

TAMA COUNTY EMPOWERMENT AREA

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Tama County Empowerment Board Meeting
Tuesday, November 24, 2009 – 12:00 noon
ISU Extension Office Meeting Room

Voting Members Present:

Larry Vest, Board of Supervisors/Citizen
Richard Arp, Citizen/North Tama School District
Darla Thiessen, proxy for Karen Christensen
Jill Herink, Education/Meskwaki School District

Joyce Legg, Tama County Public Health
Jenn Stover, Business and Industry/Citizen
Angie Knowles, Citizen/STC School District

Others Present:

Lori Johnson, Empowerment Coordinator
Frank Albertsen, ISU Extension
Rachel Porath, Mid-Iowa Community Action

Anne Bacon, Mid-Iowa Community Action
Becky Roe, Child Care Resource & Referral
Royce Hickie, Mid-Iowa Community Action

Apologies:	Michelle Gethmann	Marisue Hartung	Lindi Roelofse	Rudy Papakee
	Teresa McCall	Rick Vesely	Deb Schlichting	Mandy Lekin
	Laura Kopsa	Angela Dreesman	Lindsey Drew	Annette Dunn
	Jana Enfield	Cindy Skopec		

Larry Vest, Chair, called meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

Agenda - Revised agenda was disbursed with one additional item needing to be added. Under New Business: Approve and authorize Board Chair to sign Contract Amendments with the State Empowerment and also local Empowerment Contracts. Agenda revisions were approved.

Introductions were made.

Minutes of Previous Meeting –Empowerment meeting minutes for September 1, 2009 were reviewed. Jenn Stover made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Angie Knowles seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Financial Report – was disbursed. Ms. Legg made a motion to approve the financial report as presented. Jenn Stover seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Public Input – none noted.

Provider Reports – *Child Consultant* – Becky Roe introduced herself. She is replacing Jerri Leighton. They are seeing an increase in providers and changes with in their office. There is a new approval process for trainers and is taking longer to arrange trainings, or may not be able to hold due to stumbling block with new process.

Nurse Consultant –Helen McKay resigned September 30th. The training will be in January and MICA will advertise/hire at that time. With no Nurse Consultant, home care providers will not be able to achieve higher levels in QRS. Quarterly report was disbursed.

Stork's Nest, Public Health Home Visitation, etc. – Joyce Legg shared Stork's Nest education continues to be monthly with 15 – 25 attending. Education is provided in English and Spanish. One Interpreter has taken full-time employment, and the others offer limited availability. There is no certified contractor in Tama County to provide the modifications to homes with children with high lead levels.

Coordinator – Ms. Johnson shared updated information regarding annual report, information received at Coordinators Meeting and from State Empowerment Board meeting. The most current Lean Design Summary was disbursed.

Care for Kids –1st Quarter Report was disbursed.

Infant Toddler Specialist, Dental Hygienist, and Transportation –handout was disbursed. Jessica McNaul has changed to EHS. , but is still meeting with TCHF families. Royce is now a full-time Education Coordinator in Tama and Poweshiek Counties. There still is no bus driver for Head Start. Dental Hygienist provided 99 fluoride varnishes; 101 screenings; and 3 referrals during the first quarter.

Respite Scholarships – no report given.

Tobacco Funds – Frank Albertsen shared that they have been told that the tobacco funds will be cut, but have not received anything in writing from the state. There will be a Tobacco Coalition meeting in January.

Old Business – *Re-designation – Policy Regarding Suspension of the Re-designation Process for Fall 2010* - **The** re-designation process for 2010 is on hold for now with the Lean Design events. Tama County is one that will be impacted by this suspension.

New Business – *Funding Sub-committee Recommendations* – meeting minutes from the Funding Sub-committee Meeting were disbursed. After review of the minutes, Jill Herink made a motion to approve the Funding Sub-committee's recommendations. Richard Arp seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Motion passed.

Request from Poweshiek County – Ms. Johnson shared information regarding the request she had received from Poweshiek County. Much discussion was held regarding what is the best for the kids in Tama County. No further action taken.

Letter of Support – Jill Herink has requested a letter of Support for the Meskwaki Sac & Fox Trip for the "Communities Putting Prevention to Work" Initiative Grant that they are applying for. Jenn Stover made the motion to approve the Empowerment Board Chair to sign a letter of support. Angie Knowles seconded the motion. Jill Herink abstained from voting. Motion passed.

Approve and Authorize Chairman to sign Contract Amendments with the State and local providers – Joyce Legg made the motion to approve the Chair to sign contract amendments with the State and local providers. Jill Herink seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Updates from the State – *no other updates.*

Correspondence – News Article regarding North Tama studies 4 year old preschool was shared. Richard Arp updated the Board that they have cancelled their plans due to current state financial situation and with Pied Piper already being in place. Thank you was shared, updated information regarding Smart Start Conference, October 2009 Empowerment Newsletter and Together for Prevention Newsletter were available for review.

Adjournment – Joyce Legg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Richard Arp seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Johnson, Tama County Empowerment Coordinator

Reminder: Next Regular Empowerment Board Meeting will be January 26th at ISU Extension at 12:00 Noon