

THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
November 12, 2025  
Couch Connections Center, 600 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764

I. President Rachel Barnhart called the meeting to order at 5:53 pm.

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

**Others in attendance:** David Couch, Caley Boyden, Chrissy Cameron, Chuck Davis, Ashley Reed, Jessica Stroup, Kim Foreman, and Shelly Lackey.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Res. 2025-11-01

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

**Discussion:** No additions.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Res. 2025-11-02

Karen Chennells moved to approve the minutes of the October 15, 2025, PCBDD regular board meeting, as presented. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

**Discussion:** None

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote. Sky Gettys abstained.

#### IV. BOARD REPORTS:

##### **A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – CALEY BOYDEN/DAVID COUCH - *Verbal Report***

Caley and David's reports were included in the packet. Jenny's MUI report was included in the packet. Caley started off sharing that as everyone knew, the levy did not pass. We appreciate the support of our community, nonetheless. We will have some decisions to make moving forward. Let's plan for some discussion. Sky shared that he thought we should try again in 2026. David shared with the board that he thinks that as of now, the voters have spoken. He also shared that he did not think the Commissioners would agree to let us back on the ballot in 2026. Caley's thoughts are that we need to wait to see what comes about with the property tax elimination bills that are active. Perry JFS hosted their first "A Night of Hope" and PCBDD supported with attendees. Our own Darlene Denny received an award and one of our other employees had their child receive an award. It was a great night. The Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center expanded on the trial we began last summer and has implemented a new program for local community businesses and their employees. Following the initial trial phase and contract, we have continued to offer this benefit to employees but would like to gradually shift more of the cost to employees over the next three years to align with the new shared costs model developed by the MVESC that draws funding from the State of Ohio, the employer, and the employee. My goal is to keep our cost share around the same level as the initial trial contract period while also not introducing an abrupt increase to our employees that they are not prepared to absorb immediately. Caley shared that the cost would be 1/3 employee, 1/3 employer, 1/3 grant money. Board members shared they wanted to continue with the program and that no motion was needed to continue. David and Caley met with Deputy Kennedy from the PC Sheriff's Department on October 28th. We discussed the future of our partnership and how it could be more beneficial to the PCBDD. The PC Sheriff's Department expanded capacity by hiring a second investigator, and they would like to learn more about our system and developmental disabilities in general. I invited them to our Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders training series, which Deputy Jackson attended and was an active participant in. SNAP benefits were starting to be dispersed which will help families that were not getting help due to the government shutdown. The Community Supports Department staff most heavily involved in Summer Camp planning and oversight developed a draft proposal for changes to Summer Camp for 2026. The SLT has reviewed the changes and agrees with the plan to proceed. The proposal is included with my report for your review and feedback. Shelly went into more detail with the assessments that would take place to decide if our camp was what the child really needed. Getting paid to provide transportation for your own child would be eliminated. Summer camp will be shortened from 8 weeks to 6 weeks. Rachel shared that maybe during the week of Juneteenth that maybe camp could be open on Friday to accommodate for the day off, Shelly made note! Caley's transition to Superintendent is going well. Lastly, Caley congratulated David Couch for being named the 2025 recipient of OACB's Kenneth Legats Award for Visionary Leadership in Administration. This award is a well-deserved recognition of the positive impact David has had on so many. All board members are invited to attend the awards ceremony on November 20th at 5:00 p.m. David shared the New Lexington volleyball full page ad in the Perry County Tribune with PCBDD listed. David shared that he paid for this out of his own pocket. No board money was used. David thanked the board for the support over the years and all their hard work. He shared that he feels even with the levy not passing that PCBDD will continue to move forward. David shared that on 2/1/2026 he will become the part-time CEO of Mt. Aloysius. This is a temporary position to help them move forward.

**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 and Vikki's reports were 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 shared the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Strategic Plan progress report. She would love feedback from the board if they wanted more or less.

**V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:**

**Res. 2025-11-03**

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

**Discussion:** The PC Wellness funds were received. Respite grant funds were received, an unclaimed funds refund, and employee childcare were also received. Operating expenses included transferred funds to MEORC for the Supported Living account, PAT affiliate renewal, HMG outreach, and a full-page ad for National Disability Employment Awareness. Funds were transferred from operating to capital as budgeted. No reserve activity. Kim also shared that there were some changes in the budgets presented in October (no MEORC transfer) due to the levy failing.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**VI. OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Res. 2025-11-04**

**Karen Chennells moved to approve the time and date of the PCBDD Organizational meeting for January 2026, with the Regular board meeting immediately following. Kevin Howell 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. Rachel asked if Wednesdays at 5:00 pm still worked for everyone, and everyone agreed. It was agreed that the January 2026 meeting would take place on Wednesday, January 21, 2026, at 5:00 pm at the Couch Connections Center.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Res. 2025-11-05**

**Kevin Howell moved to approve revisions to PCBDD Policy #408, Employee Ethics, as presented. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** The changes to policy and procedure are based on the following: Outdated policy that needed general updates and amendments suggested to address employee relationships.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Res. 2025-11-06**

**Karen Chennells moved to approve the 2026-2028 Strategic Plan, as presented. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** PCBDD went through rigorous efforts to draft this new 3-year plan. MEORC was once again instrumental in guiding PCBDD to gather data, synthesize results, and develop a plan that not only supports our mission, vision, and values, but that also will move us forward to continuing meeting the needs of people with disabilities and our community.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Res. 2025-11-07**

**Sky Gettys moved to approve the 2026 budget. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** The budget was presented at the October Board training. There were some slight changes that the board reviewed, including no transfer to MEORC.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Res. 2025-11-08**

**Karen Chennells moved to approve the contract for services with PerCo, Inc., as presented. Linda Whetstone seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** These are renewals of current agreements, with the exception of the ALA Volunteer program which was removed due to being in-house. The annual basketball contract will remain separate; all other agreements were combined into one contract. One change in the nursing section, page 2, the rate is \$4500 not \$3000.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Res. 2025-11-09**

**Kevin Howell moved to approve the contract with PerCo, Inc. for the 2025-2026 basketball season, as presented. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** We have done this contract with PerCo for several years. There continues to be high demand for this program, and PerCo has staff interested in facilitating it. The contract has not changed in several years and will remain the same at \$5000.00.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Res. 2025-11-10**

**Karen Chennells moved to adjourn to executive session at 6:55 pm to consider the evaluation of the superintendent. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** None

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**Return from executive session at 7:07 pm.**

**Res. 2025-11-11**

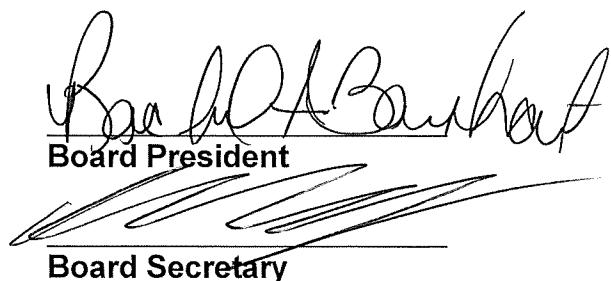
**Fritzie Nitschke moved to approve the Superintendent bonus of \$3000.00 Karen Chennells seconded the motion.**

**Discussion:** The board thanked David for all his years of service and leadership. They shared they think he is leaving PCBDD in good hands with Caley and that they appreciated all he has done to make the leadership team as great as it is.

***Motion Passed*** by majority vote.

**VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

**IX. ADJOURNMENT:** Sky Gettys moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 pm.



The image shows two handwritten signatures. The top signature is for the 'Board President' and the bottom signature is for the 'Board Secretary'. Both signatures are in black ink on a white background.

**Board President**

**Board Secretary**