

Minutes
FMC Community Empowerment Board
September 25, 2006 – 6:30 p.m. Charles City Public Library

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, Cheryl Jahnel, Amy Sauke, Shannon Paulus, Mark Knudtson, Anne Windolf. Board members absent: Bonnie Blake, Leo Staudt, Sue Paulus, Elayne Werges and Jon Cook. Introductions were made.

The agenda was reviewed, with the addition of a request from speech pathologist, Sara Stewart. Motion to approved agenda as amended was made by Cheryl Jahnel and seconded by Shannon Paulus. Vote taken, all aye. Minutes of July 17, 2006 meeting (Annual Meeting 2006) were reviewed. Motion by Mark Knudtson, and second by Cheryl Jahnel to approve minutes as presented. Vote taken all aye.

Kathy Herrick presented Amy Sauke, to fill the open board position as Floyd County citizen representative. Herrick moved and Anne Windolf seconded the nomination. Vote taken, all aye.

Chair Pickar gave recognition to Deb Freeman, Mitchell County, for starting her one year team as the rotating public health representative.

Diane Potratz, the new EAGLE Coordinator was introduced and welcomed.

Empowerment Coordinator Laurie Kristiansen, presented the FMC Empowerment Annual Report for 2006. It was moved by Anne Windolf and seconded by Shannon Paulus to accept the report as submitted. Vote taken, all aye.

Fiscal Agent Gloria Carr presented the final version of the proposed 2007 budgets for the School Ready, Early Childhood and Quality Improvement Funds. The School Ready budget needed revisions between line items per the state's request but the amounts budgeted for the programs remain the same. The Early Childhood Budget has been accepted by the State after the carryover funds have been allocated. The new carryover balance is now \$2003.00. The Quality Improvement Budget was reviewed. These are one-time only funds that count as School Ready monies. Laurie noted that since three empowerment areas chose not to participate in this grant more money will be allocated to the remaining areas. We can expect at least \$2-\$3,000 in additional funds.

After discussion, Cheryl moved and Anne seconded a motion to approve and accept the 2007 School Ready, Early Childhood and Quality Improvement Budgets as presented. Vote taken, all aye.

Fiscal Agent Carr also presented an Expense Summary Report for all funds expended since July 1st.

The Preschool Scholarship Report was presented by Coordinator Kristiansen. As of September 25th, 2006, 145 students in 15 preschools have been awarded scholarships. 100% of the preschools in the FMC Empowerment Area are participating in this program.

Anne Windolf reported on the State Empowerment Meeting held in Cedar Falls on September 22, 2006. One of the main discussions at the meeting was accountability and how to measure improvement in funded programs.

Sara Stewart, speech pathologist, presented a request to the board concerning a child with special circumstances, who needs her services but the family doesn't meet the guidelines for empowerment funding. She asked that the board authorize the use of empowerment funds currently in her budget for 10 sessions with this child. It was moved by Shannon Paulus and seconded by Anne Windolf that the request to extend services for this special case be granted. Vote taken, all ayes.

Cori Martin of CCR&R presented a Training Report and Home Consulting Activity Report for FY06. She updated the Board on upcoming trainings for child care providers including one on bullying that may include a home visitation component.

Nancy Beenblosom, LSI – Families Together, updated the Board on their activities. Her staff has started preparing a Directory of Services which will eventually be available on the web and plans are being made to present the program "Take Charge of Your Body" to all students in the three elementary schools in Floyd County.

Diane Castro, Head Start, reported on the progress of the Starting Out Right initiative. There is a good possibility of receiving federal funds that could partner with empowerment funds to enable this program to start in the near future.

The next meeting will be November 27, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the Charles City Public Library.

There being no further business, Anne Windof moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shannon Paulus. Vote taken, all ayes. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Herrick
Secretary

