

**Mahaska-Wapello Early Childhood IOWA  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015, 4:00 PM  
Fremont Community Center  
107 East Main Street, Fremont, Iowa 52561**



**Mahaska Wapello**

**Board Members Present:** Greg Kenning, Joy Prothero, Nick Maxwell, Desiree Johnson (by conference call). New Board Members approved and present: Dean Cremer and Shannon Hora. (Installed 4:35PM).

**Board Members Absent:** Deb Deere and Tom Lazio.

**Community Members Present:** Becky Falck and Lynn Godwin (Sieda Family Support) Liz Fairchild (Sieda Head Start), Jill Lane (FRC-Helping Hands), Angie Mach (ISU Extension-NEST), Jane Matzen (AHFA), Michael Merrick (Empowerment Services), and Kara Denburger (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 4:13 PM. Quorum met (4:6) (6:8).

**2. Introductions:** Introductions were made.

**3. Approval of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 Agenda:** Joy Prothero made a motion to approve the agenda as written, Nick Maxwell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.

**4. Approval of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 MWECI Board Meeting Minutes:** Joy Prothero made a motion to approve the April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015 board meeting minutes as submitted, Nick Maxwell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.

**5. MWECI Board Approval of Amended & Restated By-Laws:**

a. Pat McReynolds provided copies of the amended and restated by laws in the April 1<sup>st</sup> 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. New MWECI board members will be acting under the new by-laws. **Desiree Johnson made a motion to approve the amended and restated by-laws as provided in the board packet, Nick Maxwell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.** Pat will email copies to all board members and community members.

**6. Board Member Recruitment:**

a. Pat McReynolds introduced the two prospective board members present at today's meeting. Each shared a little about themselves. Shannon Hora is a parent of 3 young boys, whom she home schools and lives in Mahaska County (Oskaloosa). She will be able to serve as the consumer/parent representative on the board. Dean Cremer is a father of two, the youngest being in Head Start, and lives in Wapello County (Ottumwa). Dean is also a Parent Partners and 24/7 DADs facilitator. He will be able to serve as either a consumer/parent representative or a human services representative on the board. **Joy Prothero made a motion to nominate Shannon Hora and Dean Cremer as new members to the MWECI board, Nick Maxwell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously. Joy Prothero made a motion to install Shannon Hora and Dean Cremer immediately to the MWECI board with a 3 year term, Nick Maxwell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.** Pat will continue to seek out Mahaska County citizens to serve and fill the remaining board vacancies.

**7. MWECI Financial Business:**

a/b. Pat McReynolds reviewed the March 2015 monthly financials reports as provided by the fiscal agent with the MWECI Board (payments made in March 2015 for February 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. **Desiree Johnson a motion to approve the financial reports for March 2015, Joy Prothero 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. All Board Members present approved, motion passed unanimously.**

c/d. Pat McReynolds, Area Director, also provided copies of the area director's financial tracking showing anticipated FYE2015 carry forward funds per current contractors. Also provided were copies of anticipated funding for FYE2016 for Early Childhood funding (DHS) and School Ready funding (DE). Board discussion focused on 1) all the "unknowns" around next year's funding, 2) the fact that the Iowa Legislature is still in session and has not yet approved the state budget, 3) MWECI will have an overall \$15,000.00 budget reduction, and 4) FYE2015 is difficult to determine until after the books are closed. The best guidance the board can provide to our current contractors is to spend as you need through the end of FYE2015 and budget conservatively for FYE2016 anticipating initial awards next month reflective of FYE2016 funding (new dollars only) plus conservative estimates of FYE2015 carry forward

Pending MWECI Board Adoption 05/28/15

funds. The board may have to make additional budget adjustments over the summer and into fall depending on what actually passes through the legislature and what budget the governor signs. Everyone will need to be flexible. Pat also passed around a single copy of the revised Tool G which explains how the funding is based on specific formulas and provides area board guidance on how the funding can be spent.

**8. ECI Director’s Updates:**

a. Pat McReynolds, Area Director, shared verbal information regarding the ECI State Board Meeting held 4/3/15, ECI Director’s Meeting held 4/8/15, her attendance of the Prevent Child Abuse Iowa & Family Support Conference held in Des Moines on 4/13 – 4/15, and an update of the MWECI Advisory Committee held 4/22/15. MWECI Preschool Scholarships have served 19 – 3Y olds in 6 different preschool locations this FYE2015. Pat also reminded everyone that the MWECI contractor’s program monitoring would be taking place in May and June, 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.

**9. Community Updates and Opportunity for Input – FYI**

a. Becky Falck, Sieda Family Support Director, shared that the MIECHV Program is continuing to move forward.  
b. Pat McReynolds shared a copy of a flier provided by Mary Derby from Family Drug Court regarding their upcoming park event in Ottumwa on May 30<sup>th</sup>. It is a day to celebrate “National Drug Court Month” and will include numerous activities for children and families to do together.

**10. Agenda Items for Next Scheduled Board Meeting:**

- |                                 |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a. Monthly Financial reports    | d. Committee Updates                  |
| b. Area Director’s Updates      | e. Board Officer Election             |
| c. Board Membership Recruitment | f. Preliminary Budget Review & Awards |

**11. Adjournment: Joy Prothero made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:25 PM, Nick Maxwell 2<sup>nd</sup> 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: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015, @ 4pm**  
**Fremont Community Center, 107 East Main Street, Fremont, Iowa 52561**

**NEXT Advisory Committee Meeting: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 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.

Contact Information: Mahaska Wapello Early Childhood Iowa, PO Box 335, Richland, Iowa 52585

Office Cell Phone: 641-451-5437

Email: patmcr@wildblue.net