

Northeast Iowa CEO Board Meeting

Thursday, December 17, 2020 – 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Agenda Item	Person Responsible	Status
Call to Order: Roll call/welcome/introductions	Dave Baker	I
<p>Dave Baker called meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.</p> <p>CEO Attendance: (Via Zoom) Allamakee County – Daniel Byrnes, Black Hawk County – Linda Laylin, Bremer County – Ken Kammeyer, Buchanan County – Clayton Ohrt, Butler County – Greg Barnett, Cerro Gordo County – Tim Latham, Chickasaw County – Dave Tilkes, Clayton County – Steve Doepke, Delaware County – Jeff madlom, Dubuque County – Dave Baker, Fayette County – Marty Stanbrough, Franklin County – Corey Eberling, Grundy County – Heidi Nederhoff, Hancock County – Sis Grieman, Mitchell County – Barb Francis, Winneshiek County – John Beard, Worth County Mark Smeby.</p> <p>CEO Absent: Floyd County – Linda Tjaden, Howard County – Dean Eastman, Winnebago County – Mike Stensrud.</p> <p>NEIWDB in attendance: Amber Youngblut – Board Chair, Jennifer Breister – Board Vice Chair.</p> <p>Board Support: Heather Garcia, Johnna Forbes.</p> <p>Guests: Michael Witt, Linda Rouse, Michelle McNerney, Chris Hannan, Lisa Curtain, Gary Hanson, Taylor Williams, Ed Raber.</p>		
<p>Motion by Linda Laylin, second by John Beard to go out of order on the agenda to have discussion with Michelle McNertney and other State staff regarding the Northeast Iowa LWDA request for a waiver to temporarily contract with Title I service providers. Ayes: All. Motion carried.</p>		
Approval of December 17, 2020 Agenda	Dave Baker	I/D/A
<p>Motion by Jeff Madlom, second by Tim Latham to approve agenda with the change to add an agenda item to discuss the provision of Title I Services. Ayes: All. Motion carried.</p>		
Approval of November 19, 2020 Minutes	Dave Baker	I/D/A
<p>Motion by Barb Francis, second by Clayton Ohrt to approve November 19, 2020 Minutes. Ayes: All. Motion carried.</p>		
Discussion: Temporary Provision of Title I Services	Dave Baker/Corey Eberling	I/D
<p>The NEIWDB request to temporarily contract with a service provider until a second procurement process is completed was denied by IWD. IWD offered to allow Wagner-Peyser staff to provide Title I case management services until the competitively procured Title I Service Providers selected by the NEIWDB are in place.</p> <p>On 12/15/2020, Dave Baker sent an email to Michelle McNertney, IWD Division Administrator of Workforce Services, asking for additional clarification regarding IWD’s decision to deny the NEIWDB’s request. The questions/comments were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Northeast Iowa LWDA does have a compliant fiscal agent in place. Is the board not allowed to request a waiver to utilize a temporary contract through the compliant fiscal agent?</i> 		

- *Mississippi Valley was allowed a temporary contract for the Youth Service Provider under similar circumstances. It would be helpful for the CEOs and local board members to know why the temporary contract was possible for one area and not Northeast Iowa.*
- *Although federal law does require competitive procurement of the Youth and Young Adult Service Provider, federal law does not require the Adult and Dislocated Worker Service Provider to be competitively procured. This requirement is a state policy.*
- *The CEOs were repeatedly reassured by IWD staff there would be plenty of time to competitively procure the service providers and that the state would allow deadline extensions as merging areas worked toward compliance.*
- *Considering these circumstances, we request the state reconsider a waiver of the procurement requirement and allow a temporary assignment of the Adult and Dislocated Worker Service Provider.*
- *We appreciate IWD's offer to provide state Wagner-Peyser staff to perform Title I case management services. We are concerned the staff are already stretched thin with the volume of people being served through typical Wagner-Peyser services. To add the complexity of the Title I work seems to be an unnecessary burden when there are Title I experts available to serve our customers.*

Michelle told the group the deadline for local areas to competitively procure service providers is December 31, 2020. Corey Eberling stated the CEOs received poor advice from IWD staff that contributed to the delay in the first procurement attempt. Michelle reassured the group the local area is completing the required tasks and IWD's decision to have Title III staff provide Title I services stands. The Title III staff are a partner to the workforce system in Northeast Iowa.

Michelle asked what concerns the CEOs have with the Wagner-Peyser (Title III) staff providing these services. Corey said his concerns are that there are Title I staff trained to provide Title I services currently available and he asked if there is a conflict of interest for IWD employees to provide Title I services. Michelle said she did not think there is a conflict of interest and that the only other option would be to stop services, but she didn't think that was an option the board would want to take.

Dave asked about the temporary contract granted to Mississippi Valley under similar circumstances. Dave felt the Northeast Iowa area is being penalized even though the Northeast Iowa CEOs followed the guidance presented by IWD. Corey asked how Title III staff can provide Title I services if they were not competitively procured. Michelle said IWD is offering the option to utilize the Title III staff for 30 days until competitive procurement is completed. This situation does not meet the requirement of an emergency to non-competitively select a service provider.

Amber asked if IWD would provide information regarding the qualifications of the staff who will be providing the temporary services. Michelle said Mike Witt and Linda Rouse will gather and provide the information to the local board. Kyle Clabby-Kane is well-versed in Title I policy and there will be at least one person in each office providing Title I services. There are no concerns about the amount of unemployment work interfering with the staff's ability to also provide Title I services.

Determine next meeting date: Joint meeting with local board on 1/21/2021 or CEOs independently	All	I/D/A
Motion by John Beard, second by Mark Smeby to meet with the full board on 1/21/2021 at 8:00 a.m. Ayes: All. Motion carried.		
Local Board Update	Heather	I/D
RFP Update	Heather	I/D/A
No Action		
Nominations/Appointment of Co-CLEO from old Region 2	All	I/D/A
Motion by Barb Francis, second by John Beard to nominate Sis Grieman as Co-CLEO. Ayes: All. Motion carried. Sis Grieman accepted nomination.		
Wrap Up and Adjourn	Dave Baker	I/D/A
Motion by Corey Eberling, second by Mark Smeby to adjourn meeting. Ayes: All. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:03 a.m.		

Next Meeting: January 21, 2021

Minutes taken by Johnna Forbes – Board Support