

THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 12, 2023
Sarah A. Winters Building, 601 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764

I. **President Rachel Barnhart called the meeting to order at 5:01 pm.**

II. ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Denise Dupler	X			
Rachel Barnhart	X			
Kevin Howell		X	X	
Fritzie Nitschke	X			
Matt Sheridan	X			
Karen Chennells	X			
Sky Gettys		X	X	

Others in attendance: David Couch, Chrissy Berkheimer, Ron Spung, Jessica Stroup, Caley Boyden, Shelly Lackey, and Ashley Wollenberg.

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Res. 2023-07-01

Karen Chennells moved to approve the July Regular Board meeting agenda and any additions, as submitted. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: A hand-out motion was given to all Board members in attendance. Jessica Stroup's ASD Board report was handed out to all Board members. Roberts Rules of Order stipulate such a motion for each meeting agenda.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IV. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Res. 2023-07-02

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2023, PCBDD Regular Board meeting, as presented. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rachel Barnhart noticed there were two extra letters in the discussion section of Res. 2023-06-08 on the last page of the minutes. Chrissy Berkheimer noted the error.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

V. BOARD REPORTS

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – DAVID COUCH - *Verbal Report*

David's report was included in the packet. David shared that Chrissy would set up September training for Board members and Caley would conclude their required hours for training with her budget training in October. Jenny's report was included in the packet. If you have any questions please feel free to let us know. The two-year budget is official now. In the upcoming budget, the Governor vetoed language but kept the wage amount. Also in the budget, families providing waiver services was approved but DODD will be setting perimeters around it that hopefully will decrease some of the issues that County Board's are concerned about. Rachel questioned if they would keep the maximum number of hours at 40 and David shared that we are still waiting on their perimeters. If they choose to make families be employed under a provider that will help with some of the concerns. Hours will have to be mandated by a provider/agency. Karen questioned the background checks and things such as home inspections for people. David shared that safety issues, such as abuse, neglect, background checks, etc. would be able to be tracked more efficiently, if family members had to be employed by a provider/agency. Fritzie questioned if there was anything in the budget for housing. David shared that would be in the Capital budget which is on opposite years as the state budget. David asked the Board if he could pursue the parking lot expansion project. He shared that it has stalled with the local efforts, and we are in need of more parking. Caley shared that David's cost projection was high, in 2022 it was just over \$210,000. The Board shared they would all like for him to move on with the project and bring actual costs back for approval. Not included in David's report, the collaborative Early Intervention project with some other counties and Hopewell Health is being presented to him as sustainable. He will bring more information back to the Board when available. Lastly, David shared he is released from his doctor to come back to work fulltime, but he is easing his way back into it.

B. CHILDREN'S PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT – ASHLEY WOLLENBERG

Ashley's report was included in the packet. Karen asked Ashley if we knew why the numbers keep increasing. Ashley shared she felt it was from the "COVID babies," drug abuse amongst parents and how good her team is at outreach. Rachel shared that the billboard in Somerset looks good.

C. SSA ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – RON SPUNG

Ron's report was included in the packet. Rachel commented on how he is almost fully staffed.

D. COMMUNITY SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT - SHELLY LACKEY

Shelly's report was included in the packet.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JESSICA STROUP

Jessica's staff roster was included in the report. Jessica's report was handed out at the beginning of the meeting. Jessica shared that our mock accreditation was successful. MEORC does this for over 50 other county boards and the comment was made that the things they see in Perry County they do not see in any other counties.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2023-07-03

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the expenditures, as presented. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: Finance reports were included in the packet. Revenues were low this month with only a few reimbursements for normal services. Expenditures were higher due to some larger purchases. A skid of paper was purchased that saves us money overall. Nothing to report in the Capital Improvements revenues. CCC landscaping was completed so that should finish the CCC and that should be the last payment. Any transfers to the Reserve fund will happen when we get our levy money. Caley did note that Waiver Specialist Kaylee Bankes and Medicaid Services Manager Johnna Nash have begun individual trainings with providers to help them understand waiver billing and utilization. Not only is this education helpful to providers, but it also helps with relationship- building with our local providers.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VII. OLD BUSINESS: None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Res. 2023-07-04

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the Superintendent to sign the 2023-2024 collaborative services agreement with Hocking, Athens, Perry Community Action Head Start/Early Head Start, when/if received. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: This is a renewal of the current collaborative agreement for providing a comprehensive program of services to all eligible families.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-07-05

Karen Chennells moved to approve submission of the 50-page application to The Partnership for Excellence (TPE) by August 15, 2023, and payment of the \$6,200 total fees. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: This is for our intent to apply for our 50-page application. The TPE fee of \$6,200 includes a one-time non-refundable application fee (\$3,100) and a second fee in December (\$3,100) to cover expenses associated with the review and site visit. Working through the series of applications has enabled us to become a stronger and better agency by focusing us on our mission and purpose.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

HANDOUT MOTION #1

2023-07-06

Matt Sheridan moved to approve additional Capital Funds, up to \$30,000, for the purchase of housing through Options for Supported Housing, as determined by the Superintendent. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.


Discussion: Options for Supported Housing, one of our non-profit housing providers, is seeking housing in the northern part of the county. They have obtained approximately \$175,000 in state capital funds, with local county board funds in the amount of \$20,000 as match. Unfortunately, available housing is being bought up before we can get through the process of aligning the funding, as the homes are more costly. Options is in the process of acquiring additional state capital funds to assist with the purchase. If we make additional local funds available, we hope to be able to purchase a home. Options provides affordable housing for people. PCBDD's investment provides long term affordable housing. Our Capital Funds include \$50,000 for housing purchases. We were hoping to purchase two houses in 2023 but that may not work out due to the excessive cost. David shared that he would like to see housing all over Perry County, not just New Lexington. He would rather be able to get one house instead of no houses. Options for Supported Housing has the mission of helping people with developmental disabilities. Options ask us if we have people to fill the house. Karen asked what kind of services a person has that housing would benefit; David shared it depends. A person could have intense needs or little needs. Ron shared that the condominium we have has two people living in it with shared staff.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

X. ADJOURNMENT: Karen Chennells moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:42 pm. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.


Rachel Barnhart – Board President


Denise Dupler – Board Secretary