



Location: 1130 N Eglin Pkwy, Shalimar, FL 32579

Date: 5.16.25

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Board Approved: 8.5.25

Coalition Board Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present:

Lindsay Roberts, Private Sector - Osprey Title, Vice-Chair
Amanda Colwell, Okaloosa County Health Department Appointee
Shea Boykin, Private Sector - Okaloosa County Teachers Federal Credit Union, Secretary
Julie Webb, Private Sector - Advanced Sacred Hope Academy (ASHA) (Via Zoom)
Kathy Curry, Representative of faith-based childcare providers
Bambi Sealy, DCF District Administrator Appointee (Via Zoom)
Jeff Brown, Private Sector - Bridging Analytics, LLC (Via Zoom)
Kristen Murdy, Representative of private for-profit childcare providers (Via Zoom)
Michele Burns, CareerSource Okaloosa Walton (Via Zoom)
Amy Bowles, Okaloosa County Schools Appointee (Via Zoom)
Victoria Ebert, Private Sector - RC Hospitality (Via Zoom)
Amanda Negron, Private Sector - HSU Foundation (Via Zoom)
Gretta Barrett, Private Sector - Coldwell Banker Realty (Via Zoom)
Caroline Durkee, Walton County Commissioner's Appointee (Via Zoom)
Sarah Davis, Private Sector - Gubernatorial Appointee (Via Zoom)
Melissa Sidoti, DCF Regional Administrator Delegate Appointee (Via Zoom)

Board Members Absent:

Amanda Grandy, Private Sector - Gubernatorial Appointee, Chair
Ardelle Bush, Private Sector - Healthy Start
Beth Brant, Private Sector - Poly, Inc.
Dr. Sandy Arteaga, Northwest Florida State College President's Appointee
Kim Cox, Private Sector - Origin Bank
Kim Gillis, Head Start Appointee

Coalition Team Present:

Dana Hodges, CEO
Sondra Moffit, CFO
Angie Strumeyer, COO
Tawanda Brown, Education Manager
Lori Monson, Compliance Manager
Deanna Hernandez, Executive Administrator

Public Present:

None

Quorum:

Quorum established 8:04 a.m.

- I. Call to Order – Lindsay Roberts, Vice-Chair
Lindsay called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.



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II. Consent Agenda*

a. Motion to Accept the agenda.

Amanda C. made the motion to accept the Consent Agenda as presented.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

- b. Minutes Coalition Board Meeting, November 15, 2024
- c. Minutes Program Committee Meeting, November 21, 2024
- d. Minutes Finance Committee Meeting, January 31, 2025

Kathy made the motion to accept the Meeting Minutes as presented.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

- e. Summary of Executed Contracts
Sondra goes over the report and provides details on some of the changes.
- f. Status of Agency & Monitoring
Sondra gives a brief update on the audits.

III. Treasurer's Report

a. Quarterly Financial Report*

i. Financial Dashboard

As of February 28, 2025, we served 1383 children in SR and 1934 children in VPK with the program year at 67% completion.

ii. Statement of Activities

Sondra highlights some of the targets that changed due to the de-obligation in February.

iii. Statement of Financial Position

Sondra provides an overview of the report and notes any changes.

b. Local SR Match Report

Sondra reports on local match stating we have expended \$43,735 of our match funding.

Amanda C. made the motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

IV. New Business

a. Reob/Deob

Sondra informs the Board that DEL had requested a Deob/Reob exercise for SR & VPK. She explains the process and discusses the report. It is unknown at this time if we will receive a reobligation for QPI and Gold Seal.

b. FY 25-26 Meeting Schedule

Dana announces that there are some changes in the days and times for Board meetings. She asks the Board to please add the meetings to their calendar in advance to ensure availability.



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- c. FY 25-26 Org Chart
There has been some re-structuring in the Organization due to changes in staffing. Dana discusses the changes.
- d. Employee Benefits
The details of the different benefits are presented and discussed.
- e. Open Board Position – Agency Serving Children Disabilities
There is a State mandated seat on the Board that is currently vacant. Dana is also currently seeking private sector representatives from Walton County.
- f. Ethical Conduct Form
Dana conducts a training on the form and discusses it's importance.

V. Old Business

- a. Emerald Coast 2025 Children & Competitiveness Forum
ELC hosted a successful Roundtable discussion which took place with the Children's Forum and the Florida Chamber. Committees have been established, and Chairs have been appointed for each. There are members of the Community as well as some Board members forming those Committees. Behind the scenes the members are working on the recruitment of new Teachers to the Early Education Profession.
- b. Early Educators Stipends
Sondra announces that 98 teachers received the \$300 stipend totaling \$29, 400.

VI. Department Updates

- a. Compliance and Eligibility
All provider profiles are active. The 2024-25 VPK school year is coming to an end, and Summer VPK will begin soon. The Compliance team is working on their side of the profiles. All site visits have been completed. Mandatory contract meetings have been taking place to ensure a complete understanding among providers.
- b. Education
The Spring Conference was a success with 280 registrations to attend and of those, 221 early educators attended despite the severe weather. Internal training is taking place to accommodate new changes, and the team is working to complete them before the new Program year begins. There is a training collaboration with Fresh Start on May 21st for family engagement. Site visits are on-going, and the team is prepping providers for the new year.

VII. CEO Updates

- a. Team Updates
Dana advised the Board that ELC has eliminated both the Eligibility and Compliance Manager positions and combined them into one position, the Compliance and Eligibility Manager. Lori Monson, the former Compliance Manager, has transitioned into this new role.
- b. Event Updates
A slideshow was presented outlining the various events ELC Emerald Coast has participated in and hosted throughout the fiscal year.



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c. Legislative Updates

Dana gives brief overviews of the new legislative changes and some of the ways they will impact the Families of our Communities.

VIII. Action Items

- a. Increase SR & VPK Enrollments
- b. Early Educator Workforce
- c. Leverage Community Partners

IX. Public Comment

None

X. Adjournment

Amanda C. made the motion to adjourn the meeting.
Motion is carried by unanimous vote.

Lindsay adjourned the meeting at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Deanna Hernandez
Executive Administrator