



**4 COUNTIES FOR KIDS**

## **Early Childhood Iowa Area**

Cathy Reece, Chairperson

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**4 Counties For Kids Early Childhood Iowa Area  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes  
Carnegie-Evans Library, Albia  
July 18, 2023**

Regular meeting was called to order by Chairman Cathy Reece at 1:01 PM

### **Quorum**

Quorum (5/9) was established as follows:

**Members present** (5): Linda Demry, Dave Henderson, Cathy Reece, Megan Wilson, and Merry Dudley.

**Members absent** (4): Debbie Miller, John Hughes, Todde Folkerts, and Jared Lawrence.

**Community Partners present:** Brenda Fry (Executive Director SCICAP), Karen Lauer (CCR&R), Kim Hugen (Monroe Co. NEST), Erin Hall (SCICAP PAT), Chris Dommer (HOPES), Morgan Small (Sieda Appanoose and Davis Head Start), and Alison Buckallew (AHFA 1<sup>st</sup> Five). Also Present: Jodi Maddy, 4CFK Volunteer Consultant. (New Board Director, Gaylyn Mercer, was absent due to illness.)

### **Introductions & Public Input**

Self-introductions were made around the room. Chairman Reece called for public input on any non-agenda items. There was none.

### **Approval of Consent Agenda**

Motion by Dave Henderson seconded by Linda Demry to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion passed with all members present voting aye.

### **Election of Officers**

Motion by Linda Demry seconded by Dave Henderson to appoint John Hughes as Chairperson. Motion passed with all members present voting aye.

Motion by Linda Demry seconded by Dave Henderson to appoint Cathy Reece as Vice Chairperson. Motion passed with all members present voting aye.

Motion by Merry Dudley seconded by Linda Demry to appoint Gaylyn Mercer as the Board Secretary, a non-voting position for fiscal year 2024. Motion passed with all members present voting aye.

Motion by Linda Demry seconded by Dave Henderson to appoint John Hughes as the fiscal representative. John will continue as the fiscal representative who will work with Gaylyn to review and sign off on monthly invoices.

In the absence of Chairman Hughes, Vice Chairman Reece continued leading the meeting.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Board members reviewed the Conflict-of-Interest policy. There were no questions. Gaylyn will have **Merry, Debbie, John, Jared and John** review and sign via email or at the next meeting.

### **4CFK Board Meeting Schedule for FY2024**

**Thursday, September 14** will be the meeting to review and approve the annual report. **Tuesday, October 17** will be the meeting to review and approve the 4CFK Community Plan. All other meetings will stay on the third Tuesday of every other month at 1:00 PM. **Gaylyn will send an updated schedule out to all members and providers.**

The board reviewed the items that are normally requested for providers to update the board on, and agreed that a “snapshot” of their goals and challenges or successes they are observing needs to remain. Also, they feel that the 5–10-minute presentation limit is sufficient.

Motion by Dave Henderson seconded by Megan Wilson to approve the proposed schedule for FY2024. Motion passed with all members present voting aye.

### **Director Update**

Consultant Maddy provided the following update:

- On pages 10-11, Jodi provided talking points for providers and board members when attending the Town Hall meetings scheduled by Health and Human Services regarding the proposed alignment and changes that will incur.
- After the meeting, Jodi was told about the ECI Directors and Board Chairs being invited to a “special” meeting with Director Garcia on Monday, August 7 in Des Moines. Jodi and Gaylyn will both attend and share information with the board and providers.

### **Board Membership**

The Health Representative position remains open, and the board is encouraged to share persons of interest with Gaylyn.

### **Miscellaneous**

Karen Lauer shared good news regarding the contract amendment that was completed between the board and CCR&R to help spend down Early Childhood funds. Karen used the extra funds, in a very short amount of time, to grant childcare providers and preschools with *necessary* items from their “wish lists.” Jodi shared that Karen had boxes piled up at her home, and is very appreciative of Karen taking on this large task and completing it perfectly.

### **Next Meeting / Adjournment**

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, September 14 at 1:00 PM at the Carnegie-Evans Library in Albia. (Please note the change from third Tuesday of September).**

Motion by Dave Henderson seconded by Linda Demry to adjourn. Motion passed with all members present voting aye. Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jodi Maddy, Consultant