

**MINUTES of the
Child Care Advisory
Committee
July 16, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The WebEx hosted meeting of the Child Care Advisory Committee was called to order at 7pm. Copies of the agenda were emailed in advance to the Committee Members and posted on the Child Care Licensing website. Matthew Hayden, DHHS Public Health, Program Manager, Children's Services Licensing, placed a link to the Open Meetings Act in the Webex chat box and a physical copy was placed at room entrance.

ROLL CALL

The following Advisory Committee members were present to answer roll call:

- Penny Gerking
- Denita Julius
- Stoney Straatman
- Erin Branch
- Michele Lawson
- Lisset Christian
- Stephanie Dowding
- Kimberly Ricker

The following Advisory Committee members were absent: Sabrina Glynn, Christopher Dean, Adriana Chavez, Sandra Kosierowski, and Adela Yanez. The following staff members from the Department were also present during all or part of the meeting:

- Lindsay Braddock, DHHS Public Health, Administrator- Occupational Licensure
- Nicole Vint, Office of Economic Assistance
- Rita Krusemark, DHHS Public Health, Program Specialist, Children's Services Licensing
- Matthew Hayden, DHHS Public Health, Program Manager, Children's Services Licensing

A quorum was present, and the meeting convened.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

MOTION: Kimberly Ricker made the motion, seconded by Michelle Lawson, to adopt the agenda for the April 13, 2024, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

with 1 change; The meeting was held at Quality Inn and Conference Center, Grand Island.
MOTION: Kimberly Ricker made the motion, seconded by Denita Julius, to adopt the agenda for the April 13, 2024, Child Care Advisory Meeting.

OPEN SESSION DISCUSSION

1. Criminal Background Check update.

Matthew Hayden provided updates on the following:

- Fingerprint data was shared with the committee regarding the amount of fingerprint background checks completed, and the average days taken to complete checks.
- Renewal of fingerprinting background checks begins October 1, 2024. Planning for the 5-year renewals continues.
- Nicole Vint announced that the fee waiver for fingerprinting had been renewed through April 30, 2029.

These minutes have not been approved by
the Child Care Advisory Committee.
Translation will be completed after the
minutes are approved.

2. CCDF Subsidy Policy and Grant Opportunities Updates –
Nicole Vint provided updates on subsidy and grant opportunities.
 - A discussion was had on the recently awarded Restoration Enhancement Program (REP) Grants. Nicole summarized some of the issues that arose during the process of application, administration, and issuance of the REP Grants to child care providers. Committee members commented on the experience and how the process could be improved in the future.
3. Legislative Update- Matthew Hayden
The following legislative bills were enacted and become effective July 19, 2024:
 - Statute 17-1911 Dual Licenses: (5) No child care licensee shall be prohibited from obtaining a dual license for the purpose of complying with attendance requirements – Licensed Child Care Centers may apply for a Family Child Care Home II license. Having a dual license allows a Child Care Center with 12 or fewer children in care to determine staff-to-child ratio only based on Family Child Care Home II requirements.
 - Statute 71-1917.01: Blankets shall not be used in cribs in any child care facility.
4. Subcommittee updates:
 - Regulations Subcommittee: Kim Ricker, chair: Updated on plans to create a document to make recommendations for revisions to Regulations.
 - Provider Support Subcommittee: Erin Branch: chair: Updated on efforts to establish and administer a child care staff substitute pool and determining what state partners and requirements are required.

CONCLUSION AND ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

Adjournment- Michelle Lawson-1st and Penny Gerking-2nd