New Opportunities, Inc.
Board Meeting
Minutes
Thursday, August 27, 2026

I. Meeting was called to order by Board President, Eugene Meiners at 4:02 p.m.
   a. Welcome and Introductions.

Present: **IN-PERSON:** Eugene Meiners, Jon Hays, Peg Hamilton, Rhonda Mart, Mike Fischer, Terry Striegel, Deb Lightner, JD Kuster and Carolyn Masters.

Via ZOOM:
Julia Helm, Kim Denman, and Cory Ridgely

Excused: Heath Hansen, MacKenzie Lewis, Dan Benitz, Erica Burris, and Denis James

Staff Present: Chad Jensen, CEO, Carla Morrow, HR Director, Sheri Mertz, CFO, and Shannon Anthofer, CFO

   b. A motion was made to approve the meeting minutes from May 28, 2026, by Terry Striegel and seconded by Carolyn Masters, motion carried unanimously.

II. CFO Reports – Shannon Anthofer

   a. Shannon presented the July 2026 financial statements. There was general discussion of various line items. Shannon noted Weatherization is still reflecting a substantial loss and Chad, Shannon and Sheri have been meeting with the program director, Keith Weber, to monitor this closely.
   A motion was made to accept the financial reports ending July 31, 2026, by Rhonda Mart and seconded by Jon Hays, motion carried unanimously.

   b. Community Services Block Grant CSBG-26-01 Amendment – This amendment allocates the additional funding of $1,974 to co funding of health programs and reallocated co-funding from the outreach centers to weatherization in the amount of $55,000.

A motion was made to approve the amendment by Carolyn Masters and seconded by Peg Hamilton, motion carried unanimously.

c. Approval of County Bank Signatory Authorization. The outreach banking information is being updated to add Shannon Anthofer as CFO and remove Sheri Mertz. A motion was made to approve the county bank signatory authorization updates by Terry Striegel and seconded by Peg Hamilton, motion carried unanimously.

III. CEO Reports – Chad Jensen

a. Chad, Shannon, and Sheri reviewed the HS/EHS Policy Council update with the Board.
   1. Financial Reports for both the CH and WH grants for May, June & July 2026.
   2. All charge account activity for May, June & July 2026.
   3. The Policy Council Minutes for May 2026.
   4. The monthly Program Report for July 2026.
   5. School Readiness comparative report for 2025-2026 for both HS & EHS was presented
   6. Self-Assessment Report and Program Improvement Plan 2026-2027.
      A motion was made to accept the Self-Assessment Report and Program Improvement Plan, by Peg Hamilton and seconded by Terry Striegel, motion carried unanimously.
   7. HS/EHS Continuation Grant application for 12/1/26 through 11/30/27 was presented to the board. It was noted an unfunded 3% COLA was included in the proposed budget. With this unfunded COLA there are areas of the budget that are affected. These include a minimum for repairs and maintenance, no equipment purchases and only partial funding for the 1 year reserve of the self funded state unemployment insurance.
      A motion was made to approve the HS/EHS Continuation Grant 12/1/26 through 11/30/27, by JD Kuster and seconded by Rhonda Mart, motion carried unanimously.
   8. HS/EHS Training and Technical Assistance Plan and Budget were presented to the board.
      A motion was made to approve the HS/EHS Training and Technical Assistance Plan and Budget, by Terry Striegel and seconded by Peg Hamilton.
   9. HS/EHS Fall Programming Schedule
   10. HS/EHS Policies and Procedures Updates were reviewed and discussed.

A motion was made to approve the HS/EHS Policy and Procedure updates as discussed by Carolyn Masters and seconded by JD Kuster, motion carried unanimously.

11. Waukee Construction WH Grant – A no cost extension was presented to the board and discussion was held. With this grant ending on 8.31.26 the program has a 90-day liquidation period to complete the payment of projects already committed to and in process. Although many of the outstanding items will be completed within this 90-day liquidation period, there are several projects that will not be able to be completed due primarily to timing and availability of contractors. In order to extend the funding availability for these projects a no cost extension extending the grant period to May 31, 2027, is being requested.
    A motion was made to approve the WH no cost extension by JD Kuster and seconded by Deb Lightner, motion carried unanimously.

b. Executive Committee Update of July 27, 2026, meeting. The executive committee discussed filing an insurance claim for hail damage sustained to the main office on April 15, 2026. Three contractors assessed the property and found no pressing issues. With the age of the roof and 2% wind hail deductible it was decided to not proceed with an insurance claim.
c. Approval of recent Investment Agreement United Way of Central Iowa Contract.
    A motion was made to approve the Investment Agreement United Way of Central Iowa contract by Terry Striegel and seconded by Carolyn Masters, motion carried unanimously.

IV. Handouts – FYI's
1. Behavioral Health Administrative Service Organization (ASO) Amendment
2. Behavioral Health ASO Automatic Renewal Amendment
3. Community Services Block Grant – CSBG 26-01 Amendment 3
4. Department of Energy – DOE Weatherization Assistance DOE-25-01 Amendment 5
5. Family Development and Self Sufficiency FaDSS - FWBPEFD26001 Amendment 2
6. Heating and Energy Assistance Program – HEAP-24-01 BA13
7. Weatherization Letter - Field Inspection Report
8. Child and Adult Care Food Program – CACFP Board Review Report
9. Child and Adult Care Food Program – CACFP Administrative Review
10. The Royal Throne

V. Adjournment.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m. by Peg Hamilton and seconded by JD Kuster, motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting: September 24, 2026, 4 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Carla Morrow, HR Director

Respectfully Submitted by:

Cory Ridgely, Board Secretary