



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
May 20, 2021

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

Staff Present via teleconference: Jed Morison, Jack Brownley, Lee Childs, Angie Franke,
Lindsay Holt, Gwynn Kinsel, Amy Magginis, David Ott,
Rita Price, Dot Yeager

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

MINUTES

Mr. Bickley moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting held via teleconference on April 22, 2021, second by Ms. Crawford. 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 70% and expenditures are at 27% at the end of April. Revenue is higher than expected due to one time cost settlements for 2017 and 2018 issued from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD). DODD also referenced Provider Rate Increases. Dot shared details of the Capital and Technology Long Term Budget plans, including identifying and planning for major projects. A third party vendor does roof inspections on our county owned buildings to anticipate large roofing expenses. We are not anticipating needing vehicle replacements this year or next. The Information Technology expectations continue to evolve and are increasingly essential. Focus on assistive technology in the classroom and hardware/tools may change over time. Security and disaster planning continues to be a focus.

Superintendent Morison provided a reminder that we continue to maintain the buildings for many adult services programs. Technically, the Franklin County Commissioners own the buildings; however, we purchased them and maintain the buildings.

Mr. Bickley asked where the funding comes from for the provider rate increase? Dot Yeager reported that the Enhanced Federal Medical Assistance Payment (EFMAP) funding is generated from the county paying less in Medicaid match, which helps with the funding.

Human Resources & Ethics Report: Human Resources Director David Ott provided the Human Resources report to the Board members indicating that April had light activity. The month of May should see increased activity due to retirements and hiring for the next school year. We continue to see some COVID-19 leave requests, not as many but still occurring. Unemployment fraud is a national problem but continues to affect the county. Appeals are being made to those claims that are fraudulent.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- ◆ First, thank you to all of the Board members who responded to the date change for our June meeting so you can consider the bids for the Early Childhood Learning Community door project. If approved, this will allow us to get started on the project sooner so it can be finished by the start of school. The June Board meeting will be on June 10 at 11:30 a.m., rather than June 24.
- ◆ The Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Governor provided some interesting news this past week. The CDC indicated that those who are fully vaccinated no longer need to wear masks or social distance, with some exceptions. The Governor indicated that the Health Department will lift all orders on June 2, 2021 with some exceptions, such as assisted living and nursing homes.
- ◆ Our Health Commissioner stated that the reason for the CDC Guidance was that research was showing that the efficacy of the vaccines was excellent. Not only does the vaccine prevent people from getting the virus, it also results in low transmission. The Health Commissioners also remind us that we are still in a pandemic with less than 50% of our county residents vaccinated.
- ◆ We will wait for additional guidance from our state and local health departments before making changes and expect safety protocols to remain the same for school year.
- ◆ West Central held their virtual graduation last night. Jill Hicks, Dr. Maryalice Turner, Principal and our staff have done an excellent job with this. Each graduate is recognized in the video that all families have received, which included some graduation speakers.
- ◆ Rita Price and Amy Magginis also prepared a beautiful and fitting tribute to all the graduates, which will be included in the next 'Dateline'. Feedback from students, parents and staff has been very positive.
- ◆ The current school year for the Early Childhood and School programs will end on Friday, June 4. It has been quite a year! Students, families and staff have done an exceptional job. We have been in-person almost the entire year, with an extended winter break when the virus spiked.
- ◆ Thanks to the efforts of Jack Brownley, Director of Schools and Special Services, some families are able to take advantage of the Pandemic-Electronic Benefits Transfer (P-EBT) program. This program provides food assistance for low-income students who could not attend school and receive free school breakfasts or lunches. P-EBT allows families to get additional SNAP (formerly food stamps) credit to purchase food.
- ◆ We have received our accreditation from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, effective May 1, 2021.

- ◆ Discussions are continuing with the state budget. Providers have requested a 5% provider rate increase; however, an amendment has not yet been introduced. County Boards have had discussions regarding the need to support providers so they can give an increase in pay to direct service professionals (DSPs). We have indicated we would financially support a 2% increase in provider rates with the understanding that the state contribute also. Per discussion with our Finance Committee, we continue to look at our long term financial commitments throughout the levy period. Enhanced FMAP funding has allowed county boards to help, but we continue to recognize that Enhanced FMAP is temporary and rate increases are permanent.
- ◆ The OACB Spring Conference is still in session this week and will include seminars next week. OACB has done a very good job with this virtual conference.
- ◆ We continue to remind people of the importance of vaccines. Included in the resolutions for Board consideration today, we are asking that the Board approve administrative leave, rather than sick leave, for staff to use when they get vaccinated.
- ◆ Franklin County Commissioner Marilyn Brown announced her resignation as commissioner, effective Friday, May 14, 2021. Commissioners Boyce and O'Grady will appoint an acting Commissioner until the Democratic party reappoints.

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 May 20, 2021, second by Mr. Bickley. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Mr. Bickley moved to approve paid administrative leave for employees needing time off on their day(s) to get the COVID-19 initial vaccine shots and up to 8 hours on the day following the COVID-19 vaccine shot(s), if required due to illness, retroactive to January 1, 2021, consistent with federal guidance, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Mr. Underwood moved to renew contract of Superintendent/CEO Jed Morison, effective June 1, 2021, second by Mr. Bickley. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Ms. Crawford moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with the Ohio State University College of Education (Buckeye Behavior Support) to provide support in early language, functional communication, beginning reading skills and behavioral supports for the year beginning August 1, 2021 and ending July 31, 2022 at a total cost not to exceed \$79,213, second by Ms. Craig. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Mr. Bickley to renew agreement with Easter Seals Central and Southeast Ohio, Inc., for early intervention services for toddlers not to exceed the amount of \$945,467 for the period beginning August 1, 2021 and ending July 31, 2022, second by Mr. Underwood. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. 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 Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – none

NEW BUSINESS – none

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Superintendent Morison thanked the Board for supporting us throughout the past year and school year. Families have appreciated the fact that we have continued services throughout the pandemic. Board President Savage thanked the 'incredible' Franklin County Board of DD staff that make sure that services are provided every day.

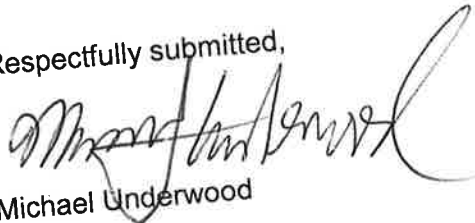
Jed announced a possible in-service for the Board members at the June 10, 2021 meeting.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC – Christine Brown provided updates on the Nisonger Institute, possible replacements for Senator Steve Stivers, support for the Senior Care Act, Waiver Simplification Group, Medicaid funding for Applied Behavior Analysis or Clinical Therapeutic Intervention, Specialized Medical Equipment and the Self Directed Transportation services. The Self-Advocate Advisory Council will meet on June 10th.

ADJOURNMENT

The May 20, 2021 meeting of the Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael Underwood
Secretary

MU/am