



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

June 24, 2020

Board Members Present via teleconference: Linda Craig, Marie Crawford, Beth Savage,
Michael Underwood, Bill Wilkins

Board Members Excused: John Bickley, Renée Stein

Staff Present via teleconference: Jed Morison, Jack Brownley, Lee Childs, Gwynn Kinsel,
Amy Magginis, David Ott, Dot Yeager

Special Guest via teleconference: Ken Wilson, Franklin County Administrator

The Regular meeting of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was called to order by President Savage.

Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO introduced and thanked Ken Wilson, Franklin County Administrator for attending and sharing with the Board today. Our Board and the Franklin County Board of Commissioners focus on several areas together – budget approval, approval of union contracts, approval of our levy requests and appointing Board Members. Mr. Wilson has been providing great leadership related COVID-19, the current protests and the topic of racism. About a year ago, the commissioner’s approved the 'Rise Together' Blueprint for Franklin County.

Franklin County Administrator Ken Wilson shared about the County’s ongoing work on economic and social injustice and shared the information related to the 2018 ‘Rise Together’ Franklin County blueprint to reduce poverty. This blueprint is action oriented and the cornerstones are: Health, Jobs, Education and Youth. The blueprint contains 13 goals and 120 action steps. We wanted to hear from the residents that suffer from economic segregation, health disparities, and the conditions associated with the disease of poverty. In the process, we conducted many community conversations. Structural Racism must be addressed through action, not just studies, talk or denial. These things were difficult to talk about in the beginning. The Commissioners and Senior Level Management went through the first phase of the Racial Equity Institute using an outside consultant. There are harsh truths that we have to face. Racism has been magnified by the COVID-19 Pandemic and the disparate outcomes impacting African Americans compared to other populations when you look at hospitalization rates. After the Commissioners voted on Racism as a Public Health Crisis Declaration, we had the unrest due to the murders of individuals throughout the country. We’ve been looking at many factors now. Racism has been with us for 400 plus years. Mr. Wilson commended the board for considering joining the Commissioners on Declaring that Racism as a Public Health Crisis. You have to take steps to address the problem, Racism and all of the things connected to it is a gigantic problem to tackle. Every Metro County within the State has adopted a Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Emergency. Franklin

County will propose a resolution at the national level declaring racism as a public health crisis at the National Association of Counties virtual conference. When the City of Columbus also passed their declaration, the private sector provided thousands of signatures which we hope will lead to institutions taking bold measures to address systemic inequalities. The time is now; your board's consideration today will be a part of the change. Thank you for your time.

Superintendent/CEO Morison thanked Mr. Wilson, for his administration and leadership. The Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities has been doing some work in this area for the past 2 years. We have used the Kirwan Institute for training on Implicit Bias. The Superintendent attended Racial Inequality Sessions with the County Leadership, and we have established an Equity Committee chaired by EEO Officer and Legal Counsel Gwynn Kinsel and Director of Early Childhood Education Becky Love. Our Service Coordination Department held a Town Hall Meeting on Friday, June 19, 2020 – which was Juneteenth. We hope to 'move the needle' on the topic of racism. Recently, the Superintendent submitted written testimony to the Senate for Senate Concurrent Resolution 14 asking the State to declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis. Mr. Morison thanked Mr. Wilson for sharing some of the background of this with everyone.

Board President Savage thanked Administrator Ken Wilson for all that they are doing and our Board is here to help in any way possible.

Mr. Wilson shared that Commissioner Kevin L. Boyce testified in favor of SCR 14, as well as many other members of the community. We need as many individual residents as possible to get behind this to make Ohio the first state to make racism a public health crisis. The SCR 14 is sponsored by Senator Sandra Williams and Senator Hearcel Craig. Mr. Wilson stated that it will take all of us to get behind this.

MINUTES

Ms. Crawford moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held via teleconference on May 14, 2020, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Budget & Finance Report: Chief Business Officer Dot Yeager provided the Budget and Finance report to Board members. Dot reported that revenue is at 49.1%, the next installment is expected in August. Expenditures are at 39.8%, and is consistent with expectations at this time of year.

Human Resources & Ethics Report: Human Resources Director David Ott provided the Human Resources report to the Board members indicating that May was a very light month for hiring and separations due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. No hiring was done in May due to a 'soft' freeze on hiring to assess where we stand with COVID-19 Pandemic. Mr. Ott indicated that there has been an increase in unemployment claims primarily due to seasonal employment, COVID-19 and reach-back provisions, whereby individuals were unemployed by other organizations but were previously employed by FCBDD.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- ◆ Individuals, families, Providers and staff are continuing to do good work to keep people safe during this COVID-19 Pandemic. While, we are sad to have had three deaths since March, there have been no increases since the last report. The contract you authorized to have a quarantine/ isolation site with Columbus Center for Human Services has been

very helpful. Thanks to Larry Macintosh for coordinating this. The age group with the most cases is now the 30-39 age group. Previously it was 20-29 year olds.

- ◆ Dot and I continue to participate in daily meetings with the Commissioners and Health Commissioner on COVID-19 and for the past several weeks there has been much discussion on the protests and racism. Our Commissioners and their staff are providing good leadership.
- ◆ With COVID-19, finances have been altered with some increased expenditures and some decreases. Dot Yeager will continue to follow this closely but our current analysis indicates our finances continue to be stable. Increased expenditures center around more homemaker personal care, protective equipment, technology and we will not receive our family resources allocation from the state. Decreased expenses include less adult day support, enhanced FMAP, less non-medical transportation. We will have additional cost to fund the Direct Service Professional (DSP) wage increase that was approved by the legislature.
- ◆ School planning continues. Our current plan is for school and preschool staff to return on August 24. West Central will operate five days per week for students with no more than eight in a class. Preschool students will attend alternating weeks with remote learning on the other week with no more than nine students per class.
- ◆ Last week we notified Bus Drivers of our plans, and also indicated if, per chance, we can't open school, we will work to find alternative assignments including alternate community transportation routes. All plans are subject to change pending the Governor's or Health Department guidance.
- ◆ Our Service Coordination Department had a town hall meeting last week on the topic of racism. It was excellent and included thoughtful presentations from staff on their personal and work experiences. We are in the process of establishing an agency Equity Committee to focus on discrimination and how we can support staff. Gwynn Kinsel and Becky Love will co-chair the committee.
- ◆ As you noticed in the Board packet, there are some policy revisions recommended. Thank you to Dot and Gwynn for developing these recommendations consistent with Clark, Schaeffer, Hackett report recommendations. A new policy is included related to Flexible Schedules.
- ◆ Our next Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2020. If okay with the Board, this time of 11:30 a.m. seems to work well for a virtual meeting.
- ◆ The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Accreditation has been postponed. This is expected to occur in November or December, 2020.
- ◆ The Superintendent recently provided written testimony on Senate Concurrent Resolution 14.
- ◆ Tomorrow and next week, we will meet with County Commissioners during their briefings in General Session to pass a resolution to finalize the sale of the Checkrein Building to Boundless, Inc. (formerly Franklin County Residential Services). This is the building next door to ARC Industries North.
- ◆ The Board received a report from Christine Brown.

RESOLUTIONS

- a. Mr. Underwood moved to ratify bill payments for the past month, approved by the Chief Business Officer, as presented via electronic means to Board members on the Finance Committee on June 24, 2020, second by Ms. Craig. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Ms. Craig moved to endorse the Franklin County Commissioners' Declaration of Racism as a Public Health Crisis dated May 19, 2020 and concurring with the Franklin County Public Health Department and the Franklin County Commissioners that racism is a public health crisis, second by Mr. Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Ms. Crawford moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with Alvis House for behavior support services, at specified rates per hour, for the period beginning July 1, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2021, second by Mr. Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Ms. Craig moved to authorize the Superintendent to submit the Capital and Information Technology Budget to the Franklin County Office of Management and Budget and to submit the long-range capital plan, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Mr. Underwood moved to authorize Superintendent to renew agreement with Child Development Council of Franklin County (Head Start) to rent three classrooms at Northeast Center for a monthly amount of \$978, second by Ms. Craig. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. Ms. Crawford moved to approve revision to Board Policies 11.25 – Purchasing and 11.29 – Grant Funds in the Board Policy Manual, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Mr. Underwood moved to adopt Board Policy 7.12 – Flexible Work Schedule, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Ms. Craig moved to authorize the Superintendent to accept bid for Exterior Door Replacements Project from Setterlin Building Company in the base bid amount of \$426,500 and a contingency of \$40,000, second by Mr. Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. Mr. Wilkins moved to authorize the Superintendent to accept bid for 2020 Roof Improvements at various sites from J & P Caulking, Inc., in the base bid amount of \$237,000 and a contingency of \$35,000, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- j. Mr. Underwood moved to authorize Superintendent to renew lease of 1650 Watermark through October 31, 2025, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- k. Ms. Craig moved to authorize Superintendent to accept bids for alternate transportation services from the following companies: Bobcat Radio Services, Bobcat Taxi, FM Transportation, Franklin Transportation Resources, GL Transportation, JDT Transportation Group, Kemper Shuttle, Metro Transit, Metro Transportation, One for All, Quick Transportation, Safelift, ZipMobility2Go and in addition, an authorization to request a proposal from and enter into contract with Columbus Green Cab, second by Mr. Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.
- l. Ms. Crawford moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for behavior support services, at specified rates per hour, for the period beginning July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2021, not to exceed \$2,004,000, second by Mr. Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.

- m. Mr. Underwood moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for the PIECE Transition Services project for the period beginning June 1, 2020 and ending August 31, 2020, not to exceed the amount of \$51,000, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion carried unanimously.
- n. Ms. Crawford moved to revise the 12 month calendar for the 2020/2021 program year to add Friday, June 18, 2021 as a paid holiday in place of October 12, 2020, second by Ms. Craig. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - none

NEW BUSINESS –

ANNOUNCEMENTS -

Jed reminded Board members that typically in August there is not a scheduled meeting. If a special meeting is necessary, Board members will be contacted to check dates and times.

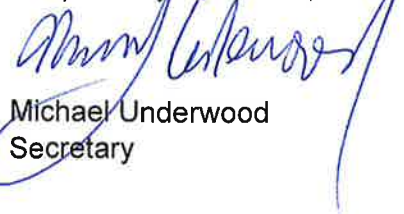
HEARING OF THE PUBLIC -

Christine Brown informed the Board that OSU Nisonger Center has taken the lead to create the COVID-19 Survey that focuses on individuals with intellectual disabilities. The survey has been adapted to a 4.7 grade reading level and will be sent out nationally. The goal is to show states and congress that people with disabilities have experienced both the good and the bad of this Pandemic. Jed Morison, Superintendent/CEO shared that the survey went out to the FCBDD NewsBits list. Board President Savage thanked Christine for her efforts on the survey.

ADJOURNMENT

The June 24, 2020 meeting of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was adjourned by Ms. Savage.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Underwood
Secretary

MU/am