Cheyenne, Kiowa, Lincoln County Early Childhood Council
Council and Board of Directors Meeting Minutes



cklecc.org
719-775-8622
Supporting children, families, and early childhood programs in Cheyenne, Kiowa, and Lincoln Counties.

May 4, 2026 / 1:02 PM

CKLECC Board Meeting

ATTENDEES:

In-Person: Julie Witt (Council Coordinator); Lora White (CKLECC Admin. Assistant); Haley Leonard (CKLECC Financial Manager); Heather Randolph (Board Chair, Baby Bear Hugs); Candie Chamberlain (CKLECC FFN Program Coordinator); Katie Zipperer (Limon Memorial Library); Terry Jaques (Lincoln County Commissioner)

Zoom: Carole Spady (CKLECC Quality Improvement Coach); Kathleen Bither (Kiowa County DSS); Lisa Thomas (About F.A.C.E.); Amber Smelker (Parent/Treasurer); Autumn Pelton (Cheyenne County Communities that Care, Cheyenne County Public Health); Shannon Harrell (Centennial Mental Health); Sharon Mauch (About F.A.C.E); Rosalind Smith (The Cornerstone Resource Center); Autumn Lorenson (Board Vice Chair, Center Director LCDC); Jane Tallman (Cheyenne County DHS); Victoria Folkerts (Cheyenne and Lincoln County Early Intervention); TyAnn Connley (SafeCare)

Absent Board Members and Staff: Robbin Schincke (Morgan Community College); Kailey Meardon (About F.A.C.E.)

* A quorum was confirmed.

MEETING CALLED BY:

Heather Randolph (Board Chair, Baby Bear Hugs)

BOARD MEETING AGENDA.

April Meeting Minutes - Heather Randolph

- Amber motioned to approve the minutes as presented and Rosalind seconded. The motion carried.

LCO/UPK Updates - Julie Witt

- Julie reported that the new Preschool Service Standards are to be finalized by the State UPK team. An important detail is the deadline next week for programs to submit their current curriculums for approval.

- Other updates included enrollment deadlines, prepayment schedules in August, LCO Scope of Work and annual hourly requirements for programs were shared.

Coordinator Report- Julie Witt

- Julie's report included details on many successful events over the last month: Child Find events, Share the Spirit Shoe events, Child Abuse Prevention Month, and Spring Training Day
- Updates on the submission of the Buell grant application and upcoming events for the end of school and summer were also shared.
- Julie shared the design draft for the Kiowa County mural with some elements that were requested by the building owner.

Quality Improvement Coach Report- Carole Spady

- Carole shared updates on the Quality Rating process refresh happening and the decrease in funding for next year, the name change to QRIS and our current programs' ratings.

FFN Report- Candie Chamberlain

- Candie reported on provider openings, Imagination Library enrollment, Fun Tote Program, and that child abuse prevention month kites had been delivered to all programs

Child Care and Diaper Bank Updates- Lora White

- Lora reported on participation numbers in both Lincoln and Cheyenne County with the diaper bank and the change to just 25 diapers per child each month due to funding restrictions.
- A new family home child care provider is entering the licensing process in Hugo.

Council Updates

- None

Financials/Expenditures/Checks for April- Haley Leonard

- Haley provided the Check Detail, Monthly Expenditures, Deposit Detail, Balance Sheet and Expense Spreadsheet reports for board review.
- Terry motioned to approve the financials as presented by Haley, Katie seconded and the motion passed.

25/26 Spend Down- Haley Leonard

- Haley shared the plan for the remaining balances to be spent down before the end of the 25/26 fiscal year. Plans include the babysitting class, family movie events, the Kiowa County mural, prelicensing courses, CPR and First Aid courses and a possible contract with Lantern.

CKLECC Policy Handbook- Holiday List & Revised COVID Policy- Julie Witt

- Julie presented the final changes to the paid holiday list and what was the covid policy but is now listed as the public health emergency policy.
- Terry motioned to approve the changes to the handbook as presented and Katie seconded, the motion passed.

CLLC Fundraiser- Julie Witt

- Julie added this addition to the agenda with a request from CLLC for a $100 sponsorship for a summer family fun event.
- Katie motioned to approve the sponsorship donation of $100 to CLLC's event and Terry seconded, the motion passed.

The next board meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 1st @ 1:00 p.m.

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CKLECC Board Secretary Signature

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Date