



Cedar/Jones Early Childhood Iowa

Board Meeting

Thursday, January 15th, 2026; 9:00 a.m.

Hybrid – Olin CSD Meeting Room & Zoom

Members Present: Dionne Daedlow, Stephanie Musser, Janet Shotwell, Josh Sundstrom, Heather Weers, and Steve Williams.

Members Absent: Mike Bixler and Darrick Hall.

Others Present: Christy Brown, GWAEA; Christi Regan & Jaye Geater, HACAP; Amber Brown, Linda Cavazos, & Grace Oatman, LSI; Chelsey Steckley & Kelsey Connick, YPN; Lucia Herman, Disability Access Point; and Sherri Hunt, Cedar/Jones ECI Director.

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** – Board Chairperson Stephen Williams **called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.** Quorum was achieved with 6 out of 8 members present.
- II. **Introductions** – All Board members and guests introduced themselves.
- III. **Public Comments** – None noted.
- IV. **Meeting Minutes** – Heather Weers made a motion, seconded by Dionne Daedlow **to approve the November 20th, 2025 Board Meeting minutes.** All approved. Motion carried.
- V. **FY26 Financials** – Sherri provided an overview with no concerns noted. Janet Shotwell made a motion, seconded by Josh Sundstrom **to accept the FY26 Financials as presented.** All approved. Motion carried.
- VI. **Parents As Teachers Presentation – Young Parents Network** – Chelsey Steckly, Program Supervisor, and Kelsey Connick, Parent Educator, presented on the work YPN is doing in Jones County through the Parents As Teachers (PAT) Home Visitation Program. They discussed the vision and mission of their organization, an overview of PAT programming, additional resources offered to families through YPN, and a review of data points.
- VII. **FY26 2nd Quarter Program Reports** – Sherri provided a summary of FY26 2nd Quarter Program Reports for the Child Care Alliance Response Team (CART), the Early Head Start Wage Enhancement Program, Parents As Teachers programming in both Cedar and Jones counties, and the Preschool Scholarship Program. All program performance measures and financials are on track. Dionne Daedlow made a motion, seconded by Janet Shotwell **to approve the FY26 2nd Quarter Program Reports and financials.** All approved. Motion carried.
- VIII. **Cedar/Jones ECI By-Laws** – Sherri reviewed Cedar/Jones ECI By-Laws with members and no changes were recommended.
- IX. **Cedar/Jones ECI Succession Plan** – Sherri reviewed the Cedar/Jones ECI Succession

Plan. Updates have been made and were reflected in the plan. Copies were shared with Members.

- X. Directors' & Officers Liability Insurance – Policy Renewal** – Heather Weers made a motion, seconded by Josh Sundstrom **to renew the Directors' & Officers Liability Insurance effective 3/9/26 in the annual amount of \$1,044.** No increase was noted on the renewal. All approved. Motion carried.
- XI. Trend Data Report** – Sherri reviewed program trend data for Home Visitation Programming (PAT), Preschool Scholarships, Early Care and Education Supports (Early Head Start Program Expansion), and Mental Health Supports (CART). Data reviewed was from FY22 through FY25. Sherri also noted trends with annual funding, carry forward funding, and administrative staff costs.
- XII. Movement to Districts** – Sherri noted that no real movement has been made regarding the formation of ECI Districts. It is still being discussed at a State level and with the State ECI Board. A February 6th, 2026 meeting has been planned for a District 7 ECI Board to begin discussions and brainstorm on ways to be more collaborative. Stephen Williams and Steph Musser as well as Sherri plan to attend.
- XIII. Director Update** – Sherri shared a Review of 2025 Early Childhood Iowa Annual Report received from the State ECI office noting no concerns on the FY25 submitted by Cedar/Jones ECI.

She also reported on an “Our Bookshelf” virtual program for parents that ECI will be partnering with Cedar County Extension during the month of February. A minimal amount of administrative \$\$ were utilized to supply books for 5 families.

Sherri shared that it has been requested by HACAP Head Start to write a support letter for their grant application for Shared Visions funding.

And finally, Sherri shared times of Program Mid-Year Reviews and encouraged Board members to sign up for at least one review.

- XIV. Adjourn** – Heather Weers made a motion, seconded by Janet Shotwell **to adjourn the meeting at 10:04 a.m.** All approved. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 19th , 2026; 9:00 a.m.; Olin CSD/Zoom

Next Exec. Committee Meeting: Tuesday, February 10th, 2026; 12:00 noon; Zoom