



*"The mission of the Erie County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to:
Inspire, empower, and support individuals and their families."*

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

4405 Galloway Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2023

PRESENT

Board Members: Dave Danhoff, Eric Kibler, Katelyn Miller, and Mary Peters.

ECBDD Staff: Carrie Beier, Michelle Kelley, and Rachel Malone.

VISITORS SIGNED IN

Diane Corso and Felicia Zendejas.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The March 16, 2023, Board Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President, Mr. Dave Danhoff.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken. Mrs. Stacie Schmid was absent excused, and Mr. Mark Harrington was absent. All other Board Members were present.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

V. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 16, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Eric Kibler made a motion to approve the February 16, 2023, Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

VI. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. **Ethics Committee Report:** The Ethics Committee did not meet.

B. Finance Committee

1. Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met this month. Rachel Malone reported that the February financials were reviewed by the Finance Committee. Rachel shared the following highlights:

- Revenue and expenses were on target for YTD.
- A budgeted transfer of funds occurred, from the general fund to waiver funds, to cover match dollars.
- House Bill 1 was discussed.

2. Fiscal Report

The Fiscal Report for Month Ending February 28, 2023, was provided for review and approval (handout). Mrs. Katelyn Miller made a motion to approve the February Fiscal Report as submitted. Mr. Eric Kibler seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

3. Then and Now Resolution- Payment to City of Sandusky

Resolution #: 03-02-2023

The Erie County Commissioners require a Board **THEN and NOW resolution** for expenses that are being submitted for payment without a previously encumbered purchase order. This **THEN and NOW resolution** confirms that the DD Board had insufficient money in the budget at year end **2022** (THEN) and has sufficient money in the expense line item in **2023** (NOW) to pay this invoice.

RESOLUTION OF THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DD FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO City of Sandusky.

The Erie County Board of DD met this **16th DAY OF MARCH 2023**. Mr. Eric Kibler introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, CITY OF SANDUSKY (reimbursement of November 2022 Individual Budget services (inv #1018041) requires payment for goods and/or services provided; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DD:

THAT CITY OF SANDUSKY, is herewith approved for payment in the amount of \$4,138.54 (Four Thousand, One Hundred, Thirty-eight Dollars and 54/100 Cents) provided for the Erie County Board of DD out of appropriation account #20110-6524-530000 Individual Budget Services Line.

THAT the Erie County Board of DD hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board; and that all deliberations of this Board and of its committees, if any, which result in formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public, in full compliance with the applicable legal requirements of the Revised Code.

Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion for the adoption of said resolution; and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

David Danhoff AYE
Eric Kibler AYE
Katelyn Miller AYE
Mary Peters AYE

Adopted: YES

4. **Then and Now Resolution- Payment to Mobility Works**
Resolution #: 03-03-2023

The Erie County Commissioners require a Board **THEN and NOW resolution** for expenses that are being submitted for payment without a previously encumbered purchase order. This **THEN and NOW resolution** confirms that the DD Board had insufficient money in the budget at year end **2022** (THEN) and has sufficient money in the expense line item in **2023** (NOW) to pay this invoice.

RESOLUTION OF THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DD FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO WMK LLC dba MOBILITYWORKS.

The Erie County Board of DD met this **16th DAY OF MARCH 2023.** Mr. Eric Kibler introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS WMK LLC dba MOBILITYWORKS (reimbursement of NOVEMBER 2022 services (inv #1018059) requires payment for goods and/or services provided; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DD:

THAT WMK LLC dba MOBILITYWORKS is herewith approved for payment in the amount of \$18,804.00 (Eighteen Thousand, eight hundred and four dollars and 00/100 Cents) provided for the Erie County Board of DD out of appropriation account #20110-6524-530000 Individual Support and Services Line.

THAT the Erie County Board of DD hereby finds and determines that all formal actions relative to the adoption of this resolution were taken in an open meeting of this Board; and that all deliberations of this Board and of its committees, if any, which result in formal action, were taken in meetings open to the public, in full compliance with the applicable legal requirements of the Revised Code.

Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion for the adoption of said resolution; and the roll being called upon its adoption, the vote resulted as follows:

David Danhoff AYE
Eric Kibler AYE
Katelyn Miller AYE
Mary Peters AYE

Adopted: YES

5. 2023 Draft Budget

The 2023 Budget was recently approved by the Erie County Commissioners. A copy of the 2023 Budget was provided to Board Members.

C. Policy Committee Report

The Policy Committee reviewed two policies in March. These policies were the:

- Transportation Policy (policy being terminated)
- Eligibility & Enrollment Policy (reviewed and revised)

The Transportation Policy is being terminated as we no longer provide Transportation Services. No action is needed by the Board.

The Eligibility & Enrollment Policy was reviewed and revised. The Policy Committee recommended Board approval of this policy. Mrs. Katelyn Miller made a motion to approve this policy as revised. Mr. Eric Kibler seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Board Member Open Seat Update

Carrie Beier remains in contact with the Erie County Commissioners Office to seek a replacement for the open Board Member seat.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Board Member ORC Language Change

Carrie Beier informed Board Members of the proposed language change to mandate the appointment of a person eligible for services from a county board of DD to be appointed to a county board as soon an opening occurs.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Carrie attended the following in-person/virtual/remote meetings, trainings, and activities: Ohio Provider Resource Association, Provider Friday Five's virtual, Ohio Association of County Boards Superintendent Executive Committee meeting, Clearwater Council of Government Board meeting, Kiwanis meeting, Rotary meeting, Region 1 Superintendent meeting, United Way Board meeting, Erie County Executive Council, FCFC Executive Committee meeting, Gov. Committee Early Childhood Advisory, Early Intervention Committee OACB, Inclusion and Diversity Training, Women in Leadership North Point ESC, Goodwill 50th Anniversary Open House, Chamber Government Affairs Committee meeting, Early Intervention Statewide Advisory meeting, and Business Manager/Superintendent Training OACB.
- **Media/Public Relations:**
 - Sandusky Register articles (handout):
 - *An evening at the park*- February 18-19, 2023
 - *Board recognizing Developmental Disabilities Awareness month*- February 28, 2023
 - *Theater screening sensory-friendly flick*- March 9, 2023
 - Community Connections Calendar- visit the ECBDD website at www.eriecbdd.org/events for our full calendar of events.

- **Personnel:**
 - Erin McDougall (SSA Manager) has resigned, and we have posted to fill her position.
 - We held our first virtual Professional Development training sessions on Abuse and Neglect reporting, Diversity and Gender Identity, and Firelands Forward workforce updates.
- **Erie County Providers:** Providers are receiving retention bonus payments funded by each local county board throughout the state of Ohio. We are continuing to support a group of our local providers through Firelands Forward Employee Resource Network Services.
- **Clearwater Council of Government:** We will be planning to develop additional supports and training for transition age youth and their families for 2024. This is a new multi county effort.
- **Strategic Planning:** Lori Sandel our initial lead facilitator with the Impact Group has taken a new position and left the Impact Group. Tom Speaks will take over as lead facilitator moving forward for the ECBDD Strategic Planning events and activities.
- **Awareness Erie DD:** In partnership with our local movie theater, Cinemark, we hosted a sensory friendly movie event on March 11, *The Amazing Maurice* (76 people registered).
- **OACB - DODD: Update:** Testimony is ongoing regarding the proposed Governor's Budget. DODD, OACB, individuals with developmental disabilities, Providers, OPRA, and many more testified on March 14th before the House Finance Health and Human Services Budget Subcommittee. The focus of the testimony was to address the workforce crisis and need for Direct Service Providers wage increase. (See handout on DSP workforce crisis.) If you are interested in more detail regarding the testimony given, I can forward information to you.

Governor's proposed 2024 -2025 Biennium Budget (DD highlights):

- In the Governor's Budget, requested and supported by DODD, statutory changes to mandate the appointment of a person eligible for services from a county board of DD to be appointed to a county board as soon an opening occurs. This is set to be implemented July 1, 2023. Language for this proposal is being discussed, to clarify all responsibilities and requirements, should a county not have a qualified and interested individual available or willing to serve.
- The Governor's Budget also transfers the responsibility for Early Intervention and Early Childhood Education/Preschool from DODD and ODE, respectively, to the new Ohio Department of Children and Youth. This is introduced in his budget as a new agency (see handout).
- OACB and industry stakeholders are lobbying during this state budget season to increase Medicaid reimbursement to increase the wage for Direct Service Providers and support other services and programs. The following increases, listed below, are proposed in the Governor's Budget, which is now being debated in the House. It will then go to the Ohio Senate and then to the Budget Committee for final approval to begin July 1, 2023:

Additional State Funds: Homemaker Personal Care (HPC) Rates

- HPC and related services (on-site on-call, shared living, remote support, and respite) increase by approximately **16.5%**, bringing

the average hourly wage component for Direct Service Professionals (DSPs) to approx. \$16/hour for these services. These increases are funded exclusively with state general revenue fund (GRF) dollars and do not include any local funding component.

- **All waiver add-ons** – including Behavior, Medical, Complex Care, and Competency-Based Add-Ons – will *also* increase by **16.5%**. These increases are funded exclusively with state general revenue fund (GRF) dollars and do not include any local funding component.

Additional State Funds: Other Waiver Services

- Rates for following waiver services will increase by **10%**:
 - Adult Day Support (ADS)
 - Vocational Habilitation (VH)
 - Non-Medical Transportation
 - Individual Employment Support
 - Group Employment Support
 - Career Planning
 - Transportation
 - Self-Directed Transportation
- In addition to the 10% rate increase described above, one-time state funds in the amount of **\$30 million** will be set aside for ADS/VH services in FY 2024 to help implement the changes recommended through the so-called "Blueprint" effort. More information on how these funds are intended to be used will be shared as it becomes known.
- All of these increases are funded exclusively with state general revenue fund (GRF) dollars and do not include any local funding component.

Intermediate Care Facilities (ICF) Rate Increases

- Baseline rates for ICFs will be allowed to increase in accordance with the statutory formula.
- In addition, each year of the biennium will see a 6.5% add-on to the direct care component of ICF reimbursement after the statutory growth formula has completed.
- Funding for the so-called "vent add-on" to support those who use a ventilator at an ICF will increase from \$300 to \$900 per day.
- All of these increases are funded exclusively with state general revenue fund (GRF) dollars and do not include any local funding component.

House Bill 1 – Tax Reform: With the 135th General Assembly underway, there are a number of policy matters under consideration, which may very well impact the business climate in local communities across the state. This legislation is in the very early stages and is not finalized and will undergo a number of changes during legislative deliberations. One item being discussed is to decrease from 35% to 31.5%, the percentage of real property's value that is subject to taxation and indexes that 31.5% rate so it decreases in proportion to the increase in inflation. We are staying abreast of these discussions and will be advocating appropriately.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

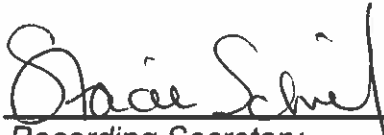
There was no Executive Session.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Eric Kibler made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:25 p.m. Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion. With all members in favor the motion passed, and the March Board meeting was adjourned.

XII. STRATEGIC PLANNING

Tom Speaks from the Impact Group met with Board Members to perform a SWOT (Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities, Threats) Analysis. The meeting began at approximately 6:35 p.m. and ended at 7:30 p.m.


Recording Secretary

4-20-23
Date