

News Release

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For Immediate Use

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FMC Community Empowerment Board Welcomes New Preschool Rep

Members of the FMC Community Empowerment board welcomed a new preschool representative to the table at the board's Monday night meeting. Lori Jost, preschool director at the Nora Springs/Rock Falls Community School District, attended her first meeting as a board member. Jost has been an active participant in preschool advisory groups for the local Empowerment organization. She replaces long-time member Sue Paulus of Rudd Rockford-Marble Rock Community School District.

Other business Monday night included a fiscal update from Gloria Carr, fiscal agent and Floyd County auditor. Carr stated the current fiscal report was in order and she welcomed any comments or questions from the floor. Board members approved the report as presented.

Board members also approved a template for the FMC Empowerment fiscal agent contract, based on a sample format from the state Empowerment technical assistance team. While the 2008 budgetary figures can't be applied yet, the basic template was reviewed and accepted.

A number of suggestions for improving the language of the FMC Empowerment bylaws had been submitted by the State TA team, and board members reviewed those comments. The bylaws will be reworked and a copy presented to board members at the next meeting for further review and then voting at yet a later date.

Mark Knudtson, (Osage) representing education on the board, commented on the new preschool legislation for four-year-olds. He noted that the Osage school district was among others in the FMC area that will not be applying for the preschool funding this year. Many prefer to wait, he said. FMC Empowerment will continue to offer preschool scholarships for preschools in the 3 county FMC Empowerment area.

Board members heard that the RFP proposals for 2008 funding had been received. Board volunteers will be accepted to begin the committee RFP review process.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the FMC Empowerment board is scheduled for Monday, July 16th, which will be the 2007 annual meeting.