County Health Services, Ms. Vigon representing EveryStep and Ms. Eide representing MATURA provided a presentation about the child care nurse consultant services.

The Board reviewed Tool N regarding ECI designation and discussed semantics of the February 20, 2025 designation meeting.

Agenda (Action)

Board member Reaman-Gerdes moved to approve the December 19, 2024 agenda. Board member Board member Hanson seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes (Action)

Board member Petter moved to approve the November 21, 2024 minutes. Board member Krause seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Membership Recruitment and Retention (Information)

Board members continue with recruitment efforts. The board has a range of board members from eight to twelve.

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 re-elect Board member Martens as Chairperson and Board member Hopkins as Vice-Chairperson. Board member Petter seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Member Terms (Action)

Board member Hopkins moved to approve Board member Petter, Sawyer, Strohmaier, and Reaman-Gerdes for another board membership term. Board member Lundy seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Board Committees (Information)

The board reviewed the committees of each board member for the next year.

Thrive (Information)

Director Schrader updated the board on the Governors Thrive pilot initiative. Reimbursement for November expenses have been submitted to Health and Human Services and received news that it has been processed by Health and Human Services and is awaiting payment.

Finance Committee (Action)

The Finance Committee members reviewed budgets, payment vouchers, bank statements, and fund balance reconciliations prior to the board meeting. Board member Petter moved to approve the November 2024 expenditures in the amount of \$117,302.63. Board member Hopkins seconded. Motion carried unanimously. It was noted the rate of spending for FY25 was 40% of school ready funding and 40.7% of early childhood funding, and 6.25% of ARPA funding.

Program and Service Committee

The committee did not meet. The next meeting is January 31, 2025 at 9:00 by Zoom.

Board Process Committee

The committee did not meet. Next meeting will be in January 30, 2025 at 9:00 by Zoom.

Administrative Update (Information)

Director Schrader disseminated an administrative update.

- Thrive Iowa update;
- 2nd Quarter ECI payment;
- Holiday gathering;
- Family support program update;
- Future contract templates;
- Preschool experience rate;
- FY24 annual report approval;
- Administrative Service Organization selection;
- Orient-Macksburg Community School closing;
- Success story;
- Out of office;
- Early childhood committee updates;
- Professional development;
- Marketing and public awareness update.

Miscellaneous Board Updates (Information)

None

Next meeting (Information)

Board Chairperson Martens adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m. The next meeting is February 20, 2025 and will be virtual. This will also be the designation meeting.