

Scott County Kids Early Childhood Iowa Board
Meeting of May 4, 2021
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.
Minutes

Meeting materials emailed to Board 4/29/21.

Call to Order: Rev. Yolanda Kirk called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m.

Attendance: Rev. Yolanda Kirk, Jennifer Kakert, Chuck Keibler, Amy Huntington, Chris Castrey, Lauren Rupe, Margie Mitchell and Linda Fredriksen.

Excused: Megan Heidgerken and Kristine Oswald

Absent:

Staff: Diane Martens, Nicole Mann and Emily Cummings.

Guests: Gena McCullough, Robert Burke, Michael Saponaro and Rich Clewell.

Approval of Minutes April 6, 2021: Mitchell motioned to approve the April 6, 2021 minutes, seconded by Castery. All aye votes, motion carried.

Old Business

Fiscal Issues

FY21 Expenditures:

Martens reviewed the updated expenditure report. Early Childhood funds are 61% spent at 75% through the year. School Ready funds are 68% spent at 75% through the year.

FY 22 Re-application Review:

The review committee met April 23rd. Martens thanked Don Healy, Chuck Keibler, Chris Castrey, Amy Huntington, Megan Heidgerken, Peggi Merchie and Carol Connors for their time in evaluating the proposals. Emily Cummings, U of I intern, observed the process. The "FY22 expanded Review Comment sheet" has proposal scores and comments. You will see clarification was requested for two the proposals; Child Care Scholarships and Wittenmeyer Head Start. The "resubmitted Qtrly Witt HS fy22" and "External Email RE: child care scholarship proposal questions" provide clarifications.

Additionally, the Child Care Nurse Consultant proposal stated they would have capacity to cover some of the costs of the service. In following up they provided the reductions listed in "Possibly Removing from Budget –Apr'21" this would provide a reduction of \$2233.

Martens met with Carol Connors from Bi-State Regional Commission to create the following proposed budgets;

Martens reviewed the proposed contract budget;

-Head Starts would be contracted at the amount requested.

-Child Care Nurse Consultant contract would be at the reduced \$2233 and split between Early Childhood and School Ready General. In previous budgets this was split between Early Childhood and School Ready Quality funds.

-Bright Beginnings Nest, Family Connects, Child Care Scholarships and Preschool Scholarship would be funded at the amounts requested.

-Quality Child Care would be reduced from the requested \$60,145 to \$37,222. Traditionally the board has prioritized programs with direct impact/service to children and family's verses support programs. If approved, Child Care Resource and Referral would be asked to submit a revised budget and service plan with the reduced funding.

If special accommodations are needed please contact Scott County Kids 563/326-8221.

"FY22 Proposed Category budget" –this budget provides an overview of carryforward, anticipated allocation, current funds available and what is proposed to be contracted.

"FY22 agency ECI Budget Draft" –this budget lists anticipated agency expenses specific to Early Childhood Iowa.

Keibler made a motion, seconded by Rupe to approve the proposed budgets. All aye votes, motion carried.

New Business

Community Plan Update

Emily Cummings reviewed results of the agency and parent surveys.

Bi-State Regional Commission walked the Board through updated data and community plan components.

Contracts Management/Outcomes:

We were not able to have the Contracts Management Meeting on April 29th. Notification and meeting materials were emailed to the Board April 29th.

Amendment –Child Care Nurse Consultant:

The Scott County Health Department requested reductions to salaries, benefits, mileage and training to be redistributed to supplies. The contract amount would remain the same.

Keibler made a motion, seconded by Castrey to approve the requested amendment. All aye votes, motion carried.

Site Visits:

Martens noted the FY21 site visits were conducted virtually. A positive aspect of having virtual visits is increased participation. There was an emphasis placed on review of quarterly reports and this was helpful in clarifying the information on reports.

State Early Childhood Iowa Updates:

Rich Clewell shared the state board has been looking data around low birth weight babies and that low birth weights are trending higher for African American mothers. The board wants to ensure services are equitable for all populations. Clewell also noted the importance of community plans. Clewell is hopeful the Governor's Taskforce on Child Care will help to further early childhood in the economic platform.

Other Business:

Martens shared that the last segment of Conscious Discipline will be May 8th. This is being funded by Scott County Decat. Participants have been very appreciative of the training.

Public Input

None

Meeting adjourned at 1:58pm

Next Meeting June 1, 2021