

**THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 24, 2024**

Sarah A. Winters Building, 601 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764

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

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

Others in attendance: David Couch, Chrissy Berkheimer, Caley Boyden, Chuck Davis, Jessica Stroup, Shelly Lackey. Chase Bennett entered the meeting at 5:11pm.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Res. 2024-07-01

Sky Gettys moved to approve the July regular Board Meeting agenda and any additions, as submitted. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Sky Gettys requested to add a motion regarding an upcoming levy.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IV. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Res. 2024-07-02

Kevin Howell moved to approve the minutes of the June 26, 2024, PCBDD Regular Board Meeting, as presented. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote. Matt Sheridan abstained.

V. BOARD REPORTS:

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

David's report was included in the packet. David shared that at the conclusion of the August Board meeting there will be Ethics Training for Board Members. October will conclude Board Member training requirements with Caley's finance training and budgets. David reminded Board members about The Partnership for Excellence awards banquet in September. He would like Board Members to attend if they wish. Chrissy will follow up with Board Members via email. Sky shared he would like to attend. Sky wanted to discuss moving forward with levy preparations for 2025.

Added Motion:

Sky Gettys moved to approve David proceeding with making a recommendation to the PC Commissioners to initiate replacement levy preparations on a date to be determined in 2025 for the full 2.2%, including engaging legal counsel. This would include combining 2 out of 3 of our levies into one. Matt Sheridan seconded the motion.

Discussion: Sky feels the issue is evident that is the why he wanted to go ahead with getting a motion so David and his team can begin the prep work that is needed. Kevin agreed that it is a no brainer. Rachel feels it would be beneficial to begin prep work so we can be prepared to campaign in 2025 at the Perry County Fair and any other festivals, etc. Board Members shared how enlightening Caley's levy training was last month and how they can see the benefits.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Jenny's MUI report was included in David's report. MEORC put together an MUI report that was shared with the Board. Discussions about Jenny taking out the Mt. Aloysius MUI numbers for the next MEORC report and showing a comparison from last year's numbers of our MUIs to this year's numbers. Vicki's reports were included in David's report. Together We Can event will be held on November 7th. The Visionary Leadership award will be renamed at the event to the Justin Gall Visionary Leadership Award. Mt. Aloysius and Justin's family both agreed to us changing the name in honor of Justin. At the end of the September Board meeting, David would like to go into Executive Session to discuss plans for the employment of the Transitional Superintendent in 2025. New Lexington schools received a \$16 million state funded grant to help develop their workforce development center by the football field. Included in this space are plans to help incorporate students with our services and career opportunities in the DD field. The park grant was not awarded to New Lexington, so our parking lot is on hold for an undetermined amount of time. John has worked on expanding our parking area and we will live with the adjustments he made at this time.

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

Ashley's report was included in the packet. Executive Assistant, Chrissy Berkheimer shared that Ashley was on vacation but wanted them to know there was an error in her report. School-Age SSA, Darlene Denny is serving 56. Ashley had an error and her report stated she was serving five.

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

The SSA Director's report was included in the Superintendent's report.

D. COMMUNITY SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT - SHELLY LACKEY

Shelly's report was included in the packet. Board Members shared they loved seeing the photos from the Ohio State football camp that some Summer Camp kids attended.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JESSICA STROUP

Jessica's report was included in the packet. Jessica asked the Board Members if they liked how the Strategic Plan progress report was presented or if they would like it to be presented differently. They shared they like the simplicity of how it was presented with pertinent information included.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2024-07-03

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

Discussion: Caley shared that the Auditor's Office is still struggling with their new system. She wanted to make sure she provided the Board with some kind of financials. The expenditures are correct, but the financials are just off what she has.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VII. OLD BUSINESS: None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Res. 2024-07-04

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the Superintendent to sign the 2024-2025 Collaborative Services Agreement with Hocking, Athens, Perry Community Action Head Start/Early Head Start, when/if received. Kevin Howell 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. 2024-07-05

Kevin Howell moved to approve the County Board Funded Admission Agreement with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities on behalf of the Mount Vernon Developmental Center, as presented. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: This is a general agreement for placement of a person in the developmental center. Each time we place someone in this facility, we are required to sign an agreement to pay the Medicaid match. We currently have one person placed that we pay the match for.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Res. 2024-07-06

Matt Sheridan moved to approve the Business Associate Agreement with Haynes, Kessler, Myers, & Postalakis, Inc. for legal assistance, as presented. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.

Discussion: David shared that he usually does not bring these to the Board, as we have a contract with the entity we are entering the BAA with. However, we are involved with this group primarily through the Ohio Association of County Boards, so I want you to be aware of this. We have utilized them from time to time for our issues as well.

Motion passed by majority vote.

Res. 2024-07-07

Kevin Howell moved to authorize the Superintendent to work with Options for Supported Housing to secure funding through the FY25 and FY26 Community Capital Assistance Funding program for the purchase of homes for residential services. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: We have worked with Options to purchase two homes for the last two years. They are the primary managers of the process of accessing the funds as well as purchasing the home. There are some steps I need to be involved in. I am asking you to authorize me to work through the process with them. When it comes time to consider the money I will bring things back to you for consideration. Rachel shared she feels this makes sense because if people live on their own they rely less on the Board of DD. Sky questioned if we were landlords, David shared that we are not landlords, which is Options job. David shared that this process takes at least a year, so it will be included in the budget for 2025.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2024-07-08

Kevin Howell moved to approve the agreement with The Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center and New Lexington Schools for sharing costs for the Student Advocate/Workforce Development Coordinator for the 2024-2025 school year, as presented. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.

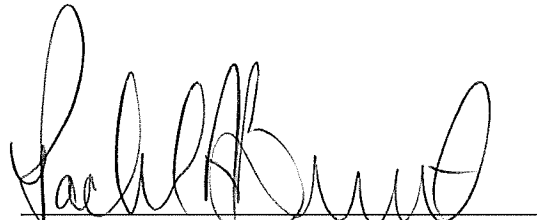
Discussion: This will be the sixth year of sharing costs for this position. Ryan Lewis has filled the position all six years. Again, this school year he will be part-time status only, primarily facilitating ALA at New Lexington High School. The position benefits DD through his influence in the ALA class around leadership and independence. He is a firm believer in how ALA positively impacts students with developmental disabilities. Ryan purchased Snider Flautt Lumber, so he is only part-time status. Fritzie shared that this could develop as a potential place of employment for students.

Motion Passed by majority vote. Rachel Barnhart abstained.

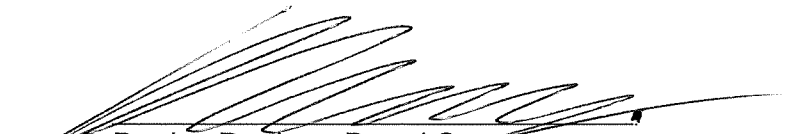
IX. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Chase Bennett thanked the Board for allowing him to attend.

X. **ADJOURNMENT:**

Sky Gettys moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:50 pm.



Rachel Barnhart – Board President



Denise Dupler – Board Secretary