



Nebraska Early Childhood Education Endowment

Board of Trustees Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

Welcome & Introductions

Holly Hatton Bowers called the Sixpence Board of Trustees meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. on March 17, 2021, via Zoom

Trustees attended via Zoom: Melody Hobson (representing the Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education), John Levy, Nicole Vint (representing the CEO of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services), Kristy Feden, Cara Small, and Holly Hatton Bowers.

Others attended via zoom: Deb Reiman, Aiesha Rahn, Karen Pinkelman (Sixpence Administrative Education Specialists), Stephanni Renn (Sixpence Administrator), Dan Harshman (NDE Finance), Amy Bornemeier, Elizabeth Everett (First Five Nebraska), Betty Medinger, Mary Jo Pankoke, Kevin Cloonan (Nebraska Children), Joan Luebbers (NDE Head Start Collaboration), Beckie Cromer (DHHS) Peggy Tvrdy

Approve Minutes from January 20, 2021

A motion was made by John Levy to approve the January 20th minutes Second by Nicole Vint. Voting yes: Kristy Feden, Nicole Vint, Cara Small, John Levy, Melody Hobson, Holly Hatton Bowers. No opposition, motion carried.

Review Financial Reports, funding forecasts

Dan Harshman provided an update surrounding the current reduction of distributions into the Sixpence cash fund compared to previous years. The Investment Council distributed capital gains in the cash fund along with the dividends and interest over the last few years. Because of this mistake, \$473,000 was distributed in error and will need to be put back into the trust. To do so, the Investment Council is and has been withholding funds for five quarters. In December 2020, \$161,000 was withheld. The last withholding of \$61,000 will be in the first quarter of 2021, rectifying the Investment Council's mistake will then be rectified. The Board can anticipate quarterly payments estimated at \$250,000 moving forward.

The Board reviewed the financial reports, including expenditures from the Child Care Partnership programs and traditional Sixpence programs. Dan Harshman presented the

NDE Financial Reports. Kevin Cloonan provided the Board a five-year forecast, including the sources and uses of funds.

Review and Approve 2021-2022 Funding Allocations

TA staff made recommendations on allocations for the 2021-2022 program year.

<u>Grantee School District</u>	<u>Program Model</u>	<u>Recommended 2021-22 Allocation</u>
Alliance	Center	\$95,250
Auburn	Home	\$84,392
Auburn	CCP	\$225,000 (CCDF funded)
Aurora	Home	\$86,250
Broken Bow	Home	\$183,500
Central City	Home	\$86,250
Chadron	CCP	\$202,057 (CCDF funded)
Columbus	Home	\$160,000
Crete	Home	\$304,666
Falls City	Home	\$273,958
Falls City	CCP	\$227,588 (CCDF funded)
Fremont	Home	\$283,573
Garden County	Home	\$86,000
Gering	CCP	\$238,376 (CCDF funded)
Grand Island	Home	\$159,870
Grand Island	CCP	\$250,000 (CCDF Funded)
Hastings	Home	\$85,000
Hastings	CCP	\$244,238 (CCDF funded)
HTRS	Home	\$86,000
Kearney	Home	\$230,000
Kearney	Center	\$134,712
Kearney	Center	\$150,000 (CCDF funded)
Kearney	CCP	\$332,525 (CCDF funded)

Lexington	Home	\$244,450
Lincoln	Center- Educare	\$379,900
Lincoln	Home	\$205,200
Lincoln	Center- SCLCs	\$394,275
Loup City	Home	\$161,250
Millard	Home	\$87,276
Norfolk	Home	\$160,000
Omaha	Center- Educare	\$581,250
Omaha	Home – OELC	\$159,710
Omaha	Center- OELC	\$534,040
Ord	Home	\$90,250
Papillion-LaVista	Home	\$86,000
Plattsmouth	Home	\$75,000
Santee	Center	\$88,750
Schuyler	Home	\$314,930
Scottsbluff	Home	\$306,850
Seward Consortium	Home	\$167,000
Sidney	CCP	\$178,823 (CCDF funded)
St. Paul	Home	\$86,250
Umo ^o ho ⁿ Nation	Center	\$121,050
Winnebago	Center- Educare	\$217,000
York	Home	\$303,886
York	CCP	\$219,000 (CCDF funded)
Total Allocations	Home & Center	\$7,103,738
Total Allocations	CCP	\$2,267,607 (CCDF funded)
Grand Total Allocations		\$9,371,345

A motion was made by Kristy Feden to approve the recommended Traditional Sixpence funding allocations as presented, including York’s request to add \$10,000 to their suggested allocation.

Seconded John Levy. Voting yes: Melody Hobson, Nicole Vint, Holly Hatton Bowers, and John Levy. No opposition, motion carried.

A motion was made by Holly Hatton Bowers to approve the recommended Sixpence Childcare Partnership funding allocations as presented. Seconded Melody Hobson. Voting yes: Melody Hobson, Nicole Vint, Holly Hatton Bowers, and John Levy. No opposition, motion carried.

Review and Approve Revised Quality Criteria/Indicators for All Sixpence Grant Models

Stephanni Renn presented recommended revisions to Sixpence Quality Criteria Evaluation Indicator C for the Childcare Partnership Programs. Additions to the Indicator Consultation/Coaching surrounding entries into the Nebraska Early Childhood Professional Record System, collaboration with other coaching incentives, and the inclusion of quality action plans for childcare providers' progress towards higher quality. Under the Professional Development Indicator, a recommendation surrounding coaches participating in the Toddler Class introduction training. If approved, the changes would go into effect on July 1, 2021.

A motion was made by Kristy Feden to approve the revised quality indicators. Second by Melody Hobson. Voting yes: Kristy Feden, Holly Hatton Bowers, Melody Hobson, and John Levy, Nicole Vint. No opposition, motion carried.

Legislative Bill LB342 Update

Elizabeth Everett from First Five Nebraska apprised the Board of Senator Stinner's new legislation in the Unicameral in support of the Sixpence Early Learning Fund. LB 342 would appropriate \$5 million to Sixpence over two years to bolster public-private efforts to advance quality early learning experiences. LB342 made it out of committee and will be presented to the Legislative body on March 23.

Review all Grantee Status Report

Karen Pinkelman, Aiesha Rahn, and Deb Reiman provided highlights and updates from each District's programs, including the status of funds expended, Step Up to Quality ratings, and enrollment. A discussion surrounding the implications of COVID-19 for in-person contacts for home visiting, childcare partnership programs, and attendance for center-based programs.

The meeting ended at 2:45 p.m. with a ***motion to adjourn*** by Kristy Feden. Second by John Levy, Voting yes: Kristy Feden, Melody Hobson, John Levy, Nicole Vint, Holly Hatton Bowers, No opposition, motion carried.

Next Meeting Date: June 9, 2021 approval of continuation funding allocations and evaluations budgets