



*"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**

**April 20, 2023**

**PRESENT**

Board Members: Mark Harrington, Eric Kibler, Katelyn Miller, Mary Peters, and Stacie Schmid.

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

**VISITORS SIGNED IN**

Diane Corso, Jennifer Kinney, and Felicia Zendejas.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The April 20, 2023, Board Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Vice President, Mr. Eric Kibler.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll Call was taken. Mr. Dave Danhoff was absent excused. All other Board Members were present.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no Public Comment.

**V. APPROVAL OF MARCH 16, 2023, MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to approve the March 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 March financials were reviewed by the Finance Committee. Rachel shared the following highlights:

- Revenue and expenses were on target for YTD.
- There were 3 pay periods in March.
- First half real estate taxes have been received.
- Fiscal 2021 waiver reconciliation received.
- Recent capital improvement projects included, updates to the building fire panel and a new double door entrance at the east end of the building.
- The 5-year cash projection was recently submitted to DODD and reviewed by the Finance Committee. This is required annually by DODD.

### **2. Fiscal Report**

The Fiscal Report for Month Ending March 31, 2023, was provided for review and approval (handout). Mrs. Katelyn Miller made a motion to approve the March Fiscal Report as submitted. Mr. Eric Kibler seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

## **C. Policy Committee Report**

The Policy Committee reviewed four policies in April. These policies were the:

- Building & Conference Room Usage Policy (reviewed, no revisions)
- Community Supports Waiting List Policy (reviewed and revised)
- Early Intervention for Children Birth to Age Three (reviewed and revised)
- Fiscal Policy (reviewed, no revisions)

The Building & Conference Room Usage Policy and the Fiscal Policy were reviewed, and no revisions were made. No action is needed by the Board.

The Community Supports Waiting List Policy and the Early Intervention for Children Birth to Age Three were reviewed and revised. The Policy Committee recommended Board approval of these policies. Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to approve these policies as revised. Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

## **VII. DEPARTMENT REPORT**

### **A. Strategic Plan 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter**

The Strategic Plan 1<sup>ST</sup> Quarter Report was distributed (handout). Carrie Beier reviewed highlights from the report.

## **VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Governor State Budget Update**

Carrie updated Board Members on the State Budget status. This information is included in the Superintendent Report section.

### **B. Strategic Planning Update**

We continue to work with the Impact Group on developing our next Strategic Plan. In April, focus group meetings were held with staff, individuals served, families/

guardians, providers and community stakeholders. Surveys are also taking place through the end of April. Goals and Objectives will be delivered to the Director Team in May.

## **IX. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. House Bill 1**

OACB recently submitted a letter in response to House Bill 1. A copy of this letter was provided to Board Members (handout). Additional information about HB 1 is included in the Superintendent Report section.

## **X. 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, EI Rule Workgroup DODD, Gov. DeWine Early Childhood Advisory Council, Lean Six Training, Erie County FCFC Council meeting, Erie County Provider meeting, and Ohio Children's Alliance Conference.
- **Media/Public Relations:**
  - Sandusky Register (handout):
    - *School Notes*, Coloring Contest photo- April 3, 2023
    - *Board seeks feedback*- April 5, 2023
    - *Child Abuse Prevention Month*, photo- April 14, 2023
  - Community Connections Calendar- visit the ECBDD website at [www.eriecbdd.org/events](http://www.eriecbdd.org/events) for our full calendar of events.
    - Spring Fling at Kalahari on 5/2 from 6-8pm (handout)
- **Personnel:**
  - We have identified a candidate for the open SSA Manager position.
  - Employees participated in face-to-face strategic planning focus group meetings.
- **Erie County Providers:** Providers continue to receive retention bonus payments funded by each local county board throughout the state of Ohio, through November 11, 2023. We are continuing to support a group of our local providers through Firelands Forward Employee Resource Network (ERN) Services. In 2022, the ERN provided support to 6 agency providers in Erie County. If you are interested in ERN data for types of support, Carrie can provide that information. More information on the ERN is attached (handout).
- **Clearwater Council of Government:** The Clearwater COG is providing trainings to all County Board staff and providers on Having Difficult Conversations. They are also planning additional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion training, as well as First Aid/CPR and Delegated Nursing trainings.
- **Strategic Planning:** Tom Speaks facilitated the Individuals Served focus group held virtually on April 11<sup>th</sup>. Kammi Gillespie and Lauren Scherr facilitated the face-to-face staff focus groups and the Parent/Guardian focus group on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

- **Awareness Erie DD:** Carrie completed presentations to promote awareness and education about our agency history, services, and supports to the Sandusky Kiwanis, Erie County Health Department Community Health Committee, and the Erie County Family First Children's Council.
- **OACB - DODD:**
  - State Biennium Budget Update: House Bill 33 (the state operating budget) was released by the House Finance Committee. The Finance Committee included additional money to increase average DSP rates starting on 1/1/24 to \$17/hour and then again on 7/1/24 to \$18/hour across services. This increase is expected to be supported at some level in the Senate. Testimony will continue in the Senate, and the Senate is expected to support increasing of the Medicaid rate but we are not sure at what level of support the Senate will agree to. Please see the attachment with information regarding the need for a wage increase for Direct Service Providers.
  - Appendix K Unwinding: The Ohio Dept. of Medicaid and DODD is moving forward to continue to support some rule changes that were adopted temporarily during COVID through Appendix K. During COVID, allowances were made for parents to be paid providers for children due to school closings, health concerns, work force shortage, etc. The Department of Medicaid and DODD are moving forward to support this practice in the future with new rules, policy, criteria, and limitations. No details have been shared yet, but the goal is to have all new rules, policy, criteria, assessment, limitations ready to implement by November 11<sup>th</sup>. County Boards are in discussion with DODD regarding the details and finances around this initiative. There are other discussions around shared living and Homemaker Personal Care and Respite supports that will be adjusted during the Appendix K unwinding.
- **House Bill 1 – Tax Reform:**
  - Update: At this time OACB reported that this portion of HB 1 is dead and is not being moved forward to become law. I will be attending a meeting locally with Rep. DJ Swearingen on June 5<sup>th</sup> with other local agency directors to discuss the impact of such legislation.
    - House Bill 1 - With the 135<sup>th</sup> 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 the is decreases in proportion to the increase in inflation. We are staying abreast of these discussions and will be advocating appropriately.
- **Changing Spaces Campaign:** Carrie will be putting together a group of stakeholders to take on the effort to bring better changing spaces to the Erie County community. This will be included in our new Strategic Plan as well. You will find some information attached that we would use as part of this new initiative (handout).

**XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Eric Kibler made a motion to enter into Executive Session for confidential matters, to be kept confidential by federal and state law. Mr. Mark Harrington seconded the motion. Roll call vote followed:

Mark Harrington	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE
Stacie Schmid	AYE

At 6:35 p.m. the Board entered Executive Session.

At 6:47 p.m. the Board exited Executive Session.

Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to approve the Individual Budget Request for additional funding for J.J. in the amount of \$5,513.97 (Total Budget of \$21,423.55). Mrs. Stacie Schmid seconded the motion. Roll call vote followed and the motion passed:

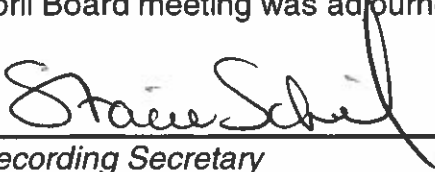
Mark Harrington	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE
Stacie Schmid	AYE

Mrs. Katelyn Miller made a motion to approve the Individual Budget Request for additional funding for M.J. in the amount of \$8,592.32 (Total Budget of \$26,722.32). Mr. Mark Harrington seconded the motion. Roll call vote followed and the motion passed:

Mark Harrington	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	Abstained
Stacie Schmid	AYE

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:52 p.m. Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion. With all members in favor the motion passed, and the April Board meeting was adjourned.

  
Recording Secretary

5-18-23  
Date