



**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**

**March 23, 2023**

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

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

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

**MINUTES**

Mr. Bickley moved to approve the minutes from the Regular meeting held on February 23, 2023, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.

**REPORTS**

Budget & Finance Report: Dot Yeager, Chief Business Officer, provided the Budget and Finance report. The Finance Committee has received the February 2023 finance report. Expenditures are at 9.4% and revenue is at .6% Ms. Yeager provided an update on PDGS and the Department of Developmental Disabilities recent audit.

Ms. Crawford moved to approve the Finance report, second by Mr. Wilkins. Motion passed unanimously.

Human Resources & Ethics Report: David Ott, Director of Human Resources provided the Human Resources report. The committee has received the recent personnel actions through the end February 2023. March 17 was Staff Development Day for Transportation, Schools and ECE. March is DD Awareness month. The Self-Advocate Advisory Council will host Legislative Advocacy Day at Bixby on March 31. FCBDD is co-sponsoring a webinar on adaptive video gaming. Rita Price, Communications Coordinator has collaborated with the Columbus Library to bring focus on books related to developmental disabilities. March 25 a job fair will be hosted at the Early Childhood Education and Family Center. Spring recess begins on April 10. Operation Feed will be in April. Food trucks, collection of food and of monetary donations to the Mid Ohio Food Collective will be promoted.

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

## SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Thanks for changing the time for the Board meeting. This Noon hour will work well and meetings that are held here at our Board room will be on Zoom.
- We are excited about our “Legislative Advocacy Day” which will be held on Friday, March 31 from 10:00 a.m. to Noon at our Bixby Center, 4200 Bixby Road in Groveport. We expect over 150 people to be in attendance. This is an initiative of our Self-Advocate Advisory Council and will be an opportunity for self-advocates to provide their suggestions to legislators in attendance. ARC Industries and the Ohio Self Determination Association are co-sponsors. We hope some Board members will be able to attend. Christine Brown has done excellent work on this. We have received approval for Board In-Service credit for this as well.
- State budget hearings are underway. Three significant proposals being discussed are:
  - Additional funding for provider rates to increase average wages of DSPs
  - Mandate for Commissioners to appoint a person with developmental disability to Boards of DD
  - Establishment of Ohio Department of Children and Youth Services, new state agency
- Based on previous recommendation from Board members, we are planning to have our May Board meeting at West Central School, 1481 West Town Street, at Noon. Staff are doing great work at West Central.
- Our Provider Fair will be held on Thursday, April 27 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Lausche Building on the Ohio State Fairgrounds. We call it the “World’s Largest Provider Fair.”
- ARC Industries will have a ribbon cutting and open house at their new Marlane Drive facility in Grove City on April 26, 2023. Individuals living at Heinzerling will receive services at this newly renovated site.
- Our job fair will be held on this Saturday, March 25, 2023 at our Early Childhood Education and Family Center from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Staff have done excellent work preparing for this.
- President Biden has indicated that the Public Health Emergency will end on May 11, 2023. This emergency designation was established in 2020 due to COVID. For 6 months after May 11, 2023, or until November, many of the rule revisions will remain in place. In November, rules or “flexibilities” will return to pre-pandemic status unless they are adopted permanently.
- Recently, Larry Macintosh and the Superintendent, met with the Ohio Association of Direct Service Professionals to discuss additional ways we could assist with the workforce shortage. They have two initiatives that we would like to support. One would be to purchase a license for a DSP curriculum that could be used by us and all school districts to train potential DSPs and the other is a proposal to support production of 6 videos to assist with recruitment of DSPs. We will request Board approval today.
- Board members have received a copy of the 2022 Annual Report. Despite the pandemic, we had a good year. Special thanks to Rita Price, Amy Magginis and Carl Scott for the excellent work on the report.

- We are in the process of taking a closer look at our county or locally funded therapy program. The Superintendent distributed a brief description of the program with plans to review. This is the program I referenced last month where we serve over 2000 individuals at a cost of close to \$12 million.
- Finally, want to update you on House Bill 1 which would change the way property taxes are paid and provide a flat income tax. We have been in meetings with our Association, OSBA and others (including discussion with Dean Fadel). Due to several complications with the bill, it is not expected to pass, however it is expected that discussions will continue on the concepts.

## 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 March 23, 2023, second by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Ms. Savage moved to authorize Superintendent to renew a contract with Childhood League for early intervention and preschool services not to exceed the amount of \$1,223,099 for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, second by Mr. Bickley. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Mr. Bickley moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for early intervention and pre-school services for a one-year term, ending June 30, 2024, for an amount not to exceed \$857,777, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Ms. Straughter moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for dental services for a one-year term, ending June 30, 2024, for an amount not to exceed \$359,731, second by Mr. Davis. Motion carried unanimously.
- e. Mr. Davis moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for dual diagnosis services, not to exceed the amount of \$146,380, for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, second by Mr. Bickley. Motion carried unanimously.
- f. Ms. Straughter 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 August 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, not to exceed the amount of \$56,807, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- g. Ms. Savage moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for behavior support services, not to exceed the amount of \$1,900,000, for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, second by Mr. Bickley. Motion carried unanimously.
- h. Ms. Straughter moved to authorize the Superintendent to renew a contract with The Ohio State University Nisonger Center for social support and recreation services, including Next Chapter Book Club, not to exceed the amount of \$211,415, for the period beginning July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- i. Mr. Bickley moved to authorize the Superintendent to contract with the Ohio Association of Direct Service Professionals for annual licensing of the DSP curriculum and assistance with the DSP videos to assist with workforce shortage in an amount not to exceed \$21,000, second by Ms. Crawford. Motion carried unanimously.
- j. Ms. Savage moved to renew the Superintendent contract, effective June 1, 2023, seconded by Ms. Straughter. Motion carried unanimously.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – none

**NEW BUSINESS** – Board member Straughter provided an update related to the Tech Ambassadors. Discussion of a possible presentation by George Meyers (Coordinator of the Tech Ambassadors) at our West Central smart apartment.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – Superintendent/CEO Morison noted that Ms. Straughter was asked to serve as host to facilitate the program OhioDDtalks – she recently interviewed a person who served with her on the council. Sherry Cooper is co-host with Marci.

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC** – Christine Brown provided an update on Legislative Advocacy Day. She provided discussion on the possibility of a Smart Home that an individual could stay in for a set amount of time to experience what living in a Smart Home would be like. Cuyahoga County has set up this type of environment for individuals to test. Ms. Brown suggested that Creative Housing could possibly set up this type of program. Ms. Brown also discussed the concept of Payer of last resort as it relates to applied behavior analysis and therapies. Christine recently testified at the budget hearings.

Board member Straughter suggested that people who are using remote supports/ smart technology could do videos to show people how living with this technology can work.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Respectfully submitted,



Bill Wilkins  
Secretary

BW/am