

Date: April 8, 2024
Time: 12:00 p.m.
Effingham County Childcare Research Committee Meeting
Bauer Room – Effingham Public Library
200 N. Third St., Effingham, IL

Committee Members in attendance:

Courtney Yockey, Molly Laue and Norbert Soltwedel

Ex-Officio Members in attendance:

Courtney Hatcher (Zoom)

Members of the Public in attendance:

Four senior students from St. Anthony High School's government class

Courtney Yockey called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Minutes from the March 11 meeting were presented for approval. Motion made by Norbert Soltwedel to approve the minutes, seconded by Molly Laue. All ayes – motion approved.

Courtney Yockey asked for any public comments and there were none. For the benefit of the students in attendance (who are required to attend one public government meeting as part of their class), Courtney gave an overview and background of the Childcare Research Committee.

Courtney Yockey gave an update from the March County Board meeting. Both the Tax and Finance Committee and the full board approved the new scholarship application we recommended at our last meeting. He updated the Board on CEFS and their potential new hire for Site Director. Norbert said to give them another update at the next meeting as to the status of the Site Director.

The committee discussed the Childcare Scholarship Program. There are no new pending applications to review at this time. Courtney stated that they are working on finalizing the agreement for the last approved scholarship.

Courtney Hatcher gave an update on the State Childcare System. The State of Illinois continues their work to get a statewide system in place but the timeline for full implementation is two years. They have identified focus groups from the agencies that are aligning as well as other members. She also discussed the smart start transition grant and workforce grant.

The next meeting will be held on Monday May 13, 2024 at 12:00 p.m.

Courtney Yockey asked for any additional committee member comments and there were none.

Adjourn – move to adjourn the meeting. Motion made by Molly Laue, seconded by Norbert Soltwedel. All ayes – motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Molly Laue