

**FACT Empowerment Board**  
**Minutes**  
**Wednesday June 25, 2008**  
**4:00**  
**Greenfield Library Meeting Room**  
**Greenfield, Iowa 50849**

**Attendance**

Board members present, Cindy Moss, Clifford Sheriff, Maureen Lonsdale, Mike Cass, Wilma Perrin Naber, Diane McCall, Catherine Howe, KendaIn Huff, and Jane Ernst. Board member not present Jane Shantz.

Others present, Debra Schrader, Kristen Walker, and Deb Hall.

Chairperson Cath Howe convened the meeting at 4:35

**Determination of Quorum**

FACT Empowerment board has 11 board positions, with 10 currently filled and 9 members were present representing quorum.

**Agenda**

Mike moved to approve the agenda. Maureen seconded. Motion carried.

**Minutes**

Mike moved to approve the May 28, 2008 minutes. Jane Ernst second. Motion carried.

**Announcements**

Deb updated the board regarding new requirements for family support and parent education programs for the 2009 funding year and that training regarding the new requirements was held June 24 in Indianola. Janet Gartin, state family support coordinator is strongly encouraging empowerment boards write into provider contracts that programs apply for a state credential. It was consensus of the board not to consider this requirement in the 2009 contracts.

**State Budget**

Deb reported the Early Childhood budget was approved by Tami Foley, Department of Human Services, on June 13, 2008 and that the school ready budget was approved by the Judy Knox, Department of Education, on June 6, 2008, but was later rescinded on June 20, 2008. At this time the budget is not approved. Programming of the incentive based project is to be clarified before consideration of approval will be given. Deb will not write contracts until re-approval has been granted.

**State Tools**

State tools EE and LL regarding board membership and citizen were reviewed by the board as well as state tools FF(A) and FF regarding family support and parent education were reviewed. It is noted there are new measure requirements and measurement tools mandated for the 2009 year.

**Child Nurse Consultant Computer**

Deb Hall provided information regarding the need to purchase a computer for the child care nurse consultant. The cost would be for 1/3 of the total cost, as Madison and Union County Empowerment are asked to contribute 1/3 to the computer for an approximate total cost of \$1,325. Jane Ernst moved to allow the 1/3 cost of purchase of the computer for the nurse consultant and Matura would have sole ownership of the computer. Maureen seconded. Jane, Maureen, Kendalyn and Diane voted aye. Clifford, Mike, Cindy and Wilma voted naye. Chairman Catherine voted aye. Motion carried.

**Voluntary 4 Year Old Preschool**

Grant applications were submitted for West Central Valley School District, Orient-Macksburg School District and Nodaway Valley School district. Award notices were received on June 9, 2008 and a all three school districts will now have voluntary funding for 4 year olds. All school districts in Adair County have state funded voluntary preschool funding.

**Preschool Scholarship Protocol**

Deb Hall explained the how scholarships were awarded to families for 2008. She explained that children at or below 200% of poverty can receive scholarships, however since all the school districts have just now been awarded Department of Education voluntary preschool funding, there is a need to change the preschool scholarship protocol. Deb Schrader noted the intent of the word voluntary means, a school district can voluntary apply for the grant, families can voluntarily chose to send their child to preschool, and that private preschools can voluntary opt in or out of the grant. Jane provided information from the empowerment preschool tool CC (B). Discussion regarding a section of the tool around supplanting was of concern and interpretation this section was difficult. Deb noted since this is controversial issue that it may be advantageous to make a decision at a latter time. Diane left the meeting at 5:45. After much discussion, Maureen moved that in order for a 4 year old to receive an empowerment preschool scholarship the child must first be enrolled in a voluntary preschool and if a slot is not available in the voluntary preschool the child will be eligible for an empowerment preschool scholarship.

Jane Ernst seconded. Mike, Maureen, Kendalyn, and Wilma aye. Clifford and Cindy naye. Jane abstained. Motion carried. Iowa State Extension currently has the Early Childhood Education contract, and Deb Hall has the authority to work out details with private preschools regarding the semantics of preschool scholarships and other supportive services for children 3, 4 and 5.

**Payment Vouchers**

Maureen moved to approve the payment vouchers as submitted. Clifford seconded. Motion carried.

May expenses are as follows;

Payment vouchers were reviewed by the finance committee prior to the meeting. The following vouchers were presented for May services, Adair County Home Care for Great Starts \$820.76, Debra Schrader for service coordination \$1,944.25, and Adair County Home Care for Buckle Up Right \$1,210.54, Adair County Extension for Early Childhood Education \$11,676.13, Adair County Extension for Growing Strong Families \$4,013.48, South Central Youth and Family Services for Family Rewards \$2,336.05, and Matura for child care provider project \$1,594.37, and Standridge Group for board website \$1,380.00 for a grand total of \$24,975.58.

**Empowerment 101**

Sections of the Iowa code were reviewed.

**Next meeting**

Cindy moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:20. There is no July meeting and the next meeting is August 27, 2008 at 4:00. Annual reports will be the majority of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Debra Schrader, Empowerment Director