

**Early Learning Coalition of Escambia County
Board Meeting Minutes
December 10, 2020 10:00 a.m.
Chair: Van Mansker**

Members in Attendance

Van Mansker	Mona Jackson	Drew Hardgrave
Craig Jones	Richard Wright	Shanna Robinson
Marcus McBride	Brian Wyer	Angela Strumeyer
Melody Meier	Judy Dickinson	

Members Absent

Edna Williams	Cindy Kirk	Dr. Laura Edler
Beate Bolton	Mary Ann Bickerstaff	Steven Sanchez

Public in Attendance

Roger Thompson

Staff in Attendance

Bruce Watson	Vicki Pugh	Dawn Engel
Paula Rollins	Becki Rutchland	

I. Welcome and Introduction

Notification of this meeting of the Board of Directors was posted to the Coalition Public Calendar Board on December 1, 2020 and was sent to the Pensacola News Journal for publication on November 30, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mansker.

II. Public Comments

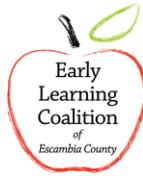
a. Video presentation from The House of Prayer Learning Center

Because of the pandemic the annual live presentation of Christmas carols from one of the Providers could not be performed. The House of Prayer Learning Center volunteered to make a video presentation to celebrate Christmas, which was presented to the Board. Mr. Mansker thanked Ms. Robinson, the Director of The House of Prayer and Private Provider Representative to the Board, for the delightful presentation.

III. Chair Comments

a. Approval of Consent Agenda: Meeting Agenda, Minutes of the August 13, 2020 Board Meeting, Notes of the no quorum Meeting on October 8, 2020, the End of Year Financial Statement for June 2020, and Financial Statements for July, August and September 2020.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Wyer and seconded by Ms. Robinson, approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the Meeting Agenda, Minutes of August 13, 2020 meeting, Notes from



October 8, 2002 meeting, End of Year Financial Statement for June 2020, and Financial Statements for July, August and September 2020 were approved without objection.

IV. Executive Committee Report:

a. Executive Director Annual Evaluation

The annual evaluation of the Executive director which was postponed from the last meeting was presented. On a motion from Ms. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Wright the annual evaluation of the Executive Director was approved without objection.

b. New Board Member

Mr. Roger Thompson has applied for an appointment to the Coalition Board of Directors. On a motion from the Executive Committee and seconded by Mr. Hardgrave appointment of Mr. Thompson for a three-year term was approved without objection.

c. RDC Chair

As a new Board member, Mr. Thompson agreed to serve as Chair of the Resource Development Committee. Upon a motion made by Ms. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Hardgrave, appointment of Mr. Thompson as Chair of the Resource Development Committee was approved without objection. Mr. Watson noted that the unfilled Vice Chair position will remain an agenda item until such time as the position is filled.

V. Executive Director's Report:

a. SR/VPK Program Fiscal Year Benchmark Report, Utilization/Enrollment/Wait List, Status Report, and Contracting Summary State Report

1. Benchmark Report:

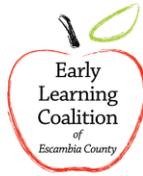
Through the end of August, the Coalition was roughly \$500,000 above budget projections. There includes payment of all registration fees for FY 2019-2020. Noted was the addition of the CARES GRANT line. This is additional money from OEL to cover costs for First Responder child care and CARES Grants.

2. Enrollment/Wait List Status Report:

Currently there are 3,131 children enrolled in the School Readiness program of which 1,339 are school-age children. There are 112 children enrolled in the SR Match Program. There were 391 children on the Wait List, but the last 50 were pulled this week. There are 1,264 children enrolled VPK, which is about 2/3 of last year's enrollments.

3. Contracting and Fraud Summary Report:

The Coalition has 79 SR Providers and 64 VPK Providers contracted. There was one new case of fraud reported.



VI. Old Business:

a. COVID Impact on Operations and Provider Payments

1. Provider Payments and Parent Fees:

Payments to Providers based on enrollments, vice attendance ended September 30, 2020. The number of allowable absences, however, will decrease by two each month starting with 16 days in October to usual 10 days in January. Waivers for all Parent Co-Payments (Parent Fees) are extended to October 31, 2020.

2. First Responder Program:

New enrollments in the First Responder and Health Care Worker Child Care Program ended July 31. However, those in care can get new referrals every 90 days until further notice.

3. SRPA and Monitoring:

SRPA and Monitoring field work and site visits resumed in December. The suspension on doing SRPAs, Monitoring, ASQs and TSG assessments effectively ended in July. The prevailing COVID conditions are such that the Coalition is now comfortable doing site visits yet so SRPA observations and monitoring site visits are no longer on hold.

b. Escambia Children's Trust Update

The referendum on the November ballot to approve a Children's Service Council was passed. A team of volunteers is working with the County to get the Escambia Children's Trust Board and the Trust itself established.

c. Coalition Operations:

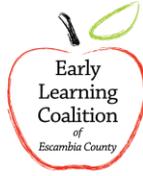
The Coalition is in negotiations with the landlord to possibly relocate to the Plaza Tower at the south end of the Town and Country Plaza. This would give the Coalition a better space for working with clients and afford the office staff more security and privacy. More to follow as this project develops.

VII. New Business:

a. Notice of Award Changes

Since October changes have been made to the Notice of Award from OEL. For instance, OEL de-obligated nearly \$300,000 for the Professional Development Grant (PDG) and Rising Kindergarten Summer Program, neither of which this Coalition is participating in. They added, however, over \$670,000 to cover CARES Grant Phase IV and First Responder costs, and provided a pro rata share of over \$614,000 out of \$60 million earmarked to reduce the Wait List this year.

b. OEL CARES Grants Phases Phase III and IV



Payments of the CARES Phase III grants were completed in October. Applications for CARES Phase IV grants have been requested and this last increment of CARES grants will be processed and payments complete by the end of December.

c. 2021 Meeting Calendar

The schedule of meetings of the Board and committees for calendar year 2021 was presented. On a motion made by Mr. Jones and seconded by Mr. Thompson the 2021 Meeting Calendar was approved without objection.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. at the Early Learning Coalition Office at 3300 N Pace Boulevard, Suite 210, Pensacola, FL 32505

Minutes approved by:

 Marcus McBride, Board Secretary

 Date