

**Mahaska-Wapello Early Childhood IOWA
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 1st, 2015, 4:00 PM
Fremont Community Center
107 East Main Street, Fremont, Iowa 52561**



Board Members Present: Deb Deere, Greg Kenning, Tom Lazio, Joy Prothero and Nick Maxwell (4:20 arrived).

Board Members Absent: Desiree Johnson.

Community Members Present: Becky Falck (Sieda Family Support) Liz Fairchild (Sieda Head Start), Heather Miller (CCR&R), Jill Lane (FRC-Helping Hands), Angie Mach (ISU Extension-NEST), Heather Buckley (Cardinal CSD), Jennifer Bowles & Joan Garrett (GPAEA/BASEC), Tracey Boxx Vass (AHFA), Michael Merrick (Empowerment Services), and Angela Livezey (North Mahaska CSD).

Staff Present: Pat McReynolds (Area Director)

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Greg Kenning at 4:00 PM. Quorum met (5:6).

2. Introductions: Introductions were made.

3. Approval of April 1st, 2015 Agenda: Deb Deere made a motion to approve the agenda as written, Tom Lazio 2nd the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of February 27th, 2015 MWECI Board Meeting Minutes: Tom Lazio made a motion to approve the February 27th, 2015 board meeting minutes as submitted, Joy Prothero 2nd the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.

5. MWECI Financial Business:

a/b. Pat McReynolds reviewed the February 2015 monthly financials reports as provided by the fiscal agent with the MWECI Board (payments made in February 2015 for January 2015 services). Board members were able to review monthly QB transactions, bank statement and bank reconciliation report, all showing agreement with the bank, fiscal agent's reports and the Area Director's financial tracking. **Deb Deere a motion to approve the financial reports for February 2015, Tom Lazio 2nd the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.**

c. Pat McReynolds, Area Director, reviewed the board's process for contracting of funds. MWECI is currently in the 2nd year of contract renewals based on a 3 year cycle of RFPs from Spring 2013 and annually updated logic models and budgets. Additional specific goals/outcomes with measureable inputs and outputs have been asked for on all logic models. FYE 2016 - ECI funding is anticipating "status quo," so budgets were encouraged remain close to this year's anticipated costs. **Deb Deere made a motion to approve moving forward with the FYE2016 contract renewal process with all contractors submitting via email, updated logic models and budgets by May 22nd, 2015 to the MWECI Area Director. Joy Prothero 2nd the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.** The MWECI Board will review all logic models and budgets and award anticipated funding at the May 28th, 2015 board meeting.

6. MWECI Board Review of Amended & Restated By-Laws:

a. Pat McReynolds provided copies of the amended and restated by laws in the board packet as prepared by Nick Maxwell. The goals of restating and amending the by-laws were to keep the by-laws as legally concise as possible and to eliminate any language that should be board policy. The newly amended and restated by-laws will be formally approved at the April 30th, 2015 MWECI Board of Directors meeting. New MWECI board members will be acting under the new by-laws.

7. Board Member Recruitment:

a. Pat McReynolds provided an updated list of potential board members that she has been making contacts with in an effort to keep the board balanced between Mahaska and Wapello county representation and gender representation. Potential board members include: (Mahaska county contacts) Dr. Ronda Dennis-Smithart (health), Megan Wallace (parent/human resource), and Shannon Hora (parent). Wapello county contacts: Dean Cremer (parent – 24/7 Dads) and Lynelle Diers (health). Dr. Mike Collins has relocated to Johnston, Iowa and Pastor Mark Doll has not expressed any further interest. Pat will continue to seek out Mahaska County citizens to serve.

8. ECI Director's Updates:

a. Pat McReynolds, Area Director, shared verbal information regarding the recent March 5th, ECI Day on the Hill. She expressed that it seemed most legislators were more open to discussion this year and seemed more positive about ECI's work at both the state and

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local levels. Pat participated in a regional approach to visiting with the legislators this year. Instead of speaking with legislators individually in the halls of the capitol building, the eastern region of ECI directors made a special presentation and invited groups of local legislators to a private room in the capitol where they were able to present a joint effort in sharing information important to the work that all of us are doing. Via this approach, we had opportunity to speak with at least 15 different senators and representatives from many districts in which they heard our solidarity message that, "ECI Matters!"

b. Pat also shared that the MWECI contractor's program monitoring would be taking place in April and May, including annual site visits and program observations. Pat will be meeting with each contractor to review items specific to their contract and program (site visit) as well as going on observations with family support staff, the CCNC, CCC, and BASEC staff. Pat will share the site visit schedule with the MWECI Board at the April 30th board meeting, should any board member also wish to participate in any site visit.

c. Pat McReynolds, Area Director, took time to thank the current MWECI board members for their 6 month extended commitment to supporting both her as the Area Director and the local contractors' services, and ultimately the children and families of Mahaska and Wapello Counties. The Area Director's annual contract was reviewed by two board members and the positive results were formally shared with the rest of the board via email and with Pat prior to this meeting. Pat's contract renewal will be addressed at the May 28th, 2015 annual board meeting with all other contracts.

9. Community Updates and Opportunity for Input – FYI

a. Becky Falck, Sieda Family Support Director, shared that the MIECHV funding was approved for Mahaska, Wapello and Appanoose counties. We are still waiting for re-authorization of MIECHV funding and anticipate more funding after 9/30/15 as HERSA is re-looking at how they distributed funds.

b. The SEIIDE & FS Symposium was held on March 28th, 2015 at IHCC. Attendance was up this year and more information will be shared with the board as the evaluations and financials are reviewed and assessed.

c. Tom Lazio shared that the Diversity Conference was a success this year as well. Although not many turned out for the "Fatherhood" session, those that did had a great conversation and Larry did a great job with the CFI presentation. Angie Mach shared that she really found the "keynote" speakers to be inspirational.

d. Tracey Boxx Vass shared that she felt that the Wapello County Health Needs Assessment meeting that took place on 2/12/15 at IHCC reflected the work of many citizens who were very "impassioned about social issues." We look forward to receiving more information about the goals of the group work in the near future.

e. Just a reminder that the Prevent Child Abuse Iowa & Family Support Conference is coming up this month – April 13-15, 2015 in Des Moines. There is a waiting list to get in. They are expecting around 600 professionals to attend this year.

10. Agenda Items for Next Scheduled Board Meeting:

- a. Monthly Financial reports
- b. Area Director's Updates
- c. Board Membership Recruitment

- d. Committee Updates
- e. Amended and Restated By-Laws
- f. Site Visit Schedule

11. Adjournment: Joy Prothero made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 PM, Deb Deere 2nd the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted By: Pat McReynolds, MW Early Childhood Iowa Area Director

Board Adoption Attested By: Tom Lazio, MWECI Board Secretary _____

NEXT MWECI Board Meeting: 5th Thursday, April 30th, 2015, @ 4pm
Fremont Community Center, 107 East Main Street, Fremont, Iowa 52561

NEXT Advisory Committee Meeting: 4th Wednesday, April 22nd, 2015 - 9AM-11:30 AM
Great Prairie AEA, 2814 North Court, Ottumwa, Iowa 52501

For questions concerning meeting location ADA accessibility or requests for assistance please contact the Mahaska Wapello ECI Director prior to the meeting.

The Mahaska Wapello ECI Open Records custodian is the Area Director, Pat McReynolds.

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