

Linn County Early Childhood Iowa Governance Board MINUTES

January 28, 2025 3:30 PM via Microsoft Teams

Name	Present	Excused	Un-Excused	Guests	Staff
Karey Chase (human services) Board Member at Large	X				
Haley Desmond (business)			X		
Julie Hanlin (faith) Secretary	X				
Shawn Knighton (citizen)	X				
Dan Louzek (health)	X				
Katie Marshall (citizen)	X @ 3:39 pm				
Charlie Nichols (citizen)		X			
Katheryn Paulsen (citizen)	X				
Kirsten Running-Marquardt (elected)		X			
Judy Stoffel (citizen)	X				
Megan Waterman (parent) Chair-Elect	X				
Drew Westberg (education) Chair	X @ 3:48 pm				
Kristen Peyton, ECI Grant Coordinator					X
Amy Grunewaldt, ECI Director					X
Amy Becker, HACAP				X	
Meridith Myers, YPN				X	
Crystal Hall, Tanager				X	
Melissa Williams, GWAEA				X	
Angela Easley, CCNC				X	
Jennifer Ryan, Tanager				X	
Jaye Geater, CCNC				X	
Christi Regan, HACAP				X	
Hilary Robinson, GWAEA				X	
Teresa Daubitz, TIES				X	
Diana Strahan, HACAP				X	
Brandy Meisheid, Linn County Board of Supervisors				X	

Call to Order: Megan Waterman, Board Chair-Elect, called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm with quorum present (7/11), (8/11) at 3:39pm, and (9/11) at 3:48pm.

Executive/Finance Committee Minutes: Included in the packet.

Public Comment: None.

Action: Minutes of 10/22/24 ECI Board Meeting:

- MSC: (Hanlin, Chase) Motion and Second to approve minutes from October Board meeting. Motion carries unanimously.

Annual ECI Performance Data Trends:

- Review of State Required Performance Measures- Health Prevention-Child Health Supports: Peyton reviewed excel charts with 3-years of Funding, Outputs and Outcomes data for the Child Health Supports programs. Explanations of outlier data was explained and items to monitor were identified. All data was included in Board packet.

Board Operations:

2025 Legislative Initiatives: ECI Directors were invited to the Governor's Condition of the State address that proposed a new Continuum of Care initiative that will provide three-year grants for preschool programs and child care providers that come together to integrate their services. Under the proposal, ECI Director's will review and manage the grant awards. Current ECI areas will merge into seven districts, aligned with behavioral health districts. Amy Grunewaldt has been invited to be part of the redesign team. ECI staff will continue to provide updates to the Board as they are developed.

Shared Visions/Wraparound Grant Applications: Health and Human Services (HHS) released an RFP for wraparound funding. Head Start, Early Head Start and the Linn County Child Development Center intended to request the funding. Applicants were notified that applications will not be reviewed.

Action: Budget Revision Policy: Tabled.

Action: Qualtrics for ECI Performance Measures: A new, streamlined ECI State reporting tool has been developed and launched. This new tool will replace the performance measure reporting in Iowa Grants. The reporting will be completed mid-year and at year-end. The deadline to enter data into the Qualtrics is February 17th. Peyton shared her screen and reviewed the Qualtrics components.

- **MSC:** (Marshall, Knighton) Motion and Second to approve the submission of the Linn County ECI FY 25 Mid-Year Qualtrics. Motion carries unanimously.

Board Satisfaction Survey: The Board Member Satisfaction Survey was sent on January 17th. Board members are encouraged to complete the survey to assess strengths and to determine where additional information or focus would enhance the Board's effectiveness. Responses will be anonymous. The deadline to complete is February 6th EOD. ECI-funded partners also received a satisfaction survey.

FY 24 Annual Report Results: The state technical assistance team provided a FY 24 annual report review. Review included in Board packet.

Fiscal Operations:

Action: Mid-Year Financial Report: A new mid-year fiscal tracking tool is due in Iowa Grants by February 21st. More financial details are included in the tracking than in past years' mid-year financial reporting. Grunewaldt presented the spreadsheet.

- **MSC:** (Hanlin, Westberg) Motion and Second to approve the submission of the Linn County ECI FY 25 Mid-Year Financial Report. Motion carries unanimously.

Program & Community Engagement:

Staff Monthly Engagement Efforts: A summary of ECI monthly engagement efforts was included in the packet.

Committees:

FY 25 Committee Updates: The Community Awareness Committee has merged with the Child Abuse Prevention Month Planning Committee. This committee is assisting with the planning of a community resource fair and a safety fair. There will be volunteer opportunities available. With the structure of ECI shifting, it was decided to pause the Mental Health Committee meetings and instead form an ad hoc committee – Board Funding & Priorities. This committee will review funding, assess potential local programming gaps, and create criteria to make funding decisions.

Next Board Meeting: February 25, 2025

Open Agenda: Board Member, Kirsten Running-Marquardt, resigned from the ECI Board to align with her commitments in her role as a Linn County Board of Supervisors. Thank you for serving on the Linn County ECI Board!

Linn County Supervisor, Brandy Meisheid, began her term in January and has expressed interest in joining the ECI Board.

- **MSC:** (Stoffel, Paulsen) Motion and Second to approve New Board Member (1st Term) as follows: Brandy Meisheid. Motion carries unanimously.

Motion to Adjourn:

- **MSC:** (Westberg, Marshall) Motion and Second to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 4:27 pm.

Reviewer: Julie Hanlin, Secretary

Signature: 

Date: 2/4/2025

Recorder: Kristen Peyton

Signature: 

Date: 2/4/2025