

**THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
November 15, 2023
Couch Connections Center, 600 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764**

I. **President Rachel Barnhart called the meeting to order at 6:19 pm.**

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

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

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Res. 2023-11-01

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the November regular Board meeting agenda and any additions, as submitted. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Res. 2023-11-02

Karen Chennells moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2023, PCBDD regular Board meeting, as presented. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IV. BOARD REPORTS:

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

David's report was included in the packet. Jenny's MUI report was included with David's report. The OACB meets for the annual Delegate Assembly at the end of November, there are no current resolutions on the agenda that David is aware of. David shared that the purchase of the house in Somerset has been completed. Options for Supported Housing is currently doing some upgrades and addressing some accessibility issues before moving people in. The hope is the house will be move-in ready by the end of the year. Our waiting list assessment indicates a potential need for six IO waivers to meet immediate needs. We will continue to investigate other ways to meet the needs, but we will likely bring the need to you in early 2024 for approval. Carrie Torka, current SSA Supervisor was nominated by our SSAs for the Five-Star Customer Experience Award. David shared the description of the award and what the SSAs submitted to OACB for consideration. Carrie was the unanimous choice of the OACB Awards Committee. David shared the intake numbers from 2022 and 2023 for comparison. In 2024, he is hoping to have graphs for Board members. There were talks about eligibility. Currently if a person has not been determined eligible by the age of 22, they are not eligible. David shared that they are looking at possibly changing this, because everyone is saying DD has money.

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

Ashley's report was included in the packet.

C. SSA ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – N/A

SSA report was included with Superintendent's report.

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 report was included in the packet.

V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2023-11-03

Sky Gettys moved to approve the expenditures, as presented. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Caley shared total revenues are right on target. The 2024 updated budgets are included in the packet. The county auditor's office projections for levy revenue were incorrect. The revised amount is a difference of around \$547,000. The long-term outlook has been corrected. We are still in great job.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: NONE

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

Res. 2023-11-04

Karen Chennells moved to approve the 2024 PCBDD Organizational meeting at 5:00 pm, on Wednesday, January 24, 2024, with the regular Board meeting immediately following. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: The date and time are at the discretion of the Board. You as the Board determine the appropriate day and time for the Board meetings. After Board members checked calendars, the time and date were set.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-05

Kevin Howell moved to approve the Superintendent to sign the software maintenance agreement by and between Primary Solutions, Inc., and the Perry County Board of Developmental Disabilities, as presented. Matt Sheridan seconded the motion.

Discussion: This will be a renewal of the current contract with Primary Solutions to provide maintenance services for the DD Infallible software. This is an ongoing service. 2023 contract was \$3,354.00. 2024 contract is \$3,443.00.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-06

Sky Gettys moved to approve the 2024 Calendar of the Board, as presented. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: The calendar is approved annually to officially schedule and identify all working days, holidays, and closed paid days.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-07

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the 2024 budgets, as presented in the packet. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: As discussed with Caley's financial report, the Auditor's Office levy numbers that were previously provided were incorrect. Corrected numbers and projections were included with this motion.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-08

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the following agreements with PerCo, Inc. for services in 2024, as presented. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: These are renewals of current agreements with no changes.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-09

Kevin Howell moved to approve the renewal of the contract with Layers of Life (LOL), as presented. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: The agreement is for less than 2023 as we are transitioning some of the services to our staff. We will continue to use LOL for intensive individual support and to consult with us as we assume more of the involvement into other programs. Karen Chennells questioned if Janessa and Kim would still be working with kids. David shared yes they would be but not as much, they would be used in intense needs situations.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-10

Matt Sheridan moved to authorize the Superintendent to purchase on behalf of the Board a suitable vehicle for staff travel at a cost not to exceed \$45,000. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: We purchased a vehicle in December 2022. It has been used regularly enough to indicate the need for a second vehicle for use primarily by SSAs, Childrens Program and the Community Supports Department in their travels around the county. Caley shared that currently at KEER Automotive in New Lexington, there is another Ford Escape (like we currently have) for around \$32,000. This price doesn't include any government discounts.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-11

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the increase in the base and ceiling for all pay ranges by 2% for 2024. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: As was discussed at the October meeting this affects all hourly employees. The increase will go into effect 1/1/24. It is hoped this will assist with employee retention, given the current state of the economy.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-12

Karen Chennells moved to approve the attached resolution requesting DODD Director Hauck to approve Superintendent Certification for Caley Boyden. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: Caley will complete training for the certification in 2024. This is intended to be an option for the Board if I decide to play sick again, or worse. I should have done this a year ago. I prefer not to tempt fate too much and have this in place if needed.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

ADDITIONAL MOTION BEFORE EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Res. 2023-11-14

Sky Gettys moved to approve the cost of a hearing officer to represent PCBDD not to exceed \$3,000. Matt Sheridan seconded the motion.

Discussion: David shared that an appeal was filed around a MUI. The next step is for it to come to the Board. The Board can now decide whether they want to handle it or hire a hearing officer. Sky Gettys questioned the cost of the hearing officer. Jessica shared it is approximately \$100 an hour. Board President, Rachel Barnhart shared her thoughts of the best route going with the hearing officer so everything would be handled fairly and correctly. All Board members agreed that is how they would like to proceed.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2023-11-13

Karen Chennells moved to adjourn to executive session at 6:44 p.m. to consider the evaluation of the superintendent. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Return from Executive Session at 6:59 p.m.

ADDITIONAL MOTION:

Res. 2023-11-15

Karen Chennells moved to approve the discussion of the Superintendent's Evaluations and bonus. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: Rachel shared that all Board members were pleased with how the agency keeps moving forward. David's presence in the community and his continuing support of leadership for staff shows the continuous progress of the agency. The Board members were all in agreement with awarding Superintendent David Couch the maximum \$3,000.00 bonus allowable per his contract. David thanked the Board for all the support they showed him personally and professionally this year.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Kevin Howell moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 pm.



Board Member - Rachel Barnhart - President



Board Member - David Dupler - Secretary