

Date: March 11, 2024
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Effingham County Childcare Research Committee Meeting
Luttrell Room – Effingham Public Library
200 N. Third St., Effingham, IL

Committee Members in attendance:

Courtney Yockey, Molly Laue, Norbert Soltwedel and Trina Niemerg

Ex-Officio Members in attendance:

Connie Jerden and Courtney Hatcher

Members of the Public in attendance:

None

Courtney Yockey called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Minutes from the February 12 meeting were presented for approval. Motion made by Trina Niemerg to approve the minutes, seconded by Norbert Soltwedel. All ayes – motion approved.

Courtney Yockey asked for any public comments and there were no members of the public in attendance.

Courtney Yockey gave an update from the February County Board meeting. Both the Tax and Finance Committee and the full board approved reallocating the remaining ARPA earmark from the Increased Capacity Program to assist CEFS. Connie Jerden provided a CEFS update including the news that they potentially have a Site Director identified to hire. They need to get a final determination on size so they can get official quotes. They plan to open in early May and they should be able to get a waiver for not having the playground in place at that time.

The committee discussed the Childcare Scholarship Program. There was a new scholarship application that has been submitted for review. It was noted by the committee that the applicants failed to submit their CCAP denial letter. Other than that, they fit the eligibility criteria. Courtney Yockey will follow up with them to obtain a copy of their CCAP denial letter. If they do not have one, we will have to deny the application and they can reapply if they obtain one. However, if they provide one now, subject to receipt of that, Trina Niemerg made a motion to approve the scholarship application. Molly Laue seconded the motion. All ayes – motion approved.

There was no update on the State Childcare System.

The next meeting will be held on Monday April 8, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Courtney Yockey asked for any additional committee member comments. Courtney Hatcher said she will be having Zoom office hours with Q&A for licensing in-home childcare. There will be three sessions: March 27, April 3 and April 10 from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Adjourn – move to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Trina Niemerg, seconded by Molly Laue. All ayes – motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Molly Laue