

New Opportunities, Inc.  
Board Meeting Via ZOOM and in Person  
MINUTES  
Thursday, February 29, 2024  
4:00 p.m.

- I. Board Training: New Opportunities Food Insecurity Solutions: Food Pantries, Mobile Food Pantries, Community Gardens, Backpack Food Programs, Food Rescue Programs and more! Presented by Heidi Billmeier, Calhoun County Family Development Center Coordinator.
- II. Meeting was called to order by Board President Eugene Meiners at 4:25 p.m.
  - A. Welcome and Introductions.

Present: **IN-PERSON:** Jon Hays, Eugene Meiners, Dan Benitz, Mike Fischer, Jerome Kuster, Carolyn Masters, and Carl Legore  
**VIA-ZOOM:** Terry Striegel, Cindy Wallace, Kim Denman, Deb Lightner and Denis James

Excused: Heath Hansen, Erica Burris, Peg Hamilton, Mark Hanson and Tim Farmer

Staff Present: Chad Jensen, CEO; Sheri Mertz, CFO; Jenni Schlichte, Board Recorder  
Darcy Dailey, HR Assistant, Heidi Billmeier, Calhoun County FDC Coordinator.
  - B. A motion was made for the approval of the January 25, 2024, Board Minutes by Carl Legore and seconded by Dan Benitz. Motion carried.
- III. CFO Reports – Sheri Mertz
  - A. Sheri discussed with the Board the financial reports ending January 31, 2024. There was general discussion of various line items. A motion was made to accept the financial reports ending January 31, 2024, by Jerome Kuster and seconded by Mike Fischer. Motion carried.
  - B. Sheri presented to the Board the Family Development and Self-Sufficiency Program (FaDSS) Budget Amendment. The amendment reallocated funds between various budget categories and requested an extension of the contract end date to 9-30-2024. A motion was made by Carolyn Masters and seconded by Deb Lightner to approve the FaDDS Budget Amendment. Motion carried.
- IV. CEO Reports – Chad Jensen
  - A. Award Parking Garage Contract to General Contractor. Chad has stated that this is on hold at this time pending discussion with general contractor.

B. Sheri, Chad, and Gene Meiners reviewed HS/EHS Policy Council agenda with the Board. The following items were discussed:

1. Financial Reports for the month ending January 2024
2. All charge account activity for January 2024
3. The January 23, 2024, Policy Council Minutes
4. The monthly Program Report for January 2024
5. HS/EHS Selection Criteria Process - pregnant mother's high risk

A motion was made by Carl Legore and seconded by Dan Benitz to approve the HS/EHS selection criteria process. Motion Carried.

C. Board Self- Assessment – those that were present completed the forms and turned in. Those that attended via-zoom and absent will receive forms in mail with self-addressed return envelope.

D. Risk Assessment / Analysis. Safety Fall Protection. A motion was made by Jerome Kuster and seconded by Terry Striegel to approve the Risk Assessment Analysis Plan. Motion carried.

E. Approval of recent contracts:

1. Weatherization Assistance Program (IPL-24-01). A motion was made by Carl Legore and seconded by Carolyn Masters to approve the IPL-24-01 contract. Motion carried.
2. Weatherization Assistance Program (MEC-24-01). A motion was made by Denis James and seconded by Jerome Kuster to approve the MEC-24-01 contract. Motion carried.

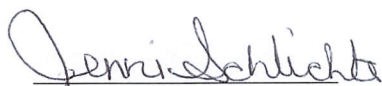
V. Handouts – FYI's

- A. Low Income Home Energy Assistance (LIHEAP-24-01) Amendment 1
- B. Tobacco Use Prevention and Control Community Partnerships (Contract 5884TS03)
- C. Juvenile Alcohol and Drug Education Flyer
- D. Gambling Flyer
- E. Quitline Flyer
- F. The Royal Throne

VI. Adjournment

A motion was made at 5:01p.m. by Jerome Kuster to adjourn the meeting. Dan Benitz seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Jenni Schlichte  
Board Recorder

Respectfully submitted,



Eugene Meiners  
Board President