



*"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**  
**MAY 16, 2024**

**PRESENT**

Board Members: David Danhoff, Brooke Gammie, Eric Kibler, Katelyn Miller (electronic), Mary Peters, and Stacie Schmid.

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

**VISITORS SIGNED IN**

Diane Corso, Jennifer Kinney, and Mike Riggle.

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The May 16, 2024, Board Meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President, Mr. Eric Kibler.

**II. ROLL CALL**

Roll Call was taken. Mr. Mark Harrington was absent excused. All other Board Members were present.

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no Public Comment.

**V. APPROVAL OF APRIL 18, 2024, MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. David Danhoff made a motion to approve the April 18, 2024, Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Roll call vote followed:

David Danhoff	AYE
Brooke Gammie	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE
Stacie Schmid	AYE

Mrs. Stacie Schmid seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

## **VI. BOARD ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Finance Committee**

#### **1. Finance Committee Report**

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

- Revenue and expenses are on track.
- The Independent Budget line is being monitored.

#### **2. Fiscal Report**

The Fiscal Report for Month Ending April 30, 2024, was provided for review and approval (handout). Mrs. Brooke Gammie made a motion to approve the April Fiscal Report as submitted. Roll call vote followed:

David Danhoff	AYE
Brooke Gammie	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE
Stacie Schmid	AYE

Mrs. Mary Peters seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

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

### **C. Policy Committee Report**

Mrs. Stacie Schmid reported that the Policy Committee reviewed the following policy in May:

- Proper Use of Public Funds Policy (reviewed and revised)

The Proper Use of Public Funds Policy was reviewed and revised. The Policy Committee recommended Board approval of this policy. Mrs. Mary Peters made a motion to approve this policy. Roll call vote followed:

David Danhoff	AYE
Brooke Gammie	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE
Stacie Schmid	AYE

Mrs. Katelyn Miller seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. DODD Accreditation**

Our DODD Accreditation took place on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Carrie reported that we received a 3-year Accreditation, with 1 citation. We are awaiting a formal letter from DODD and then will be filing a response to the citation. Carrie will be doing a press release once we receive the official 3-year Accreditation letter from DODD.

We had six Community Partners attend our Accreditation Entrance Meeting on May 8<sup>th</sup> and they did an incredible job discussing our community relationships and recent projects. Additionally, we celebrated with staff this week to thank them for all their hard work in receiving a 3-year accreditation.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. C.A.R.E. Support Group**

Carrie Beier shared information about the C.A.R.E. Support Group (handout). The support group will be held at our building and Erie County FCFC is the lead agency for this group.

## **IX. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

- Carrie attended the following in-person/virtual/remote meetings, trainings, and activities: Ohio Provider Resource Association Provider Friday Five's virtual, Kiwanis, Rotary, Erie County FCFC Executive Committee meeting, Early Intervention State Advisory Council meeting, OACB Family and Children Advisory meeting, SEC Superintendent Committee meeting, United Way of Erie County Bd. Meeting, Region 1 Superintendent Meeting, Erie Residential Director meeting, Erie FCFC Sun Club Respite, and BGSU Clark Scholarship event.
- **Media/Public Relations:**
  - Sandusky Register (handout):
    - *Leading by example* – May 7, 2024
  - Community Connections Calendar- visit the ECBDD website at [www.eriecbdd.org/events](http://www.eriecbdd.org/events) for our full calendar of events.
- **DODD Misc.:**
  - On May 23, from 10 – 11 AM, the Charles Lea Center team will present "Enabling Tech and Risk Management."
  - ARPA Grant update (1<sup>st</sup> quarter).
    - 19 homes keyless entry
    - Tech subscriptions phone app transportation
    - Mobi Chair (Vermillion)
    - Momentum Refresh vehicle rental – 2 events
    - 2 universal changing tables
    - Improvener Method performance training
    - Informed Decision-Making training
- **OACB - Legislative updates:**
  - **Senate Bill 213** (*Supportive Decision Making as Guardian Alternative*): On Tuesday, May 7, OACB's Jake Dowling testified in-person during a hearing of the Senate Judiciary Committee in support of [SB 213](#), which would codify the process of supported decision-making as an alternative to guardianship in the Ohio Revised Code.

The bill, introduced by Sen. Jerry Cirino (R-Lake and Cuyahoga County), also received in-person proponent testimony from Kristen Henry, Executive Director of Advocacy and Protective Services, Inc. (APSI Ohio) (pictured above, center) and Jen Powers Alge, Southwest Regional Director for The Arc of Ohio (pictured above, left). APSI Ohio has spearheaded advocacy

efforts to pass this legislation over the past two years with the support of OACB and many other DD stakeholder organizations.

All witnesses spoke to the benefits of supported decision-making and the need to establish the process as an alternative to guardianship in the Ohio Revised Code to ensure greater use, consistency, and acceptance of the practice throughout the state. In addition, witnesses from several organizations provided written-only testimony in support of the bill, including Butler DD, the Ohio DD Council, and the Ohio Provider Resource Association.

To read each witness's testimony, use the links below to download written testimony from the committee's webpage. To view the video of each witness's testimony, click the "watch testimony" link below and skip to the appropriate time stamp when each witness begins to speak.

- **House Bill 344** (*Property Tax Authority and Replacement Levies*): On Tuesday, April 30, the House Ways and Means Committee held its final hearing for [HB 344](#), sponsored by Representatives Adam Matthews (R-Warren County) and Thomas Hall (R-Butler County). Among other property tax issues contained in the bill, HB 344 would permanently eliminate the ability of local property taxing authorities to put replacement levies on the ballot for approval by voters after October 2024.

The bill passed out of committee along party lines by a vote of 11 to 5 and now awaits consideration by the full House of Representatives. It is currently unclear when the bill could receive a full House vote, as the GOP majority continues to be deeply divided and most significant legislative action has ground to a halt.

If passed by the House, HB 344 would then move to the Senate, where it would restart the consideration process from the beginning in the Senate Ways and Means Committee. Based on conversations thus far with key lawmakers in that chamber, OACB expects the replacement levy provisions to face significant opposition. Nevertheless, the association will remain engaged on the bill throughout the process to ensure county board voices are heard.

- **Federal Medicaid Medicare Access Rule**: CMS issues final Access Rule to improve comprehensive access to care. This rule, a culmination of the Biden Administration's efforts to improve Medicaid access, addresses inconsistencies in regulations, particularly in Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS). It aims to enhance transparency, accountability, and data standardization while empowering states to actively engage beneficiaries, ultimately striving for comprehensive care access in Medicaid programs.

Key highlights of the rule include:

- States must ensure a minimum of 80% of Medicaid payments for specific services are spent on compensating direct care workers within six years.
  - States are required to meet national incident management system standards for monitoring HCBS programs.
  - Within three years, states must report readiness to collect data on Medicaid payments for various services and direct care worker compensation.
  - Within four years, states must report on Medicaid payment percentages for specific services and direct care worker compensation, with certain exceptions.
  - States must publish all Medicaid fee schedule payment rates on publicly accessible website.
- o **DOL Overtime Rule:** The Department of Labor (DOL) released its final Overtime Rule on Monday, April 22, which raises the salary threshold for exempting executive, administrative, and professional workers from overtime pay requirements.

Previously set at \$35,568 per year, the new rule introduces a phased increase. On July 1, 2024, the threshold rises to \$43,888, and by January 1, 2025, it reaches \$58,656. This final threshold represents a significant 65% increase and aligns with the earnings of full-time, salaried workers in the 35th percentile in the lowest-wage Census region. Additionally, the rule establishes a mechanism for automatic updates to the threshold every three years, starting from July 1, 2027, to maintain alignment with the 35th percentile of workers in the lowest-wage Census region.

The final rule also helps identify non-exempt employees, ensuring they receive overtime pay or more time with their families by limiting overtime exemptions to executive, administrative, or professional employees.

- o **House Bil 465 (ICF Video Monitoring):** The House Families and Aging Committee met on Tuesday, April 23, to hear opposition and interested party testimony on House Bill 465, which would allow for a resident of an ICF/IID to use video monitoring within the resident's room and create a new Medicaid waiver component intended to provide a monthly, direct, lump-sum payment to families to use to obtain waiver services.

Steve Piskor, representing the Elderly Nursing Home Abuse Advocates, compared House Bill 465 to Esther's Law, which was passed in 2021 and allows for video monitoring in nursing homes, when he expressed concern that Esther's Law did not address safety concerns due to lack of enforcement mechanisms.

Also testifying was the Ohio Olmstead Task Force (OOTF), who testified as an Interested Party. OOTF Chair Jennifer Kucera expressed concerns with the proposed Medicaid waiver component due to the lack of language in the

bill regarding oversight, accountability, and reporting. Committee Chair Representative Jean Schmidt (R-Clermont County), stated that safeguards may need to be amended into the legislation to make certain that individuals are getting proper care.

- **Personnel:**

- We have hired a new Maintenance/Custodial Specialist. Andrew Bryant will be starting with the Board on Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There was no Executive Session.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

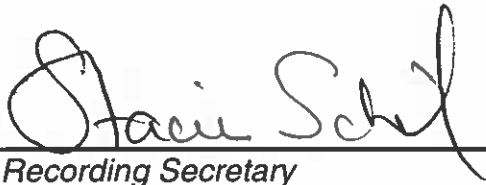
Mrs. Brooke Gammie made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:17 p.m. Roll call vote followed:

David Danhoff	AYE
Brooke Gammie	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Katelyn Miller	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE
Stacie Schmid	AYE


Mrs. Mary Peters seconded the motion. With all members in favor the motion passed, and the May Board meeting was adjourned.

**XII. TRAINING**

Board Member Training was held following the meeting on the topics of Technology Report & Tech Home Tour. The training began at approximately 6:45 p.m. and ended at 7:45 p.m.



*Recording Secretary*

  
*Date*