



Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Helping people to live, learn and work in our community

2879 Johnstown Road • Columbus, Ohio 43219 • 614-475-6440 • www.fcbdd.org

Jed W. Morison
Superintendent/CEO

REGULAR MEETING

Minutes

February 23, 2023

Board Members Present: John Bickley, Marie Crawford, Samuel Davis, Beth Savage, Marci Straughter, Bill Wilkins

Board Members Excused: Michael Underwood

Management Staff Present: Jed Morison, Jack Brownley, Lee Childs, Gwynn Kinsel, Larry Macintosh, Amy Magginis, David Ott, Rita Price, Dot Yeager

The Regular meeting of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was called to order by Board Vice President Marie Crawford

MINUTES

Mr. Bickley moved to approve the minutes from the Organizational meeting held on January 26, 2023, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Wilkins moved to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held on January 26, 2023, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Budget & Finance Report: Dot Yeager, Chief Business Officer, provided the Budget and Finance report. The Finance Committee has received the January 2023 finance report. Expenditures are at 6% and revenue is at .2%.

Mr. Davis moved to approve the Finance report, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources & Ethics Report: Mr. Bickley reported that the Human Resources Committee has received the recent personnel actions through the end January 2023. Several new hires started after the first of the year. March 1st will kick-off DD Awareness month at the Statehouse. The Early Childhood Education department in partnership with other departments, is planning to host a job fair at 2879 Johnstown Road, in the Early Childhood Education and Family Center on March 25 to keep vacancies at a minimum.

Mr. Bickley moved to approve the Human Resources report, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- The Governor has presented his state budget proposals for the next biennium (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025). The Superintendent distributed a document highlighting the proposals related to persons with disabilities, including:
 - 16.5% increase in rates for Homemaker Personal Care, etc.
 - 10% increase in rates for Adult Services, Transportation, etc.
 - Establishment of new State agency called Ohio Department of Children and Youth, which would consolidate some services from 6 state agencies.
 - Proposal to mandate that County Commissioners appoint a person with a developmental disability to fill vacancy

The Governor's proposals will be considered by the Ohio House of Representatives, then the Senate and back to the Governor by June 30.

- In other Legislative news, House Bill 1 has been introduced and would have significant impact to County Boards, School Districts and other local, levy funded organizations. It would eliminate the state funding property tax 'rollbacks', amounting to 12.5 %, to local governments and it would reduce the assessed value of property by 10%, from 35% to 31.5%. Together, these changes would eventually reduce our levy income by approximately \$36 million/year. Our state association and others will be analyzing this closely.
- We are in the planning stage for our Legislative Advocacy Day, an initiative of our Self-Advocate Advisory Council. It will be held on March 31 at 10:00 a.m. at Bixby Living Skills Center in Groveport. All of our central Ohio Legislators will be invited and self-advocates from Franklin and surrounding counties. We expect over 100 to be in attendance. Christine Brown is doing good work on this.
- Franklin County has six new Legislators – two new Senators (DeMora and Reynolds) and four new State Representatives (Abdullahi, Dobos, Somani and Ismail). We have invited all to visit and learn more about our agency.
- We recently received a request to remove signage at our facilities that include the words "mental retardation." These are signs placed when buildings were new with the name of the Board at that time. "Board of Mental Retardation." We are seriously considering this request. If Board members feel strongly about this, please let Superintendent Morison know.
- Thanks to the efforts of Dot Yeager, we continue with our pilot project related to county funded therapies for children. We began providing this support in 2005, when CAFS funding ended and now serve over 2400 children, with an average cost of \$5,000 per child or close to \$12 million/year. This support has helped with speech, physical, occupational and ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) therapies. Throughout the next several months we plan to look at the success of the pilot and to analyze the current status of this effort to see if we can implement successes learned in the pilot project, where we are the payor of last resort, using health insurance where possible. Maintaining these services with increased sharing of costs and accountability and checks and balances will be the goal.
- Our Special Olympics volunteers raised over \$35,000 in the Polar Plunge, held on February 11, 2023 at the Columbus Crew Stadium. Last night our Special Olympics team hosted a fun, individual skills event at our Bixby Living Skills Center in Groveport with Groveport and Westerville Special Olympics.
- As mentioned in the Superintendent's Board report, the lawsuit filed by Disability Rights Ohio against Governor Kasich and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, six years ago, has been settled. This is related to Intermediate Care Facilities, which continue to serve as an alternative to services, in addition to other community based services.

- We are pleased to report that our second apartment serving multi-system youth at Kimberly Woods has opened. This is the building that was under construction last year when we held our Board retreat there. Boundless continues to provide good services there. We will ask to the Board to approve some updated resolutions related to this service tonight. Superintendent/CEO Morison explained the 4 different resolutions to be considered tonight related to Kimberly Woods and the multi-system youth programs.
- Congratulations to Principal Rebecca Holthaus and several West Central School staff, on a successful webinar on using technology for OCALI and the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.
- Board member Marci Straughter is co-hosting Ohio DD Talks. A recent episode was on 'How to Talk with Legislators.'
- Superintendent Morison polled Board members on the possibility of conducting lunch time meetings instead of evening Board meetings.

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Mr. Bickley moved to ratify bill payments for the past month, approved by the Chief Business Officer, as received by the Finance Committee on February 23, 2023, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Mr. Wilkins moved to proclaim March as DD Awareness Month, second by Mr. Davis. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Ms. Savage moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew agreement with I am Boundless, Inc. for supplemental services for individuals enrolled in the Multi System Youth Pilot Program at Kimberly Woods for the period from March 1, 2023 through February 29, 2024, with an option for one additional twelve month period commencing March 1, 2024, second by Mr. Bickley. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Mr. Davis moved to authorize the Superintendent to amend agreement with I am Boundless, Inc. for the Multi System Youth Pilot Program for the period from March 1, 2022 through February 28, 2023 to change the maximum amount of the final settlement, second Ms. Savage. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Mr. Bickley moved to authorize the Superintendent to amend agreement for the Multi System Youth Program Project Partnership for the period from March 1, 2021 through February 28, 2023, to include the capital expenditures for the project expansion, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. Ms. Savage moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew Memorandum of Understanding for Multi System Youth Pilot Program Project Partnership for the period beginning March 1, 2023 and ending December 31, 2024, with an option to renew for one additional full two-year term, ending on December 31, 2026, with Franklin County Children's Services and other partners, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Mr. Davis moved to authorize Superintendent to renew agreement with OSU Chabad House (Lifetown) for opioid prevention program for the period beginning January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 for an amount not to exceed \$17,000, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.

- h. Mr. Bickley moved to authorize Superintendent to renew agreement with OSU Chabad House (Lifetown) for simulated learning environment services for the period beginning January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in the annual amount not to exceed \$50,000, second by Ms. Savage. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. Mr. Wilkins moved to authorize the Superintendent to go to bid for vending machine services at various locations, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Mr. Bickley asked what the Board could do to help with the legislation related to the tax funding. Superintendent Morison explained that Ohio Association of County Boards is working together with the School Board Association and others on this matter. Ms. Crawford suggested reaching out to previous Board member Dean Fadel.

NEW BUSINESS – none

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Ms. Straughter shared an update related to the Tech Ambassador program. They recently had a showcase of favorite technology used in homes and on their devices. The Tech Ambassador program is hoping to renew a grant that will keep them moving forward. Currently there are 7 tech ambassadors for the Central Ohio area. Ms. Straughter also announced that the CEO of Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) Adam Herman was on 'We Thrive Together,' recently.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC – none

ADJOURNMENT

The February 23, 2023 meeting of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was adjourned by Ms. Crawford.

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Wilkins
Secretary

BW/am