

Board Members Present:

Nin Flagel
Gwen Deming (Zoom)
Erin George
Linda Hledik
Jack Willey
Lindsey Burken
Roberta Rosheim (Zoom)
Sarah Hogan

Board Members Absent:

Charlie Minnick

Staff Present:

Mary Kay Wirth

Guests:

Julie Hamann (LSI)
Lori Jahn (LSI)
Christi Regan (HACAP HS)
Melissa Tucker (LSI)
Amy Grunewaldt (Linn)
Abbey Degenhardt (Dub.)
Sherri Hunt (Cedar/Jones)
Heather Montgomery (WH)

Clinton/Jackson Early Childhood Iowa Board Meeting Minutes April 27, 2026

Jack Willey, the board chair called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM. Mary Kay Wirth conducted roll call. Members present are listed at left.

March 23, 2026 minutes: Erin made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting; Lindsey seconded the motion. Vote: All Ayes, motion carried.

Director's Expenditure Report: Mary Kay presented the March 2026 Director's expenditure report. Nin made a motion to approve the expenditure reports as presented; Erin seconded the motion. Vote: All Ayes, motion carried.

The Director's Activities include the ECI Monthly Fiscal Tracking Spreadsheet due 4/30/26, list of meetings attended, report on ECI State Board meeting 4/10/26, and 4th Quarter Claim submitted & paid.

Mary Kay reported on highlights from the contract reviews and site visits for Bright Beginnings, Nurse Family Partnerships, New Parent Program, and HACAP Head Start.

The 3rd Quarter reports were shared and discussed, the performance measures were also reviewed.

There was an update on the Quality Improvement Grants for Childcare Centers and Homes. The committee helped select and award grants to 13 applicants for a total of \$31,450. In order to fund the grants \$21,450 from carryforward was used. The evote approved the \$31,450 in grant awards and the \$21,450 in carryforward funds for this.

The board received a resignation letter from board member Peter Duytschaever. Nin motioned to approve the resignation with regret; Lindsey seconded the motion. Vote: All Ayes, motion carried.

The board discussed recruiting new board members. It was agreed to extend an application to Chris McClimon. In addition, we need to seek a new member from someone in human services.

The FY 27 ECI budget was shared. The Clinton Jackson ECI will have a budget of \$615,554.43 for FY27.

Board members were given packets containing contract renewal scoring and RFP scoring to work on. It was agreed to have them completed and returned by May 11th.

There was a discussion about the open director position. The position is being advertised. The other option brought forward for replacing the director was to work on a partnership with another ECI area. Amy Grunewaldt who is the Linn Co. ECI Director and the ECI Association President presented a Power Point detailing information about the future of ECI and how a partnership would be beneficial moving forward. Abbey Degenhardt (Dubuque ECI Director) and Sherri Hunt (Cedar/Jones ECI Director) both shared that their boards are open to the idea of sharing their director with Clinton/Jackson. It was agreed that all three ECI areas will compile information to share. Also, the Executive Committee from Clinton/Jackson will set up a time to meet with both the Dubuque and the Cedar/Jones Executive Committee early in May.

New Business: None

Adjourn: Lindsey made a motion; Nin seconded the motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM.

The next regular C/J ECI Board meeting will be held on **May 26th**, at 4:00 PM in person and via Zoom at the Clinton County Satellite office in DeWitt. If the meeting needs to be moved to Zoom only, this will be posted.

Executive Meeting:

May 11, 2026, at 7:30 via Zoom

Respectfully submitted by Mary Kay Wirth, Clinton/Jackson ECI Director

Any person in need of special assistance or accessibility needs should contact Mary Kay Wirth at mwirth@clintoncounty-ia.gov or call 563-659-3651.

Board President Signature _____ Date _____