



Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting
September 6, 2011; 8:00 am
ELC Board Room

Board Attendees: Octavio A. Verdeja Jr. (Chair); Yvonne T. Johnson, M.D. (Vice Chair); Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq. (Secretary); Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D. (Treasurer); Modesto E. Abety; Roderick Beasley; Gina Cortes-Suarez, Ed.D; Alan Eckstein, Esq.; Shaleen Fagundo; Comm. Barbara J. Jordan; David Lawrence, Jr.; The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman; Jane McQueen; Harve Mogul; Yesenia Perkins; Ann Karen Weller, R.N., B.S.N.; David Williams, Jr. (attended via conference call)

Board Absentees: Yolanda Borroto; Lucy C. Piñeiro, Esq.

Staff Attendees: Evelio C. Torres, CEO (attended via conference call); Leeana Pena; Angelo Parrino; Blythe Robinson; Tabatha Cullen; Mary Williams (attended via conference call); Fred Hicks; Milton Silvera; Melody Thelwell; Sandra Gonzalez; Pam Hollingsworth; Mercy Castiglione; Jose Hernandez; Aileen Martinez

General Attendees: Santiago Echemendia (Board Attorney), Tew Cardenas LLP; Doug Blomberg, Wesley House (attended via conference call); Louis Manfra, FIU; Gail Gregg, FIU; Edith Humes-Newbold, MDC; Pilar Feldman, ETSD; Evelyn Borreu, FIU; Lori Hanson, The Children's Trust; Lisa Martinez, MDC; Jackie Romillo, Citrus Health Network; Mario Jardon, Citrus Health Network; Mimose Dorvil, FMU; Ariell Suring, FMU; Lisa Pittman, The Children's Trust; Maritza McClaskey, MDC-ETSD; Michelle Craig, Office of Early Learning; Ana Sejeck, ECIF; Ileana Acosta, MDC; Maria Alonso, Citrus Health Network; Wendy Salomon, Family Central; Linda Carmona-Sanchez, AECE; Lindsey Bauer, Florida Memorial University; Rick Signori, MDC; Phyllis Tynes-Saunders, MDC

I. Welcome and Introductions

Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.

- Chairman Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr. called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
- Leeana Pena called roll and a quorum was established with 16 voting members.
- O. Verdeja stated that included in the Board packet, are the ELC news alert, Parent Link newsletter, and the Early Learning Challenge Fund update.
- O. Verdeja thanked Commissioner Barbara Jordan for sponsoring a resolution before the Board of County commissioners urging the Governor and legislature to support Florida's Early Learning Challenge Fund application.



- O. Verdeja stated Ms. Theresa Axford will be serving as the Monroe County School District superintendent designee. She will be joining us at the October Board meeting.
- O. Verdeja congratulated M. Abety for his nomination to the President's Advisory Commission of Educational Excellence for Hispanics.
- O. Verdeja thanked J. Colyer for her participation on the Board. She resigned from her Regional Director position at DCF.
- O. Verdeja announced that ELC is currently being represented by counsel on an employment matter pertaining to a former employee who separated in 2008. The attorney's name is Karen Morinelli from the Ogletree Deakins law firm in Tampa. The claim, including attorney's fees is covered by our insurance company. As per Chapter 286.011, in the shade meetings will be held with the Executive Committee who will serve as the Litigation Committee. A. Eckstein will also serve on this Committee. As required, a court reporter will be present at all meetings and the transcripts will be made part of the public record upon conclusion of the litigation.
- O. Verdeja announced that if anyone has a conflict of interest, to please ask L. Pena for a conflict of interest form.

II. Approval of Minutes

Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.

- O. Verdeja called for a motion to approve the August 1, 2011 meeting minutes.
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the minutes.
 - Motion seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion unanimously passed.

III. Finance Committee Report

Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D.

- D. Armstrong reviewed the financials and snapshots. He stated that this is the first time since he's been on the Board, that Monroe has a waitlist.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-01 to authorize the President and CEO to receive and execute the Department of Children and Families (DCF) Refugee Subsidized Childcare Services grant/contract.
 - C. Lederman moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-02 to authorize the President and CEO to execute a sub-contract agreement for Refugee childcare services with Miami-Dade County.
 - C. Lederman moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-03 to authorize the President and CEO to receive and execute the QRIS grant/contract with the Children's Trust.
 - C. Lederman moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.



- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-04 to authorize the President and CEO to renew the sub-contract agreements for the Quality Counts programs listed within the background section of this resolution.
 - C. Lederman moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-05 to authorize the President and CEO to renew the following sub-recipient services contracts listed within the background section of this resolution.
 - C. Lederman moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - H. Mogul declared a conflict of interested and recused himself.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-06 to authorize the President and CEO to extend the sub-contract agreements for the Quality Counts program listed within the background section of this resolution.
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-07 to authorize the President and CEO to extend the following sub-recipient service contracts listed within the background section of this resolution.
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.
- Motion to approve Resolution 083111-08 to authorize the President and CEO to renew contract PSA11-127 with The WELS Foundation, LLC to provide continued system management for the Quality Counts program.
 - C. Lederman moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by Y. Johnson.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

IV. Look Before You Lock Copyright

Santiago Echemendia

- S. Echemendia stated that the Look Before You Lock campaign could not be copyrighted by the ELC because School Readiness dollars were used to create it.
- H. Mogul asked if can be under the foundation.
- G. Schwartz asked if it can be given to another agency to earn money.
- S. Echemendia stated it is property of the State. We can consent to an assignment.
- R. Beasley asked the other coalitions using this product can be charged.
- E. Torres stated the ELC wouldn't want to charge other coalitions. They are partners and we share this information with them freely.



V. Provider Services Committee Report

Gina Cortes-Suarez, Ed.D.

- G. Cortes-Suarez stated the Provider Services Committee reviewed a grievance. She stayed with her newborn child over the allowable time and lost her funding.
- E. Torres stated that fortunately she was enrolled in the CCEP program so she still has some funding.
- J. Russell stated that the ELC assisted in adjusting her parent fee.

VI. Governance & Bylaws Committee Report

Alan Eckstein, Esq.

- The Governance & Bylaws Committee met on August 30th to discuss section 5.5 and section 5.8 of the bylaws. They also discussed the selection of provider representation on the Board. As according to the current bylaws, 6 positions would be required to rotate. The Committee was now requesting that only 5 of the 6 positions rotate. The Committee agrees that Headstart should be removed from the rotating positions.
 - D. Williams moved to approve the motion.
- G. Schwartz asked why ex officio members would not be able to vote.
- D. Lawrence stated that the important factor was that these representatives have the ability to speak, not necessarily vote. Their voice on the Board was worth more.
- Y. Johnson asked how many members this would increase the Board by.
- A. Eckstein stated that with adding the required private sector members, this should leave the Board with 31 members.
- D. Armstrong stated that there might be logistical and financial issues in increasing the Board by that many members.
- A. Eckstein stated that there are many in Monroe County that are expecting this rotation to take place.
- D. Lawrence stated that a large Board shouldn't be a problem.
- G. Schwartz suggested that the Board table D. William's motion until further information is obtained on how the rotation would work, and if it is necessary to rotate all these positions.
 - G. Schwartz moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by A. Eckstein.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

VII. Nominating Committee Report

Yvonne T. Johnson, M.D.

- Y. Johnson stated that the Committee met right before the Board meeting.



- Y. Johnson asked the Board to consider the appointment of Lisa Martinez of Miami-Dade County and Ester Jacobo of DCF.
 - A. Eckstein moved to approve the motion.
 - Motion was seconded by D. Lawrence.
 - Motion was unanimously passed.

VIII. ASQ Data	Dr. Louis Manfra, FIU
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- Please refer to www.elcmdm.org for the presentation.

IX. CEO Report	Evelio C. Torres
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- Please refer to www.elcmdm.org for the presentation.

IX. Public Comments	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.
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- Linda Carmona-Sanchez asked the Board to consider discussing the issues of provider representation.
- E. Humes-Newbold announced her retirement from Miami-Dade County.
- E. Torres thanked her for all her work, acknowledging that she genuinely cares about families and serving this community.
- E. Humes-Newbold thanked the Board and the ELC staff. She stated that her husband can't wait until she's retired. She's been in human services for all her career and it's something she's proud of. She loves helping people, children and families. She used to say that she would own a childcare after retirement, but since being in human services she's decided not to do so.
- S. Fagundo thanked her for all she's done for providers. She stated E. Humes-Newbold is an incredible leader whose shoes will be hard to fill.

IX. CEO Report	Octavio A. Verdeja, Jr.
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