

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

Open Meeting Location: Foundation Offices at Ahrens Park, 1510 Penrose St, Grinnell, IA 50112
5:30 pm - Wednesday, April 20, 2022

County	Name	Present		Absent	Excused	Unexcused	Non-Board
		IP	V				
P	Steve Bernemann-(human services)		X				
M	Rachel Cecil (citizen)			X	X		
M	Brian Kingrey (education)- Board Chair		X				
J	Mitzi Smith (faith)		X				
P	Doug Cameron (consumer)-		X				
P	Mary Lindberg (citizen)- Board Vice-Chair		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
	Lora Patton (CCR&R)						
	Nikki Harter (MICA Family Connections)		X				X
	Melissa Woodhouse (MCPH I-Smile)		X				X
	Denice Fischer (Jasper County ISU Extension)		X				X
	Shauna Callaway (UP-GRMC Postpartum Home Visit)		X				X
	Valerie Steinbach (Grinnell Early Learning Center)		X				X

- I. The meeting was called to order by Kingrey, Chair, at 5:30 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, Cameron, Kacmarynski, Kingrey, Lindberg, Schnathorst, Smith, and Wendl.
- III. **Motion** to approve minutes from February 24, 2022, meeting by Cameron. **Seconded** by Kacmarynski. Motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Public Comment: Harter reported on Family Connections' continued service. O'Halloran reported helping four new programs get registered. JMP BIP funding may benefit the new programs. EC-PBIS training is finishing. Woodhouse reported meeting with a new program in Newton that is a VPP program affiliated with the Newton YMCA. Newton Headstart is currently only virtual so they're devising a plan to have children come in to meet Melissa at the school for dental screenings. Title V Child and Adolescent Health grant awards will not be announced until August 17th which is challenging to get a new program ready to assume services on October 1 to ensure preschools are adequately served.
- V. Executive and Committee Reports:
 - a. Treasurer's Report: Report current through April 18, 2022, was included in the board packet. Blanchard noted MCPH Parents as Teachers anticipates having \$40 to \$50K left at year-end. Per an email exchange on April 7, the JMP board discussed offering Preschool Quality Improvement grants to assist JMP preschools with a scholarship agreement in place with

funding to address IQ4K improvements and other needs. **Motion** by Lindberg to support up to \$3,000 per preschool through Quality Improvement grants. **Seconded** by Kacmarynski. Grant request forms were sent to preschools in early April. Proposals will be reviewed at the next board meeting. The report was filed for audit.

- b. Preschool Scholarship Report: Report was included in the board packet. Blanchard is working with preschools that have not submitted reimbursement requests recently.
- c. ECI Director Report: Report was included in the board packet. Blanchard highlighted the successful Day on the Hill hosted by the AECIABA board of directors.

VI. Old Business

- a. Board Self-Evaluation: Blanchard reminded the board members to complete the online assessment if they have not already done so.
- b. Collaborative Service Agreement (CSA) Update: The Child and Adolescent Health RFP opened on April 6, will close on June 15, but contracts will not be awarded until August 17. This CSA contract affects both I-Smile and CCNC services. Our current I-Smile coordinator, Melissa Woodhouse, indicated the timeline would likely mean children wouldn't get served adequately. After discussion, the board decided to request a renewal RFP from Marion County Public Health to serve preschools from July 1 to September 30 to ensure continuity of care. Woodhouse will submit the RFP prior to the board meeting on April 27.
- c. Shared Services: Two documents from the Early Childhood Iowa Child Care Shared Services committee were included in the board packet and briefly discussed at the meeting.

VII. New Business:

- a. JMP Preschool Grants: Six preschools have submitted grant requests thus far. Board decided to review all received applications at the April 27 meeting.
- b. JMP RFP Presentations: JMP providers have the opportunity to present to the JMP board for no more than 5-7 minutes followed by a question and answer period of 10 minutes. Open meeting regulations are in effect and all presentations are open to the public in the online meeting. The following providers gave presentations:
 - i. CCR&R (Patton, Andre, and O'Halloran)
 - ii. GRPH Postpartum Home Visits (Callaway)
 - iii. Jasper County ISU Extension Early Care and Education (Fischer)
 - iv. Grinnell Community Early Learning Center (Steinbach)
 - v. GPCF Coordination Services Renewal (Blanchard)

VIII. Other: During the Grinnell Early Learning Center presentation, the board learned of an increased demand for the Sliding Fee Scale support this year. Steinbach anticipates the Center will deplete allocated funding before the close of the fiscal year. After discussion and review of the JMP budget, **motion** by Cameron to increase the GCELC contract amount by \$3,000. **Seconded** by Bernemann. RFP presentations will continue next week. Tentative budget numbers from the State have not been received yet.

IX. Adjournment: **Motion** by Smith to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm. The JMP Board is scheduled to next meet on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at 5:30 pm via virtual meeting.