

Minutes  
FMC Community Empowerment Board  
November 27, 2006 – 6:30 p.m. Charles City Public Library

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Virgil Pickar, Jr. at 6:30 p.m. with the following board members answering roll call: Virgil Pickar, Jr., Kathy Herrick, Deb Freeman, Leo Staudt and Amy Sauke. Board members absent: Bonnie Blake, Cheryl Jahnel, Anne Windolf, Elayne Werges, Shannon Paulus, Sue Paulus, Jon Cook and Mark Knudsen. It was determined that there was no quorum but it was the consensus of the Board members present that the meeting should proceed and that any action taken will be ratified in January at the next regular Board meeting.

The agenda was reviewed. Motion to approve agenda was made by Amy Sauke and seconded by Deb Freeman. Vote taken, all aye.\* Minutes of September 25, 2006 were reviewed. Motion by Deb Freeman and seconded by Leo Staudt to approve the minutes as presented. Vote taken, all aye.\*

Gloria Carr, Fiscal Agent, presented the current financial report. After review, it was moved by Leo Staudt and seconded by Amy Sauke that the report be approved. Vote taken, all aye\*

Don Chaplain, from the UNI Institute for Decision Making, was present to update the board on the progress of the Community Survey and Redesignation report that is due to the state in the fall of 2007. He reviewed what has been accomplished and informed the board what sections remain to be completed. Although the information required is complex to compile and interpret, we are on target to submit this report by the deadline of 9/15/07.

Dianne Casto, Head Start, presented a report on the progress of the Early Head Start Project. A grant has been received for this to be a pilot project with the goal to serve 15 children in the home based program. With the addition of the pilot grant monies, there is now enough funding for the project to start as soon as staff is in place and she asked for approval from the board to proceed. It was moved by Deb Freeman and seconded by Amy Sauke, that Head Start be granted approval to begin the Early Head Start Program. Vote taken, all aye\*

Sue Loken, Coordinator for the Learning Connections program gave an update on the program in the St. Ansgar School District that started on November 13, 2006 with 39 participants, 22 children and 17 parents.

Virgil reported that Board Member Cheryl Jahnel, currently serving as Mitchell County's elected official was not re-elected to her post as County Supervisor but it is possible that she will remain on the board as the Mitchell County elected officials appointee.

Diane Potraz, Eagle Coordinator, updated the board on recent Eagle activities and plans for the future.

Nancy Beenblosom, LSI – Families Together, reported that they are in the process of putting together a Resource Directory for families to access. The goal is to update this directory yearly and have it accessible to the public via a web site.

Wendy Taylor, Nurse Consultant for Child Care Resource and Referral, introduced herself and explained that she assists childcare centers and providers with obtaining their Quality Ratings. She is currently helping 9 centers/preschools and 10 home care providers apply for their quality rating.

Deb Freeman, Board Member and Mitchell County Home Health/Public Health Director reported that her organization has received an award for being in the top 25% of Home Health Agencies in the United States. They were also commended for being one of the top 20 home health care agencies in Iowa for reducing acute care hospitalizations for their clients.

The next meeting was set for January 22, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. at the Charles City Public Library.

There being no further business, Deb Freeman moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Amy Sauke. Vote taken, all ayes\*. Meeting adjourned.

\*subject to ratification by the Board at their January 22, 2007 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Herrick  
Secretary