

**THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2026
Couch Connections Center, 600 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764**

I. **President Rachel Barnhart called the meeting to order at 5:14 pm.**

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

Others in attendance: Caley Boyden, Chrissy Cameron, Chuck Davis, Jessica Stroup, Ashley Reed, Kim Foreman, and Rae Taylor.

III. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Res. 2026-01-01

Karen Chennells moved to approve the January Regular Board meeting agenda and any additions, as submitted. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.

Discussion: Roberts Rules of Order stipulate such a motion for each meeting agenda.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Res. 2026-01-02

Kevin Howell moved to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2025, PCBDD Regular Board meeting, as presented. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IV. BOARD REPORTS:

A. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – CALEY BOYDEN - *Verbal Report*

Caley's report was included in the packet. Jenny's MUI report was included in the packet. Caley shared the information from the OACB Delegate Assembly for the Board to review. Sky attended and the major conversation was about property taxes. Caley shared that we received and she signed the Primary Solutions contract for 2026 for Infallible/Finex accounting and payroll software. The contract was under \$5,000. Infallible will be transitioning to the upgraded web-based Finex platform this year. The SLT discussed the continuation of the bi-annual TWC event, and we would like to see it continue in 2026 despite the levy not passing. We trimmed the budget and are looking at other options to help offset costs, including potential sponsorships (donations). The Board agreed they wanted to continue with the event with some scale back to help with costs. Budget used to be around \$16,000 but we were always under budget. We have cut the budget to \$10,000 and are hoping to secure donations. Discussion about the New Lex School District (NL) & Muskingum Valley ESC (MVESC) partnership for dually served children: This has been in the works, albeit with very little progress, for many months and has finally gained traction. NL, in partnership with the MVESC, would like PCBDD to bill the Ohio Department of Education & Workforce for students dually served by NL and PCBDD to draw down additional funding to offset the cost of education for these students. In exchange, PCBDD would collect an admin fee for its time and efforts. There are other county boards in our region that are also involved, two of which are counties working with the MVESC. Caley has been in discussions with superintendents of those county boards to determine what this would look like and potential requirements and liabilities for the county boards. I would like to continue to explore this opportunity with the option to engage with outside legal counsel for guidance (legal counsel costs shared three ways with Muskingum and Washington CBDDs). Discussion was focused around making sure there would be "real" accountability for what the schools are using the money for. Fritzie questioned how much would "pass through" and Caley shared around \$1 million. Caley is going to push for our Admin fee to be 5%. We will do a 1-year trial period to see how it all works. Caley shared that we hosted a training to OhioRISE. Vikki Waymire (Intake and Eligibility), Chuck Davis, Ashley Reed, and I provided training and education to OhioRISE employees in our region on January 14. Topics included eligibility guidelines and requirements, programs and services offered by the PCBDD, and funding for services with emphasis on waivers. We have learned through experiences and interactions with OhioRISE that each entity does not fully understand the other's services and requirements and hope this will strengthen our relationship and result in better services for youth we support. Talks are in abundance around funding the future. Caley share in light of statewide funding and sustainability concerns shared by DODD and OACB in recent months, county board Superintendents are working with OACB to propose long-term solutions for Ohio's county board system, including prioritizing functions and services what we agree are critical for county boards to continue. Region Five Superintendents meet on January 16 and will share recommendations with the statewide group on January 23. A proactive approach is being taken in hopes that we will have a voice in guiding our future with a new Ohio governor in coming in 2027. Board member training will take place throughout the year. Early Intervention was a topic the Board is interested in and waivers & the waiver waitlist. Chrissy and Caley will coordinate training in the best interest of the Board. Caley forgot to mention that talks are still going on with New Lex for the Developmental Specialist position. Hoping to have a position description by February.

B. SSA ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – CHUCK DAVIS

Chuck's report and Vikki's reports were included in the packet. No discussion.

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

Ashley's report was included in the packet. Ashley shared that Chuck did an amazing job as Santa.

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. No discussion.

V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2026-01-03

Sky Gettys moved to approve the expenditures, as presented. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: Kim's reports were included in the packet.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VI. OLD BUSINESS: None

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

Res. 2026-01-04

Karen Chennells moved to approve the payment of the 2026 Ohio Association of County Boards of DD membership dues for \$16,220.00. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: The OACB provides a collective voice for all of Ohio's 88 County Boards. Our dues remained that same with no increase for 2026.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-01-05

Sky Gettys moved to authorize the Superintendent to approve maximum expenditures of \$3,500.00 for staff in-service trainings/meals/activities, Board trainings/meals, and staff service awards/gifts for 2026. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-01-06

Kevin Howell moved to approve the Superintendent to request three (3) additional Level One waivers throughout 2026, as needed. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: We expect PCBDD's annual match share to be around \$25,000 per person, with an actual cost of around \$18,500 for utilized services. These are offered as appropriate to meet individual needs and are dependent on waiver waiting list status.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-01-07

Karen Chennells moved to approve the use of up to \$658,017.00 of the CY 2026 budget and funds appropriated under section 5123.0413 of the Ohio Revised Code to pay the non-federal share of the services required by section 5126.0511 of the Ohio Revised Code for Medicaid expenditures to assure the services will be available in a manner that conforms to all applicable state and federal laws. It is fully understood the payment of the non-federal share represents an ongoing financial commitment to the Perry County Board of DD. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: This directs the amount of Board funds set aside as Medicaid match in the Board's operating budget. The Board match for Targeted Case Management (TCM) is included in the budget as staff salaries and program costs. Match for private Adult Day Services (ADS) and Transportation, Homemaker Personal Care (HPC) services, and other waivers services is paid to DODD. The motion specifies the amount of Board funds to be used as Medicaid match for the identified services.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-01-08

Kevin Howell moved to approve a one-time payment to be paid the 27th pay period of the year for all management contracts equal to their 2026 bi-weekly payments. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: There are 27 pay periods this year, the first time since 2016. This will allow all contract employees to continue to receive their normal bi-weekly paycheck without interruption.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-01-09

Denise Dupler moved to approve the Table of Organization, effective January 21, 2026, as presented. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: There are five changes requested. The TO has not been revised since November 2024. Four out of five of these changes support fiscal sustainability and a reduced budget approach. Reduce total number of SSAs from nine to eight – There have been multiple vacancies with this position since 2024. Caseloads have been reallocated and the capacity of current SSAs is adequate. One vacancy leaves an opportunity to bring additional staff onboard if needs arise. Reduce number of Early Intervention Service Coordinators from three to two – This position was added in 2024 to train and orient a staff member prior to the position being vacated. That process is complete and there is no current need for three EISCs. Remove Community Supports Coordinator – This position is no longer needed due to PCBDD having two Community Supports Supervisors and two ALA Facilitators who largely support the previous duties of this position. Remove Transitional Assistant Superintendent – This position is no longer needed due to a successful transition of the new Superintendent. Remove SSA Supervisor – The SSA Director is assuming all the responsibilities of this position and has no current issues or concerns with this removal.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-01-10

Kevin Howell moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 6:17 pm to consider the contract of a public employee, the Superintendent. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Return from Executive Session at 6:24 pm.

Additional Motion:

Res. 2026-01-11

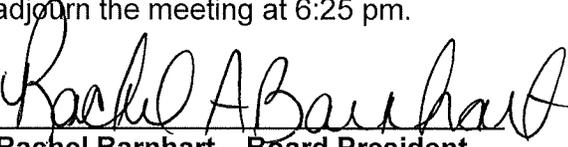
Sky Gettys moved to approve the amendment to the Superintendent's contract. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

IX. ADJOURNMENT: Kevin Howell moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 pm.


Rachel Barnhart – Board President


Denise Dupler – Board Secretary