

Governance Council Meeting Minutes

October 7, 2025

1-2:00pm

Governance Council Members:

X	Wendi Baird	X	Carol Hacherl	A	Carli Ainsworth
A	Jeremy Skinner	X	Taya Noland		
A	Whitney Warr	C	Margie House		
X	Marie Simonds	X	Ashley Matsui		

Staff:

X	Sara Stephens-SCREL	X	Charlotte Carver-SCREL	X	Yolanda - SOWIB
X	Skaidra Scholey-SCREL	X	Corinne Potts-SCREL		
X	Vanessa Broadley- SCREL	X	Jessica Porter- SCREL		

Guests:

X	Brett Bailey	X	Annie Grayson	X	Stephanie Hadley
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(X) Present (A) Absent (L) Leave (C) Communicated, Packet, contact

1. Board meeting called to order at 1pm by Marie

- Meeting opened with a welcome to members and guests.
- Roll call indicated an initial lack of quorum (4 members present). Quorum was later reached upon additional members joining.

2. Approval of Agenda & Previous Minutes

- Due to lack of quorum at the beginning, approval of August 2025 minutes was postponed until quorum was met.
- Once quorum established, motion made and seconded to approve the consent agenda (August 2025 minutes).
- Motion passed unanimously.

3. Biennium Reflection Presentation

Presenters: Charlotte & Jessica

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- Overview of accomplishments during the 2023–2025 biennium.
 - Focus areas included:
 - **Engaging & Empowering Families:**
 - Launched new online screening tool featuring 33+ programs.
 - Supported Baby Promise (ages 0–3) and Preschool Promise (ages 3–5).
 - Enrolled 613 families; maintained 100% program enrollment.
 - **Parent Cafés:**
 - Monthly virtual gatherings promoting peer learning and connection using evidence-based protective factors model.
 - High participant satisfaction; key trust-building and engagement activity.
 - **Parent Advisory Council:**
 - Grew from 2 to 23 members.
 - Promotes family advocacy and leadership.
 - Several members now serve on state-level advisory boards.
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4. Partner Collaboration & Capacity Building

- **Community Investment Funds:**
 - \$368,000 distributed across 29 regional projects from 7 funding streams.
 - Funded family supports, early literacy, and parent education initiatives.
 - **Early Literacy Focus:**
 - Distributed nearly 4,000 books via clinics and libraries.
 - Each regional library received \$2,000 grants for programming and storytime materials.
 - **Home Visiting Systems Coordination:**
 - 8-year initiative supported by Ford Family Foundation transitioning to PSU coordination.
 - Collaboration increased; provider competition dropped from 87% to 0%.
 - 70 professionals trained in trauma-informed and resilience practices.
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5. Childcare Accelerator Initiative

- Developed to address regional childcare desert.
 - Three cohorts (6–10 weeks each) trained participants on business planning, licensing, and operations.
 - Focused on Latinx and women entrepreneurs.
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- Graduates received \$2,500 stipends for startup or expansion.
- Funded by Bandon Dunes Charitable Foundation.

6. Prenatal to Third Grade (P3) Coordination

- Supported by the Ford Family Foundation.
- Community partnerships and school collaborations expanded, including:
 - Successful grant support for Port Orford preschool expansion.
 - Tools of the Mind curriculum adopted region-wide.
 - Ongoing principal collaboration luncheons and advocacy efforts.

7. New Initiatives

Every Child Belongs (ECB):

- Addresses behavioral challenges and expulsion prevention in early care.
- Emphasizes Pyramid Model training and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation.
- ECB Connects system launching to streamline provider support referrals.

Family Connects Oregon (FCO):

- Universal nurse home visiting program.
- Two nurse partners onboarded; community engagement ongoing.
- Future updates pending following partner (Coos Health & Wellness) withdrawal announcement.

8. Staffing & Funding Updates

- **New Staff:** Evin Rose (Home Visiting Specialist), Celcionna Volluz (Support Specialist).
- **Funding:**
 - New biennium contract received from DELC.
 - Early Literacy funding reduced from \$97,000 to \$26,000.
 - All other allocations remained stable; no budget cuts passed on.
- **Communication:**
 - Monthly hub updates to be shared with council, including off-month summaries.

9. Fiscal Monitoring Report

- DELC 2025 monitoring completed with **no findings**.
- Strengths: timely reporting and strong documentation.

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- Recommendations: improve expense categorization and ensure certificate of insurance updates (already completed).

10. Bylaws Update

- Revisions made per updated Oregon Hub Rules and DELC contract requirements.
- Key updates:
 - Mandatory inclusion of Hub Director and Backbone Representative as **non-voting members**.
 - Clarified governance council composition, membership recruitment, and transparency requirements.
 - Added procedures for loss of confidence in leadership and official recognition of the Parent Advisory Council.
- Motion to approve amended bylaws passed unanimously.

11. Governance Recruitment Committee

- Committee (Jeremy, Carol) to reconvene; additional volunteers requested.
- Goal: ensure representation from all required sectors.

12. Family Connects Oregon Update

- Coos Health & Wellness withdrew from partnership due to startup funding gap (~\$130,000 first year).
- Program pause announced; OHA notified; next steps under discussion.
- Acknowledgment of team's extensive work despite funding challenges.

13. Financial Overview

Presented by: Yolanda, Finance Director

- Overall program remains **financially stable**.
- FY2025 net assets: **\$715,000** (strong unrestricted balance).
- All biennium funds fully utilized with no returned allocations.
- Transition to new accounting system in progress for improved reporting detail.

14. Early Learning Council Update

Presenter: Marie

- Discussed Vermont's universal childcare model and unified strategy.
- Emphasized need for Oregon's coordinated legislative advocacy.

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- Retreat planned; members invited to share feedback and priorities.
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15. CCR&R Update

Presenter: Taya

- Continued focus on “Every Child Belongs” and inclusion supports.
 - Maintained funding levels despite anticipated cuts.
 - Actively recruiting new **Baby Promise** providers region-wide.
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16. Public Comments

- Guests:
 - **Stephanie Hallock**, Southern Oregon Coos Regional Housing.
 - **Brett Bailey** and **Annie Grayson**, Parent Advisory Council members.
 - Both expressed appreciation for the meeting’s information and impact.
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17. Marie adjourned the meeting at 2:00pm

- No additional comments or updates.
 - Motion to adjourn approved unanimously.
 - Meeting adjourned at [insert time].
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Minutes prepared by: Celcionna Volluz

Signature: *Celcionna Volluz*

Board Chair: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____