

**THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
July 23, 2025
Sarah A. Winters Building, 601 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764**

I. **President Rachel Barnhart called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.**

II. ROLL CALL:	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED	UNEXCUSED
Denise Dupler		X	X	
Rachel Barnhart	X			
Kevin Howell	X			
Fritzie Nitschke	X (Virtual)			
Linda Whetstone	X			
Karen Chennells	X			
Sky Gettys	X			

Others in attendance: David Couch, Chrissy Berkheimer, Chuck Davis, Jessica Stroup, Kim Foreman, and Shelly Lackey.

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Res. 2025-07-01

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

Discussion: No additions submitted.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

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

Res. 2025-07-02

Linda Whetstone moved to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025, PCBDD regular board meeting, as presented. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

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 reminded Board members that Josh Young, from ONI would be presenting after the board meeting on Supported Decision Making. Next month the training will be on ethics. August 12th and August 13th we will be holding a meeting to begin work on the next strategic plan. Chrissy will send an email reminder in the coming weeks. Jenny's MUI report was included in the packet. MEORC's quarterly report was also included in the packet. Hospitalizations are up in numbers, ours are due to the aging population at Mt. Aloysius, but they are up all over the region. Lyndsay Nash has been appointed Interim Director of DODD. Caley, David, and Ashley met with New Lex to pursue talks about sharing a person in the Cub Academy with Early Intervention services. New Lex is looking into grants to fund the project. David will keep the board updated. We are still waiting to see what the results will be regarding the replacement levy discussions in government. The federal Department of Labor dropped the 14c issue, allowing paying people less than minimum wage. This really does not impact us as PerCo takes care of all of this. David shared he signed a master agreement for admission to developmental centers. No funding changes hands on this agreement, and we currently have no individuals in any centers. David shared that Keny Yuchasz is heading the levy committee. Final approval took place with the commissioners. David shared the levy fact sheet that he wanted Board members to see. Discussion was focused on the wording on the fact sheet. Rachel shared that at the top of the fact sheet she would like to add the 1.5 mil to the additional levy wording. David asked if they would put add a motion to the agenda to approve the fact sheet with changes.

2025-07-07

Sky Gettys moved to approve the 2025 levy fact sheet with the additional wording of 1.5 mil to the top of the fact sheet. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Wording for the top of fact sheet is to read: The November ballot will include an additional levy at 1.5 mil for the Perry County Board of Developmental Disabilities for the purpose of continuing programs for children and adults in our community.

Motion Passed by majority vote. (Fritzie Nitschke abstained)

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

Ashley's report was included in the packet. No discussion.

C. SSA ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – CHUCK DAVIS

Chuck's report was included in the packet. No discussion.

D. COMMUNITY SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT - SHELLY LACKEY

Shelly's report was included in the packet. No discussion.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JESSICA STROUP

Jessica's report was included in the packet. Jessica handed out the 2nd Quarter Progress report to Board members. She noted progress is moving along in all areas.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2025-07-03

Sky Gettys moved to approve expenditures, as presented. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: Kim presented the financials. She shared that revenues were typical. PERS was up due to the three pay periods in May. Expenditures were normal for June. No questions. She did note that at the bottom of the report, Caley put a note for Board members.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VII. OLD BUSINESS: None

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Res. 2025-07-04

Karen Chennells moved to approve the Superintendent to sign the 2025-2026 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. 2025-07-05

Karen Chennells 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. Linda Whetstone seconded the motion.

Discussion: This is a general agreement for the 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 for the Medicaid match. We currently have no individuals placed.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2025-07-06

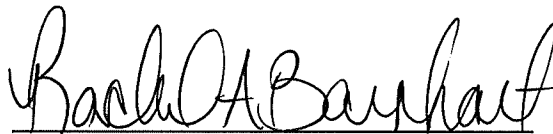
Sky Gettys moved to approve the request for an IO waiver for an individual recently assessed to have an immediate need. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: The person is aging and has increasing medical and daily care needs. She lives with sister who currently works two jobs and does not have the capacity to provide additional support. A Level One Waiver is in place but does not cover the needed services. Additional medical appointments and a home health review are scheduled, which may result in increased home health hours (funded by Medicaid, not the county board), which would decrease the need for waiver hours, but the Level One will be maxed out by the end of August. Approval of an IO now allows us to ensure continuity of care if the home health assessment does not result in increased home health hours.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

X. ADJOURNMENT: Sky Gettys moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:44 pm.



Rachel Barnhart – Board President



Denise Dupler – Board Secretary