

**Minutes**  
**Washington County Empowerment**  
**August 23, 2007**

**Board Members Present:** Edie Nebel, (treasurer- Health), Megan Jones-Schiebel (chair-citizen), Jim Miksch (Board of Supervisors), Jennifer Callahan (citizen), Paula Buckwalter (business), Janis Gruber (faith), Ed Brown (citizen)

**Board members absent:** Sue Kos (citizen), Mark Schneider (education)

**Advisory members present:** Tasha Beghtol (Empowerment Coordinator)

Meeting called to order @ 4:30pm with a quorum established  
Minutes of the June 28, 2007 meeting were approved as submitted

**Financial Report:** Financial report was reviewed by Edie Nebel. The new format from GEODE was handed out. Members indicated that the fiscal format was good, but requested to have budget amounts indicated next to expenditures of each program. Tasha said that she would give GEODE the needed information and present the new report at the next meeting. Edie also noted the new claim voucher used by Tasha to submit to GEODE.

Board members were given copies of the final year end (FY07) report. Edie noted that several programs returned unspent funds. Total carry over noted at the bottom of page 2 reflects returned funds as well as balance from Auditor. Tasha noted that the reconciled balance was \$559.57 in favor of the Washington Co Empowerment Board and would be added in the budget to SR 'Other'. Tasha also notes that the new fiscal system in place for all programs would eliminate programs having any unspent funds to be returned at the end of the year.

**Program Committee:** Megan Jones-Schiebel reviewed a request from Grant Wood AEA regarding payment for 2 Washington Co providers to attend the Johnson Co *Every Child Reads* training. Megan noted that it was a training the program committee did not recommend funding for based on concerns for attendance because it is an extensive series. The program committee recommended funding the series every other year in Washington Co. Tasha noted that Empowerment had covered participation costs for providers attending trainings in other counties before. It was also noted that the cost per participant was much reduced from offering the training in Washington Co. Tasha explained that participants would not receive extra incentives or mileage reimbursement for the Jo Co training.

Motion by Ed Brown, second by Paula Buckwalter, to fund participation for the 2 Washington Co providers registered for *Every Child Reads* series beginning 9-10-07. Motion Carried

**Preschool Committee:** Tasha handed out and reviewed committee report. It was noted that due to Mid-Prairie and Highland receiving Department of Ed preschool funds there was approximately \$40,000 in unallocated funds for Preschool Support. Tasha explained options for new programming and noted new quality standards for preschools participating in the tuition scholarship program. (See Preschool Scholarship Committee report, attachment A).

Motion by Janis Gruber, second by Jim Miksch to approve Preschool Scholarship committee recommendation #2 as submitted. Motion carried.

Motion by Jim Miksch, second by Edie Nebel, to approve Preschool Scholarship committee recommendation #1 as submitted. Motion carried.

**Re-designation:** Tasha handed out and reviewed items for re-designation (Self evaluation, Community Plan, & Annual Report. Members reviewed and finalized collaboration portion of self evaluation. Tasha noted highlights of annual report and current process for Community Plan. Motion by Megan Jones-Schiebel, second by Paula Buckwalter, to approve current community plan and annual report for completion by Tasha and to be submitted to the state by September 15<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned 6:00pm.

Next meeting Thursday September 27<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 pm  
State re-designation meeting October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5-7:30 pm

## Attachment A

### Washington County Empowerment Executive and Advisory Board meeting August 23, 2007 Preschool Scholarship Committee

Committee Members: Tasha Beghtol, Sue Kos, Paula Buckwalter, Jennifer Callahan, & Teresa Greiner

Committee meetings took place July 19<sup>th</sup> and August 9<sup>th</sup>

#### Items discussed

- Mid-Prairie and Highland district awarded state preschool funding
  - EA will have approximately \$40,000 in unallocated funds due to new state money
  - Possible programs to fund with additional monies
    - Fluoride varnish
    - Literacy program
    - CART (Childcare Alliance Response Team)
- Reviewed and approved preschool scholarship applications
- Reviewed and updated preschool agreement and standards to be met by participating providers

Recommendations to the Board

#### **#1 – Standards for participating preschools**

*Participating preschools and licensed centers are required to have completed or are currently working toward completion of the standards outlined for a provider with a Quality Rating Scale (QRS) of Level 2. Preschools and centers are NOT required to enroll in QRS. Once a Level 2 rating equivalent has been met participating schools must continue to work with the Child Care Nurse Consultant to identify and complete additional assessments and/or surveys as needed. In addition: licensed centers are required to have completed or are currently working toward completion of the (IQPPS) Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards.*

#### **#2 – Additional preschool support funding**

*The Preschool Scholarship Committee, in conjunction with the Program Committee, will meet with program directors and facilitators to discuss possible funding and implementation of identified needed programs (Fluoride Varnish, CART, and/or literacy program). New programs will be supported through 'Preschool Support' funds remaining after transportation and tuition assistance has already been allocated. Request for Proposals will not be required.*