

**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 28, 2024

County	Name	Present		Absent	Excused	Unexcused	Non-Board
		IP	V				
P	Patricia Hinrichs-(human services) Board Vice Chair		X				
M	VACANT (citizen)						
M	Brian Kingrey (education)- Board Chair		X				
J	Mitzi Smith (faith)			X		X	
P	Doug Cameron (consumer)-		X				
P	Mary Lindberg (citizen)		X				
J	Britney Schnathorst (citizen)		X				
J	Julie Wendl (health)		X				
M	Michael Kacmarynski- (business) Board Treasurer		X				
	Amy Blanchard (Director)	X					X
	Leann Andre (CCR&R)		X				X
	Robyn Belden (MICA Family Connections)		X				X
	Danielle Kenworthy (Short Years Partnership)		X				X
	Amanda Wilson (State ECI Systems Facilitator)						
	Aron Johnson (State ECI Board Chair)						
	Sherri Hunt (ECI Director, Cedar/Jones)						

- I. The meeting was called to order by Kingrey, Chair, at 5:33 pm.
- II. Roll Call: JMP board members present include Cameron, Hinrichs, Kacmarynski, Kingrey, Lindberg, Schnathorst, and Wendl.
- III. Public Comment: Kenworthy reported that Short Years has hired and trained staff for both counties and is very close to securing office space in Knoxville and Newton. Belden reported that a few families have dropped. Recruiting continues. A recent socialization featured a dance party theme. Andre reported that a Conscious Discipline training will be held in Grinnell on Saturday. She also discussed the need for increased training funds to support CPR/1<sup>st</sup> Aid courses in the JMP service area.
- IV. **Motion** to approve minutes of January 24, 2024 board meeting by Lindberg. **Seconded** by Hinrichs. Motion passed unanimously.
- V. New Business:
  - a. Designation Site Visit: Board members and providers introduced themselves to Winslow and Johnson and included years of service on the board as well as geographic and perspective representation. Discussion followed, led by Amanda, to learn more about board operations and effective implementation of ECI funding. After discussion, Amanda and Aaron observed the rest of the business meeting.
- VI. Executive and Committee Reports
  - a. Treasurer's Report: Report current through February 23 was included in the board packet. Following the contract monitoring site visit, CCR&R requested additional training funds to support free CPR/First Aid training for child care providers. Funds can be shifted from the To Be Determined funding line in school ready. **Motion** by Lindberg to amend the budget to shift

\$3,000 to CCR&R training from unallocated funding. **Seconded** by Cameron. Motion passed unanimously. Financial report was filed for audit.

- b. **Preschool Scholarship Report:** Report was included in the board packet. Blanchard highlighted the preschool scholarship grant requests that have been submitted and will be processed in early March. Funds will support preschool learning environments. An additional child will likely be supported by JMP charitable funds following conversations with a local principal that is familiar with the family's situation.
- c. **ECI Director Report:** Report was included in the board packet. Blanchard highlighted the upcoming AECIABA legislative Breakfast on the Hill on March 6 as well as her work to prepare for the designation site visit.

VII. Old Business:

- a. **JMP Board Member Vacancy for Marion County:** Blanchard is still working to schedule an informational meeting with the proposed new board member.
- b. **FY24 Contract Monitoring Site Visit Schedule:** Blanchard will confirm dates with providers and notify board members in advance.

VIII. Other: Blanchard and Kingrey reminded the board that there is no meeting in March but RFP season is upon us so there will be plenty to do in April.

IX. Adjournment: **Motion** by Cameron to adjourn. Next meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2024 via Zoom. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.