

Scott County Kids Empowerment Board
Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 12, 2010 3:30p.m.

In Attendance: Wende Galindo, Larry Barker, Scott Hobart, Mary Thee, Jody Kealey, Lori Elam, Jeff Schwiebert, Tom Taylor, Jennifer Kakert, Chuck Keibler, Shirleen Martin, and Liam Healy for Denise Gonzales. Guests: Shari Huckstedt, from Parents as Teachers, and Tera Weets, from Genesis representing the Universal Assessment and Bight Beginnings

Excused: Hugo Herrera, Maggie Tinsman, Sheri Carnahan and Kristine Teitle.

Absent: Christine Hester

Staff: Marcy Mendenhall, Diane Martens, Donna Moritz, and Nicole Mann.

Call to Order

Wende Galindo called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Larry Barker made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 10, 2009 meeting. Seconded by Scott Hobart. All aye votes, motion carried.

FY '10 Budget Update and Expenditures

Donna reviewed the FY '10 Budget expenditures and provided the board with the up to date expenditure sheet. Grace Head Start and St. James Head Start have sent December billing and they are sending in November's billing, both will be up to date by the next empowerment meeting. There have been no billings thus far for Quality through Accreditation or the Public Awareness Campaign. Donna informed the board members that she did not have an October billing for Bight Beginnings. So far Parents as Teachers has only billed for 30%, Shari Hucksteadt informed the board that they are only contracted a certain amount of days and that billing will actually start to increase. Davenport schools are up to date with billing. Donna also informed members that a new Bi-State employee started on Monday and all expenditures will be up to date by the next meeting.

FY '10 Budget Reductions

Diane informed the board that she has completed all amendments to reflect the budget cuts.

Trinity Hospital – Universal Assessment

Marcy informed members that this assessment isn't actually capturing all of Scott County's residential babies for the universal assessment since some mothers are having their babies in Illinois.

Fund Development

Marcy informed the board that Scott County Kids was a part of the Legislative Breakfast on January 8, 2010. It provided the opportunity to educate legislators on the importance of early childhood.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Diane is sending out a letter to providers and presenting at Promise Jobs tomorrow. June 30, 2011 is when stimulus money needs to be spent.

Bright Beginnings

Marcy explained that there has been a request for additional training. Contracts management hasn't met yet, so it's tabled for now.

Annual Report

Gretchen Hageman from the State Technical Assistance team reviewed the annual report and stated that it was a great report, structure was helpful. She suggested having providers go through performances measures training.

Davenport School District

Marcy stated that there has been a change in the protocol for the billing process. They were fined for 3 months.

Committee Reports

Contract Management: Jennifer Kakert stated that the committee met on December 3, 2009 and will be meeting again in February.

Outcomes: Jody Kealey stated that the committee met December 14, 2009. Diane reported that it was suggested to have the contractors come to a board meeting and present. There was concern about actually having enough time during a board meeting to hear from all the providers. It was suggested to have the agenda lowered to only action items and to have the providers submit a written report and only having those providers come in and present if the board had any follow up questions for them. This committee will meet again in March.

Nominations: Resignations for Hugo Herrera and Sheri Carnahan. Wende Galindo is also stepping down as Chari. Larry wanted to know the status of Christine Hester. Marcy stated that she is looking into empowerment rules for board nominations.

Public Awareness: Committee hasn't met; Diane will be scheduling a meeting date.

Conflict of Interest Statements

Diane handed out conflict of interest statements for board members to sign and turn back into her. Jeff Schwiebert had some concern about the conflict of interest statements because there were a lot of action items where board members would have a conflict of interest. Marcy ensured members that empowerment boards needed to have the representation from the schools and other community members.

Board Survey

Diane collected board surveys from members.

Board Member Activity Report

No update at this time.

Staff Activity Report

No update at this time.

Legislative Recap

Marcy informed the board that February 3, 2010 was Day on the Hill in Des Moines for Early childhood. Linda Miller from Lean Design reported to Marcy that empowerment is moving to the Department of Education and that it might actually be cut or lowered. Marcy and staff are advocating for empowerment to continue. Efficiency report showed that TANF dollars are more at risk, we knew they were going to be cut because they are being reformulated. Marcy wants to send a letter to the Governor and the DHS director on behalf of the Empowerment Board about the importance of keeping empowerment funding.

Jennifer Kakert made the motion to allow Marcy to write a letter to the Governor and the DHS director on behalf of the Empowerment Board about the importance of keeping empowerment funding. Seconded by Scott Hobart. All ayes, motion carried.

Jeff Schwiebert had concern about empowerment moving from the Department of Management because it is more neutral to the Department of Education. He was concerned about the funding for empowerment getting caught up in funding for K-12. Mary Thee also stated that maybe the Department of Education might be a good shift because it's a fresh perspective.

Larry Barker was notified through the Department of Management with having to take the 10% cuts that the savings would be disbursed later. Diane also informed the board that empowerment dollars can be spent on more than preschool; there is a bill for empowerment dollars to be spent to send Davenport residents to North Scott School.

Public Input

None at this time.

Other Business

None at this time

Adjournment

Name made a motion for adjournment seconded by **Name** at 4:30.

Next Meeting Date: February 9, 2010

