

Scott County Kids Early Childhood Iowa Board

Meeting of August 30, 2022

12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Minutes

Call to Order: Karert called the meeting to order at 12:39 p.m.

Attendance: Jennifer Kakert, Amy Harrington, Chuck Keibler, Lauren Rupe, Megan Heidgerken and Dwayne Hodges.

Excused: Linda Fredriksen

Absent: Chris Castrey, Margie Mitchell and Kristine Oswald

Staff: Diane Martens

Guests: Carol Connors and Jill Henderson, Bi-State Regional Commission

Approval of Minutes June 7, 2022:

Keibler made a motion, seconded by Heidgerken to approve the June 7th meeting. All aye votes, motion carried.

FY22 Annual Report:

The annual report was emailed to the board and Contracts Management August 19th. Page 41 Nest Daisey report has been replaced, the incorrect fiscal year had been used. Pages 46-47 have been updated Bi-State discovered a \$1.00 correction.

Martens noted page 20, Child Care Nurse Consultant; last year she had 98 visits, this year 150 visits. Page 21, 577 technical assistance contacts, last year 733. Page 33, Quality Child Care; last year 87 visits this year 182.

Martens believes this shows the limitation of in-person visits in FY21 as well as the higher number of TA contacts for the nurse. The FY22 data shows the start back to more in-person visits.

Carol from Bi-State explained there was an overage of \$4365.93 in administrative costs initially deducted from School Ready Quality funds. School Ready Quality can only be used for staff or programming. The overage was moved to School Ready Administration. There is now \$4365.93 less for FY23 carryforward.

Keibler made a motion, seconded by Heidgerken to approve the annual report. All aye votes, motion carried.

FY23 Expenditure Report:

Early Childhood funds are 4% spent at 8% through the year. School Ready funds are 6% spent at 8% through the year.

Nominations: Jerry Mohr:

Martens interviewed Mr. Mohr 8/12/2022.

Jerry has been lifelong resident of Scott County. He and his wife, Ann, raised three children in the North Scott School District. He and Ann both have a strong wish to give back to the community.

Jerry served on the Early Childhood Iowa State Board.

Jerry served on the North Scott School Board for nine years.

Jerry has greatly appreciated the opportunity to serve on these boards. Jerry asked martens about the strategic planning at the state board. Martens and Mohr had a good conversation about what is happening for ECI.

Keibler made a motion to approve Mr. Mohr's membership on the board, seconded by Hodges. All aye votes, motion carried.

Early Child Iowa Collaboration:

Martens shared a document recently shared at ECI Update meeting. The two page document succinctly overviews state and local ECI systems. The document is useful in explaining ECI functions to state departments as the Department of Health and Department of Human Services have merged into the Department of Health and Human Services.

Early Childhood Iowa Association:

Martens will be sending the payment soon.

Mental Health Regions:

Martens as well as the ECI Coordinators from Muscatine, Clinton/Jackson and Cedar/Jones met with Christine Gradert. Gradert shared information about a training called Rainbow Dance, they plan to offer the training to child care providers. A representative from Safe Families also gave an overview of the services they provide.

Community Baby Shower:

It was busy! A little over 100 cars went through. The logistics of having the drive thru was a little tough. It did demonstrate the need in the community as well as the community resources. If it occurs next year it could be a regular resource fair without the drive thru feature.

Other Business – Bright Beginnings:

Martens relayed a 8-2-22 phone conversation with Tera Weets, program manager Bright Beginnings. A long time worker has to have back surgery. Families will be given the option to stay with her and have visits via telehealth or be transferred to another worker. This worker has been one of the two who goes to the hospital to offer home visitation to families so her caseload is not as large as many of the other workers. The intent is for there to be as few tele-visits as possible. Kiebler suggested having Weets provided continued updates.

Public Input

None

Meeting adjourned at 1:02pm

Next Meeting: October 4, 2022