

# MEETING MINUTES - NOTES

## BOARD ELECT – INFORMATIONAL MEETING

---

Date:	May 1, 2026
Time:	2:00 – 3:00 PM
Location	Virtual - Zoom
Meeting called to order by:	Dawn Sickelka

---

### IN ATTENDANCE - INTRODUCTIONS

Dawn Sickelka, Annette Koster, Cherl Ellis, Cherokee; Dan Fredrickson, County; Ann Osborne, Sac; Michelle Conner, Plymouth; Jeremy Koerselman, Sioux; Levi Markwardt, Dickenson; Rhonda Ringenberg, Buena Vista; Barry Anderson, County;

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES - NA

This was the first meeting and not considered an official meeting of a board to be established with the following Counties: Lyon, Sioux, Plymouth, Cherokee, Osceola, O'Brien, Dickinson, Clay, Buena Vista, Crawford, Sac.

### BUDGET - N/A

### REPORTS – IDENTIFYING IMPORTANT STEPS TO SET UP ECI AREA

- **Board Matrix** will need to be submitted to the state before funding can be released. Start with staggered terms across the counties served.
- **New Area name** – suggested name Northwest Early Childhood Area. Other suggestions to be considered can be sent to Dawn S. or Annette K.
- **Fiscal Agent** will need to decide and submit to state quickly, needed for contract ECI State to ECI Area.
  - Two Options
    - Thriving Families Alliance, quote received.
    - Central Iowa Juvenile Justice Center, waiting for reply.
- **Employer of Record (EOR):** Could stay with current EOR. Would need to be approved by each entity. Other option is to have the new Fiscal Agent be the EOR.
  - Dawn S. is with Siouxland Human Investment Partnership (SHIP).
  - Annette K. is with Buena Vista County, on Supervisor agenda May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **FY 27 Funding**, renew contracts for core services provided in all the counties. Core contracts include: Home Visitation, Oral Health, Preschool Scholarship Support, Preschool Scholarship Coordination, Program Directors.
  - Home Visitation six (6) month contracts. Unsure of Legislation related to Health and Human Services (HHS) taking over the contract, possibly in January. If this does not happen, full extension of contract.

- Oral Health quarter Cherokee Contract for services. Cherokee is getting out, waiting for HHS to identify new State contract.
- Oral Health Contract with Crawford County Community Health offer a full year.
- Preschool Scholarship to be worked out.
- **By-Laws:** Will need to be completed & adopted soon.
  - Draft by-laws provided. Suggest 9 to 11 staggered terms
  - Officers: Chair, Vice Chair, Financial Officer, Secretary.
  - Clarify virtual meetings
  - Iowa Code 670 - 28-E
  - Become own 501 C-3 time and investment. Would provide some flexibility related to funds and not have other agencies by fiscal agent, employer of record.

**NEXT MEETING DATES: 2:00 PM, VIRTUALLY.**

May 8, 2026,

May 15, 2026

May 22, 2026