

**JASPER, MARION, AND POWESHIEK (JMP) COUNTIES EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA  
BOARD MEETING Minutes**

Foundation Offices at Ahrens Park, 1510 Penrose St, Grinnell, IA 50112  
5:30 pm - Wednesday, February 23, 2022

County	Name	Present		Absent	Excused	Unexcused	Non-Board
		IP	V				
P	Steve Bernemann-(human services)		X				
M	Rachel Cecil (citizen)		X				
M	Brian Kingrey (education)- Board Chair		X				
J	Mitzi Smith (faith)		X				
P	Doug Cameron (consumer)-			X	X		
P	Mary Lindberg (citizen)- Board Vice-Chair			X	X		
J	Britney Schnathorst (citizen) Board Treasurer		X				
J	Julie Wendl (health)		X				
M	Michael Kacmarynski- (business)		X				
	Amy Blanchard (Director)	X					X
	Brenda O'Halloran (CCR&R)		X				X
	Leann Andre (CCR&R)		X				X
	Stephanie Walters (MICA Family Connections)		X				X
	Melissa Woodhouse (MCPH I-Smile)		X				X

- I. The meeting was called to order by Kingrey, Chair, at 5:31 pm. Meeting participation was available in-person at the location noted above and via virtual meeting. Manner of participation is noted above as in-person (IP) or virtual (V).
- II. Roll Call: JMP board members present include Bernemann, Cecil, Kacmarynski, Kingrey, Schnathorst, Smith, and Wendl.
- III. **Motion** to approve minutes from January 26, 2022, meeting by Cecil. **Seconded** by Bernemann. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Public Comment: Woodhouse reported I-Smile is preparing for spring service and has been promoting Children's Dental Health month in February. O'Halloran reported four programs are submitting QRS applications and CCR&R has launched a new database to track technical assistance. Five providers in the JMP service are completed NAC training. Walters reported 17 families currently enrolled and socialization opportunities continue. Fischer reported via email on a current training, Connections Matter, that has 40 participants. Symposium planning continues.
- V. Executive and Committee Reports:
  - a. Treasurer's Report: Report current through February 17, 2022, was included in the board packet. Schnathorst noted JMP is about 42% spent out thus far. JMP has unallocated early childhood funds that exceed the maximum carryforward that should be addressed. The report was filed for audit.
  - b. Preschool Scholarship Report: Report was included in the board packet. No change since the January report.
  - c. ECI Director Report: Report was included in the board packet. Blanchard highlighted the webinar hosted by ECI and IDPH to learn about the new collaborative service areas for Title V

funding. Blanchard recommended a Poweshiek resident to serve on the State ECI board. Kingrey completed Blanchard's performance review in February.

#### VI. Old Business

- a. Site Visit Schedule: the board reviewed the proposed site visit schedule. One site visit has been finished with more to come in the next few weeks.

#### VII. New Business:

- a. JMP Early Literacy Grant: Board reviewed an application from Families First of Pella to fund Books for Babies at Pella Regional Health Center. **Motion** to approve the Books for Babies grant request at \$2,000 each by Schnathorst. **Seconded** by Smith. Motion passed unanimously.
- b. JMP Board Development: Board discussed and learned more about topics in early childhood including voluntary preschool funding and partner preschools, DHS survey results from childcare providers that can be addressed through ECI funding, highlights from the Governor's Child Care Task Force, and how the newly instituted collaborative service areas for Title V funding will affect the JMP service area. After review of the DHS survey results and discussion of the budget, **motion** by Cecil to allocate \$45,000 of Early Childhood unallocated funding to support environmental improvements for licensed home providers through a partnership with CCR&R. **Seconded** by Wendl. Motion passed unanimously.
- c. Annual Board Self-Evaluation: Blanchard shared the link to the board self-evaluation and will email a copy to board members as well. Board members are asked to complete the survey by February 28.

VIII. Other: The JMP request for proposals will be launched on Monday. Applications are due April 1. The next two board meetings will include reviewing the applications.

IX. Adjournment: **Motion** by Wendl to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm. The JMP Board is scheduled to next meet on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at 5:30 pm via virtual meeting.