THE PERRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 23, 2026
Couch Connections Center, 600 Senior Drive, New Lexington, Ohio 43764

I. **President Rachel Barnhart called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.**

II. ROLL CALL:

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

Others in attendance: Caley Boyden, Chrissy Cameron, Ashley Reed, Jessica Stroup, Kim Foreman, Shelly Lackey, and Dianna Ray.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
Res. 2026-09-01
Karen Chennells moved to approve the September regular board meeting agenda, and any additions, as submitted. Linda Whetstone seconded the motion.

Discussion: Roberts Rules of Order stipulate such a motion for each meeting agenda. Board members were each provided with a copy of a handout motion.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

IV. RECOGNITION:
Res. 2026-09-02
Sky Gettys moved to recognize Dianna Ray being awarded the Leader in Excellence. Dianna is being recognized for being a true leader in excellence by demonstrating personal integrity and professional ethical conduct, by exhibiting passion for her job, the PCBDD community, and by going above and beyond to support others in the way she lives through the PCBDD mission. Dianna's efforts, enthusiasm, and passion drive her success and impact the success of the PCBDD. Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: Caley and Shelly shared that Dianna is very deserving of this award. Shelly shared some of the awesome things that Dianna does for the agency throughout the year. Dianna shared her position title and duties. She thanked the Board and the agency.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

V. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Res. 2026-09-03
Karen Chennells moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2026, PCBDD regular board meeting, as presented. Linda Whetstone seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

Motion Passed by majority vote. (Kevin Howell abstained)

VI. BOARD REPORTS:

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

1. Caley's report was included in the packet. Caley shared that OACB is looking for trustees to join their board. She went over some of the requirements. Board members were encouraged to look at the information Caley shared. Jenny's MUI reports were included with Caley's report. Superintendents continue conversations with OACB and DODD to shape a statewide approach. OACB staff and workgroups are working on some of the priorities developed by Superintendents, including OACB Executive Director Adam Herman meeting with the County Commissioners Association of Ohio's Health and Human Services subcommittee to provide education and solicit support for DODD's proposal for the state to assume waiver match liability. OACB is also meeting with gubernatorial candidate teams to discuss DD system concerns and priorities. DODD is working on a one-page document to share with the field so we can begin broader conversations with stakeholders and deliver a united, consistent message across the state. The Sustainability Plan and updated 10-year forecast were submitted to DODD on August 25th due to PCBDD falling in the fiscal "Warning" category based on our 2026 long-term cash projections. I have not received any feedback from DODD, so I assume the plan was acceptable. The two waivers discussed in prior months were requested from DODD, and I had a follow up call with DODD on September 3rd. ICF placement has been prioritized for one individual, so we are exploring ICF options; DODD asked that we notify them if ICF placement can't be found. For the other individual, DODD requested that their Medicaid Level of Care be reassessed before going any further, so we are working with them to facilitate reassessment. We have another new Immediate Need that is not anticipated to be high cost. There is a motion on today's agenda for approval of an IO Waiver for that individual, which will give us the opportunity to discuss how that waiver should be funded. ViaQuest would like to move forward with meetings to discuss building the intensive needs youth home discussed at previous meetings. Mount Aloysius is still working to partner with ViaQuest, and it sounds like they would still be involved in this project. They would like an answer from PCBDD as to whether we too would like to continue to work with them. Board members shared we are not in the position to want to put PCBDD's support behind this. MEORC and our SSAs have established processes for implementing the new InterRAI assessments. Assessments take roughly five hours each at a cost of $65 per hour, although some of that cost will be reimbursed through Targeted Case Management. I have included $12,000 in our 2027 budget for completion of InterRAI assessments.

B. CHILDREN'S PROGRAM DIRECTOR'S REPORT – ASHLEY REED
Ashley's report was included in the packet.

C. SSA ADMINISTRATION DIRECTOR'S REPORT – CHUCK DAVIS
Chuck's report and Vikki's report were included in the packet.

D. COMMUNITY SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT - SHELLY LACKEY
Shelly's report was included in the packet.

E. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORTS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JESSICA STROUP
Jesscia's report was included in the packet.

VII. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES:

Res. 2026-09-04
Sky Gettys moved to approve the financials and expenditures, as presented. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Kim shared in the Operating fund, we received the ODH Home Visiting – Help Me Grow Home Visiting payment. The Title XIX TCM – Targeted Case Management for June 2026 was received. Other money received included $1,000 each from Together We Can (TWC) partners: Buckeye Auto, Mt. Aloysious, and Genesis, and $3,533.79 from the Elks for the Elks National Foundation (ENF) grant. In the Operating fund expenditures, we paid our Day Services Match and Waiver Match (non-ADS), and it also included a supplemental match payment (5th quarter invoice) for FY26 and the first quarter match payment for FY27. No activity in the Capital Improvements or Reserve Funds. Waiver waiting list – 3 immediate needs, up one from last month, current need 6, down one from last month. No discussion on the voucher report.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS: None

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

RES. 2026-09-05
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. The original agreement expired June 30, 2026; this new agreement will keep the position going for SFY27, ending June 30, 2027. Caley did note an error on the first page of the contract. It says 2026 but should say 2027. She said it would be corrected before she signed it.

Motion Passed by majority vote. (Rachel Barnhart and Karen Chennells abstained)

RES. 2026-09-06
Karen Chennells moved to approve the Table of Organization, effective September 23, 2026, as presented. Sky Gettys seconded the motion.

Discussion: TO changes are removing an Administrative Assistant, this position has been vacant since June. Current fiscal status and lack of funds prevent us from filling this position. Removing the Community Supports Supervisor, this position was recently vacated, and the responsibilities have been shifted throughout the Community Supports Department. Our agency no longer requires this position to be filled. Lastly, reduce Service and Support Administrators from eight to seven. This vacancy has been in effect for nearly two years. Currently staff have absorbed and balanced this workload. Agency no longer feels this position needs to be filled.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

RES. 2026-09-07
Kevin Howell moved to approve an IO Waiver for a person assessed to have an immediate need that cannot be met by other resources. Linda Whetstone seconded the motion.

Discussion: Following a recent incident, this person couldn't stay in their home for a period and had to be placed with a paid provider full-time, which exhausted their Level One Waiver. Upon returning home, the person needs increased support that can no longer be covered by a Level One Waiver. Caley recommends keeping this internal and not reaching out to the State for assistance.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

RES. 2026-09-08
Sky Gettys moved to approve revisions to PCBDD Policy #419 "Salaries". Karen Chennells seconded the motion.

Discussion: Policy revisions include minor updates while major updates were made to procedures to provide more clarity and alignment with our current pay philosophy and processes. Linda asked if the agency still used the wage factors and Jessica shared that it is still used.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

Res. 2026-09-09
Karen Chennells moved to approve the contract between Perry County Transit and the Perry County Board of DD for scheduled transportation services, effective August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2027, not to exceed $15,000, as presented. Kevin Howell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Transit provides services for various activities, as scheduled. Where possible we encourage people to access Transit services themselves. The funds from this contract allow Transit to draw down federal funds. Caley shared there was an increase in trip cost, but it was the smallest increase we have had in a while. Shelly also shared we seek reimbursement from Title XX for these services.

Motion Passed by majority vote.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT:
Sky Gettys moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:53pm.

Board President – Rachel Barnhart

Board Secretary – Denise Dupler