**Meeting Minutes**

**Welcome and Introductions**

Lt. Governor Deidre Henderson welcomed the group and did a roll call of members.

**Approval of Minutes**


**Early Childhood Utah Updates**

a. Codi Thurgood provided an update from the April 2021 advisory council meeting. Approximately 80 experts are actively engaged with subcommittees or the advisory council, to make sure the needs of the early childhood programming across the state are being met and ensure alignment with the b-5 strategic plan.

**B-5 Strategic Plan Review**


Ms. Bissonette explained stakeholders were involved throughout the entire process and provided updates at all the planning sessions to address vision, mission, objectives, and work plans. The goals, objectives, and strategies presented in the strategic plan are reflective of Utah’s desire to develop a well-functioning early childhood care and education system that provides high-quality programs and services to support the healthy development of children.

Carrie Martinez explained the strategic plan has outlined three overarching goals and objectives for the plan, four service domains, and the four reoccurring themes throughout the plan.

ECU Advisory council’s next meeting is in July. Email Nicole Bissonette [nicolebissonette@utah.gov](mailto:nicolebissonette@utah.gov) or Carrie Martinez [carriemartinez@utah.gov](mailto:carriemartinez@utah.gov) if interested.
## Early Childhood Coordination Update

a. Rebecca Banner provided a summary of the goals of the workgroup that have been formed under the agency consolidation committee. The workgroup has been tasked with reviewing and providing recommendations related to the early childhood governance structure and incorporating work from the needs assessment to analyze the current structure about consolidation, collaboration, and coordination to make the system a better way for parents to access services. The work group will be meeting weekly to start looking at additional tasks related to the gap analysis, program standards, review programs, identify areas for alignment, and establish priorities once the governance structure is in place. At the upcoming August meeting, the workgroup plans to bring recommendations for this committee to review and consider. The work group will report to the consolidation steering committee each week on their progress. Ms. Banner referred to the draft from the last commission meeting, which listed programs, findings, and data sources. The workgroup will review that draft and build out on it, discuss which data sources house which information, how it is used, and that will be part of the recommendations with the governance structure and data to support whatever structure comes forward.

## Other Business and Public Comment

a. Brittney Cummins read two public comment emails from Emmie Gardner and Kristen Schulz. Lt. Governor Henderson expressed they are aware of the child care subsidy issues and are looking at the process to remove that barrier. Lt. Governor Henderson indicated on 5/6/2021 a report will be coming out from Kem C. Gardner that will provide great data to guide this Commission in policy making decisions as far as equity, where the focus is, and what potential barriers and problems need to be addressed regarding achieving educational outcomes that would be helpful to the children later in life.

b. Kory Holdaway (representing private child care association) conveyed the importance of the private child care industry. Mr. Holdaway offered their assistance in breaking down barriers regarding the coordination of services.

c. Elizabeth Garbe (Government relations for United Way of Salt Lake) reiterated the critical importance of governance issue that this commission is working on and expressed interest in having the voice of the community on the workgroup committee discussing governance, to provide an outside perspective on how the state can best support children and families.

## Adjournment

Next Meeting: August 25, 2021 from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM.

Lt. Governor Henderson called for a motion to adjourn. Sydnee Dickson motioned. Tracy Gruber seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting Adjourned.