

THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 18, 2026

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

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

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

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

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Res. 2026-03-01

Kevin Howell moved to approve the March regular Board meeting agenda and any additions, as submitted. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IV. COMMITTEES: An Ethics Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 20, 2026, immediately following the Regular May PCBDD Board Meeting. Chrissy also reminded Board members to email her after reading the quarterly Ohio Ethics newsletters for the annual Ethics training requirement.

V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Res. 2026-03-02

Karen Chennells moved to approve the minutes of February 18, 2026, PCBDD regular Board meeting, as presented. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VI. 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 all the March Awareness activities that are planned for the rest of the month. The Muskingum Valley ESC and New Lex Schools Student Services Agreement has been reviewed by the attorney for the statutes, regulations, and ODEW guidance and has found nothing that prohibits the proposed agreement. He is attempting to schedule a meeting with ODEW and plans to follow up in a week to talk about next steps if he cannot secure a meeting with ODEW. We may choose to proceed without ODEW's blessing, but there may be some risks associated with that. Caley has asked the attorney to explain what risks he foresees in that scenario; that information will be provided with the agreement when available. PCBDD has struggled to build and maintain relationships with our local MH providers over the years, and collaboration is more critical now than ever due to dwindling resources among social services agencies, increasing incidence of mental health and addiction, and DODD eligibility guidelines and diagnosis trends. In the past few months, PCBDD staff attended the Criminal Justice Collaborative and Legislative Breakfast events hosted by the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board, and, most recently, Caley was invited to join a Business Advisory Council for the Perry County Common Pleas Court to advise on the formation and operation of a specialized mental health docket. These opportunities are opening lines of communication and helping establish relationships with local MH leadership. This will continue to be one of her priorities moving forward. Despite David Couch's departure, support and interest for Emerging Leaders remain strong. Beginning with the upcoming Level 4 series that starts in June, Caley will begin facilitating EL sessions with David and Shelly. David plans to continue to facilitate for the foreseeable future, as Mt. Aloysius has a good number of participants in the EL program along with PCBDD and PCJFS staff. EL is strengthening social services leadership countywide and creating positive relationships between the involved agencies. New Lexington School District's Grant's Administrator reached out to PCBDD, PCJFS and (Perry) Behavioral Health Choices about a one-year \$200,000 grant opportunity. The focus of the grant is to identify service gaps and implement evidence-informed support to enhance family stability, and promote safe and healthy homes, and must increase access to services. We will be working together to determine an approach for the application and use of the funds should they be awarded to us. Caley met with CEO David Couch to discuss service gaps for people with developmental disabilities in Perry County and how Mt. Al might help to address those gaps. They are interested in expanding services outside of their Intermediate Care Facility. Placement/care for people with intensive needs was identified as the biggest gap but also the most challenging to address, so it will be a long-term goal.

MOTION ADDED:

Res.2026-03-06

Kevin Howell moved to approve the authorization of new revenue line item "Part B Special Education" to the operating budget with an estimated revenue of \$520,000 in calendar year 2026 and the addition of a new expenditure line item "Part B Special Education" to the operating budget with estimated expenditures of \$520,000 in calendar year 2026. Fritzie Nitschke seconded the motion.

Discussion: These additions are necessary to manage the funding associated with the MVESC Program Agreement for Developmental Disabilities Student Services. Fritzie asked if this was permanent and Caley shared if something goes wrong with the agreement we will rescind the motion, as necessary.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

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

Ashley's report was included in the packet. Karen asked about the different initials in Ashley's report and Ashley explained the different meanings and why we track them. Fritzie asked what Helen did, Ashley explained she is our HMG HV Supervisor and how hard she has been working with all the issues that the team has been experiencing. Caley took this time to share that there have been a lot of big things happening with some of the people we serve and the whole agency has stepped in to help other departments. Caley praised everyone for working together and helping.

C. SSA ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – CHUCK DAVIS

Chuck's report was included in the packet. Vikki's date reports were included in the packet.

D. COMMUNITY SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT - SHELLY LACKEY

Shelly's report was included in the report. Shelly shared the first Handicapable event was held at Sheridan, and it went great.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JESSICA STROUP

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

VII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2026-03-03

Karen Chennells moved to approve the expenditures, as presented. Denise Dupler seconded the motion.

Discussion: Kim shared that we received Title XX Social Service first quarterly payment for FY26, the Part C Early Intervention payment for the second quarter of SFY26, and the Targeted Case Management (TCM) payment for December 2025. Our operating expenditures were for supplies included expense for \$1,870 for Office 365 license and \$2,000 for Pitney Bowes postage, Community Services for the quarterly waiver administration fees paid to DODD and an expense for \$17,166.60 for 2026 guardianship services with ONI/ Clearwater COG, the Waiver Match non-ADS & Day Services Match includes quarterly waiver match payment, and membership dues that included dues to Ohio Provider Resource Association (OPRA), Providers, Advocates, Resources (PAR), and the Partnership for Excellence (TPE). No activity in the capital or reserve funds. We moved one individual from the waiting list and put them on the immediate needs list.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS: None

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

Res. 2026-03-04

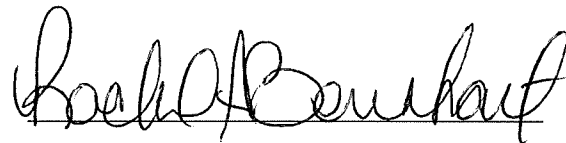
Kevin Howell moved to approve the agreement for the shared Developmental Specialist/FCFC Service Coordinator position to be employed by the Muskingum Valley Educational Service Center. Linda Whetstone seconded the motion.

Discussion: This is a collaboration between the Muskingum Valley ESC, New Lexington City School District, Perry County Department of Job & Family Services, and PCBDD. The position is being employed by the Muskingum Valley ESC to meet PCBDD's needs around Early Intervention, specifically evaluations and assessments and a small ongoing caseload. The shared position will also serve as the Perry County Family and Children First Council Service Coordinator. It will primarily be funded by the GRIT grant through New Lexington City School District and FCFC Administrative grant funds. Additional dollars provided for SFY26 and SFY27 by the Department of Children and Youth to support EI evaluation and assessment will be used to support any share of the costs that is the responsibility of PCBDD. Caley shared they do have a position description and invoicing.

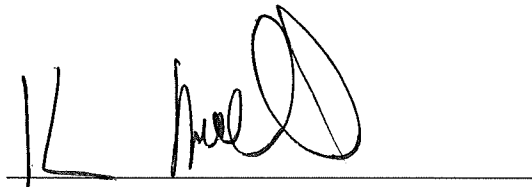
Motion Passed by majority vote.

X. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

XI. **ADJOURNMENT:** Kevin Howell moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:33 pm.



Board President – Rachel Barnhart



Board Secretary – Denise Dupler
VP – Kevin Howell