

# Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton & Lincoln Counties Governing Board Meeting Minutes

<b>MEETING COMMENCED</b>	2:00 pm, April 6, 2023 Online via Zoom
<b>MEETING CALLED BY</b>	Claire Hall
<b>STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT</b>	Connie Adams, Kristi Collins, Matt Grams, Antonia Huerta, Jinguang Lin, Ana Reyes, Sam Rounsavell, Carmen Santacruz, Bryan Steinhauser, LeAnne Trask
<b>VERSION</b>	Final
<b>RECORDED</b>	Yes

## Agenda topics

ROLL CALL		Board Members Present or Absent						
	Present	Absent		Present	Absent		Present	Absent
Shelagh Baird	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neftali Pizano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
DeAnn Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Claire Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Reese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Belit Burke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Susan Halliday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Bettina Schempf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jeff Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Isavoran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Dougherty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lola Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Wilkinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karol Elizondo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Stephany Koehne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lynette Wynkoop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tonja Everest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## QUORUM

A Quorum was present. There are currently 20 seated Board members, and 13 were present at this meeting.

## DISCUSSION ITEM

Welcome and Introductions

Board Members introduced themselves.

Shelagh introduced herself as the newest Board Member. Ana Reyes was introduced as the newest EL Hub staff member.

## SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Overview of the Regional System Assessment

Regional System Assessment (RSA) is a new deliverable in our contract and is due at the end of April 2023. Kristi shared the Regional System Assessment process and system map with the Board to gather feedback before it is submitted.

She explained that a regional system assessment is a process to understand how conditions within regional programs, organizations, systems, and communities are helping and hindering the Raise Up Oregon objectives and ultimately affecting whether children are getting ready for kindergarten and families are healthy, stable, and attached with fewer disparities.

All Early Learning Hubs were asked to focus on Raise Up Oregon Objective 2 for their RSA. Objective 2 states, "Families have access to high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable early care and education that meets their needs." Kristi reviewed the approach taken to ensure we met all the required pieces and deliverables of this RSA while respecting our partners' time and capacity.

We worked with partners through Jam Board to define Objective 2 and its meaning for our region. Kristi shared those definitions.

The Board noted that they would like to add flexibility to the "Meets Family Needs" definition.

The next part of the deliverable asked us to explore common Ecosystem Conditions for Objective 2, including environmental resources, human resources, financial resources, program and opportunity components, policies and practices, connections, decision-making, goals, and shared mindsets. Our EL Hub summarized partner feedback on what is helping and hindering this objective in our region.

Next, we worked to discover the root causes of these barriers.

- Issue 1: Many families are unable to access ECE that is high-quality, affordable, and meets their needs and preferences.
- Issue 2: Not enough ECE slots that meet families' needs and preferences.
- Issue 3: Not enough ECE workforce who represent communities served and can deliver high-quality ECE.
- Issue 4: Low wages and benefits paid to the ECE workforce.

The root causes can be divided into three categories

- Local Regional root causes (this is the focus of the Regional Stewardship Committee)
- Broader System Root Causes (Hubs and ELD to partner in addressing these)
- ELD operational root causes (ELD is working to address these internally)

Kristi reviewed the Raise Up Oregon Objective 2 System Map, created to summarize all this work and call out what is within our scope of influence.

The Board noted that families balance preschool and child care and that the need for coordination may not be reflected in the map.

<b>DISCUSSION VOTE</b>	Regional System Assessment
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The Board was asked to approve the Regional System Assessment process and system map.

Motion: Paul Smith

2<sup>nd</sup>: Bettina Schempf

	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A
Shelagh Baird	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neftali Pizano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DeAnn Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Claire Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Reese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Tonja Everest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>VOTING RESULTS</b>	Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)
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Abstentions: None

The Board voted to approve the Regional System Assessment process and system map.

<b>DISCUSSION ITEM</b>	Board Member Resignation
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The Board was reminded that the seat being vacated is the Benton County Health representative.

**DISCUSSION VOTE** Board Member Resignation

The Board was asked to approve the resignation of Karol Elizondo, the Benton County Health representative.

Motion: Lynette Wynkoop

2<sup>nd</sup>: Tonja Everest

	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A
Shelagh Baird	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neftali Pizano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DeAnn Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Claire Hall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Chris Reese	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Belit Burke	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Susan Halliday	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bettina Schempf	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Jeff Davis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Melissa Isavoran	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paul Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Dougherty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lola Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Diane Wilkinson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Karol Elizondo	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stephany Koehne	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lynette Wynkoop	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tonja Everest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**VOTING RESULTS** Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)

Abstentions: None

The Board voted to approve the resignation of Karol Elizondo, the Benton County Health representative.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT** LBL Hub Updates

Kristi shared that the Olalla Center will be stepping back and not offering Relief Nursery services. The Early Learning Hub is working on learning more about this situation and how we can support the transition to another organization becoming a Lincoln County Relief Nursery.

The Board asked if Olalla needs more support to meet the requirements of being a relief nursery and offered help connecting families to their services. It was suggested that the Systems of Care Council might be able to provide support.

LeAnne as, an Olalla Board member, shared that Olalla Center is preparing a press release. Some of the reasons being shared for this change at Olalla Center are that they are not finding enough families to serve and their high staff turnover. They plan to work with other agencies to find another location for a relief nursery.

Lola shared an email she received from Olalla about the changes to their early childhood programming.

Bettina shared that outreach and home visiting can be essential for the Relief Nursery model in a rural area. Relief Nurseries offer mental health support but through the lens of early childhood. Oregon laws require Relief Nurseries to raise 25% of their funds locally.

There was a discussion of pulling together Lincoln County partners to find a Relief Nursery option. Funding for the 2023-25 biennium is about to close in the legislature. Action must be taken quickly to preserve Lincoln County Relief Nursery funding. Kristi will send a message to coordinate this effort in the next few days.

Kristi shared that the EL Hub has been having conversations with the Lebanon School District, and there's an interest in starting up a pre-K at one of their elementary schools. Also, the high school is interested in starting a CTE program. There is an opportunity to have students interested in the early childhood education field and taking the classes and having that preschool at the elementary school site, being a lab model for them. So, we're going to continue that conversation.

Kristi talked with Mid-Valley STEM Hub. They have focused on early learning STEM and working with early childhood providers. There is a possible collaboration in the future, thinking about KPI funds potentially being used to offer shared STEM professional development opportunities to early childhood and early grade providers.

Kristi reminded the Board of the Legislative folder in the Basecamp group. The latest legislative updates and the bills we're tracking are being shared there.

Tomorrow, April 7th, is the LBCC Inservice. EL Hub staff will meet together to review branding guidelines, templates, and software.

<b>FISCAL REPORT</b>	Matt Grams
Matt presented the revenue, expenditures, and miscellaneous reports for February.	

<b>CONSENT ITEMS</b>	February 2023 Meeting Minutes
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The Board was asked to approve the February 2023 meeting minutes.

Motion: Jeff Davis

2<sup>nd</sup>: Bettina Schempf

	Y	N	A		Y	N	A		Y	N	A
Shelagh Baird	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Laura Farmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neffali Pizano	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Tonja Everest	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Steve Martinelli	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Open	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>VOTING RESULTS</b>	Individual Votes cast by Board Members (Yes, No, Abstain)
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Abstentions: None

The Board voted to approve the February minutes.

<b>DISCUSSION ITEM</b>	In-person Board meeting schedule
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Kristi explained a future in-person meeting schedule change for this Board to align with events and deliverables. The June meeting will be in Lincoln County in-person to present the Data Book, and the October in-person meeting will be in Linn County.

Board had no objections to this change.

<b>WORKGROUP UPDATE</b>	Health Care Integration
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LeAnne shared that the HCI workgroup is working on the Asset Mapping project. The pilot project will be in Harrisburg. Then will move to Philomath and Monroe, followed by 14 other potential cities. This will be the special presentation to the Board next month.

This workgroup will continue to support the Kindergarten Readiness metric with Katie Walsh.

<b>PROGRAM UPDATE</b>	Business Liaison Update
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Bryan shared the Business Outreach Initiative updates, accomplishments, and near-term goals.

<b>PROGRAM UPDATE</b>	Pollywog Update
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LeAnne shared the Pollywog updates and analytics for the database, website, newsletter, and social media.

The Easter Event guide was shared with the Board. LeAnne also discussed the new pop-up feature of the Pollywog website that allows us to bring special announcements to web visitors' attention.

**PROGRAM UPDATE** Family Connects Update

Connie shared the Family Connects population reach data. She mentioned an upcoming site visit from Family Connects International, the reimbursement rate change happening in July, and that Pollywog is reapplying for the Community Lead designation for Family Connects.

**PROGRAM UPDATE** Coordinated Enrollment Update

Kristi shared the current data for Preschool Promise, including applications received, new eligible children, number of open slots, and percentage of providers at capacity.

The Coordinated Enrollment manual for 2023-24 was received. Matt is making a final review of documents to check for compliance with the manual. Matt was able to embed Google Translate into the Preschool Promise application. It is now available in 10 languages.

**DISCUSSION ITEM** Legislative Road Show

Lynnette shared that the Ways and Means Committee with the Legislature is starting their roadshows, and one of those will be on April 14th in Newport from 5-7 pm and virtually on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7 pm. You do have to register to testify. You have two minutes to make your pitch as to why they should support all the programs and legislative agendas we are supporting. Information will be shared in Basecamp.

**NEXT MEETING** 2:00 pm, May 4, 2023  
Online via Zoom

**MEETING  
ADJOURNED** 3:46 pm