



*"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

June 18, 2026

PRESENT

Board Members: David Danhoff, Pamela Hall, Mark Harrington, Eric Kibler, and Mary Peters.

ECBDD Staff: Carrie Beier and Michelle Kelley.

VISITORS SIGNED IN

Mike Riggle.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The June 18, 2026, Board Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President, Mr. Eric Kibler.

II. ROLL CALL

Roll Call was taken. Mrs. Stacie Schmid was absent excused. All other Board Members were present.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no Public Comment.

V. APPROVAL OF MAY 21, 2026, MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to approve the May 21, 2026, Board Meeting minutes as submitted. Mrs. Mary Peters 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

Eric Kibler reported the May financials were reviewed by the Finance Committee. Eric shared the following:

- Revenue and expenses are on track for YTD.

2. Fiscal Report

The Fiscal Report for Month Ending May 31, 2026, was provided for review and approval (handout). Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to approve the May Fiscal Report as submitted. Mrs. Mary Peters seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

3. Then & Now Resolution, Clearwater COG Resolution #: 06-05-2026

The Erie County Commissioners require a Board **THEN and NOW resolution** for expenses exceeding \$100.00 that are being submitted for payment without a previously encumbered purchase order. The resolution authorizes payment to **CLEARWATER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS** for services in the amount of **\$12,724.61 (Twelve Thousand, Seven Hundred Twenty-four Dollars and 61/100 Cents).**

RESOLUTION OF THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DD FOR THE PURPOSE OF AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO CLEARWATER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS.

The Erie County Board of DD met this **18th DAY OF JUNE 2026**. Mr. Dave Danhoff introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, CLEARWATER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS requires payment for goods and/or services provided; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF DD:

THAT CLEARWATER COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS is herewith approved for payment in the amount of \$12,724.61 (Twelve Thousand, Seven Hundred Twenty-four Dollars and 61/100 Cents) provided for the Erie County Board of DD out of appropriation account #20110-6517-532000 Service & Support Professional services line for \$3,700.00 and #20110-6518-530000 Family Services and Individual Support Contract services line for \$9,024.61 for a Total of \$12,724.61.

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. Mary Peters 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
Pamela Hall	AYE
Mark Harrington	AYE
Eric Kibler	AYE
Mary Peters	AYE

Adopted: YES

C. Policy Committee Report:

There were no policies due for review this month, and therefore the Policy Committee did not meet.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Board Member Open Seat Update

One Board Member seat remains vacant. This is an Erie County Commissioner appointed seat and per ORC guidelines shall be filled by an individual we serve. Carrie Beier continues to reach out to the Commissioners to check on the status or plan for appointment of this seat. Applications were resent to Commissioners in May, per their request.

B. DODD InterRAI Assessment Update

Carrie Beier updated Board Members on the new InterRAI process for individuals on a waiver. The COG will complete these assessments, per our contract for shared services.

C. OACB Funding the Future Update

Carrie Beier shared that OACB continues to work on the Funding the Future initiative, prioritizing ten concepts supporting the DD system. Carrie shared four future concepts: Medicaid waiver match reform, statewide system updates, compliance (waste, fraud, abuse), and economies of scale (shared services). Carrie provided Board Members information on South Eastern DD Shared Support Framework (handouts). Board Members were asked to take this information for review and discussions will occur at a later date.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. HB 795

Carrie Beier reported House Bill 795 is now part of Senate Bill 315. Families as providers will remain at this time. See Superintendent Report for more information.

B. Early Intervention Proposed Legislation

Carrie Beier reported Early Intervention (EI) is currently fully funded by local dollars. New proposed legislation would reimburse 50% of funds to county boards.

C. 2026 Board Meeting Schedule

Mr. Dave Danhoff made a motion to cancel the July 16, 2026 Board Meeting. Mr. Mark Harrington seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed.

IX. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- Carrie attended the following in-person/virtual/remote meetings, trainings, and activities: Superintendent SEC OACB meeting, Ohio Provider Resource Association Provider Friday Five's virtual meeting, FCFC Executive Committee meeting, Clearwater COG Board meeting, and OACB Child & Family Advisory Committee meeting.
- Media/Public Relations: None
- Personnel:
 - Management Lunch and Learn trainings held in April & June on the topics of Leading Through Change and HR Case Hot Topics.
 - All Staff Summer Lunch and Learn Series scheduled for June thru August on the topics of: Service Animals, Invisible Disabilities, and Alzheimer's & Dementia (see attached).
- **Local Opportunities:**
 - Sports Force T-Ball and Kickball Games (see attached)
- **DODD: South East Ohio Collaborative- Statewide Reform Proposal**

The Problem We Are Solving:

Ohio's county board model was built in 1967 to answer a clear question: who pays for services for people with developmental disabilities when no other system will? The answer was local communities because there was no other support option and because families and involved community members had the strongest motivation to ensure services exist.

That answer made sense in 1967. It is under significant strain in 2026.

Medicaid now funds the majority of Ohio's DD system. That funding comes with extensive federal requirements. The administrative obligations of waiver management including eligibility determinations, prior authorization, service plan compliance review, provider development and monitoring, billing integrity, and quality assurance exceed what smaller county boards were ever designed to manage. Meanwhile, the financial risk of Medicaid cost and enrollment growth falls on county levies that were never designed to be the primary mechanism for funding a large federal entitlement program.

The result is a system caught between two incompatible realities:

1. Boards are accountable to local voters through their levy which demands local flexibility and local control.
2. Boards are administrative agents of a federally funded program which demands statewide standardization and state accountability.

These two realities are not reconcilable at the current scale of Medicaid dependency. The boards that are struggling are not doing so because of poor management or a weak mission. They are struggling because they are being asked to do two incompatible things simultaneously.

Framework Foundation Principal

Owner of administrative rules = owner of financial risk. Because administrative authority and financial risk are split between different entities, no one in Ohio's current system has both the control and the incentive needed to manage services effectively.

This misalignment slows or constrains service authorization, creates inconsistent access across counties, and ultimately prevents people with developmental disabilities from receiving timely, equitable services. Until administrative authority and financial risk are aligned, the system cannot reliably meet the primary customer's needs.

This proposal is not about eliminating county boards. It is about evolving them on terms that preserve what they do best. This work is meant to be proactive to address issues collaboratively, not be reactionary or forced to change after fiscal collapse, compliance failures, or outside mandate.

This framework is voluntary for participating counties. It does not represent a mandate for other county boards. It does not alter the governance or funding of non-participating boards. It is designed for counties that have determined their current structure is unsustainable and that a regional model better serves their families and local community.

The New Model — Stated in Customer Terms

What the State Achieves for the Customer

Equitable access to Medicaid-funded services based on assessed need and wait time not county finances or administrative capacity. State assumes match risk so authorization is driven by need, not by what the county can afford. Regional waiting list management. Slot allocation based on need statewide.

What the COG Achieves for the Customer

Consistent, compliant authorization free from local fiscal pressure. ISPs reviewed against objective standards by an entity that bears no financial responsibility. Administrative infrastructure that small counties could not sustain alone. Equitable service authorization across the region.

What the County Board Achieves for the Customer

A SSA who knows the person served, their family, their community, their providers. Person-centered planning that advocates for the individual's genuine needs. Local presence in intake, crisis response, and community navigation. Local services funded by the levy that are responsive to their local community.

Local — County Board SSA

- Intake and relationship building
- Understanding what is important to and for the person
- Person-centered discovery and life planning
- ISP facilitation and goal setting
- Advocacy for the individual's genuine needs
- Crisis support and monitoring
- Ongoing monitoring and quality follow-up
- Community navigation and local connection
- Provider selection support to individual/family
- Being the person's consistent local presence

Regional — COG Administrative Entity

- Eligibility verification and LOC determinations
- AAI, DDP, InterRAI, and waiting list assessments
- Prior authorizations and utilization management
- Individual budget modeling and Medicaid claiming
- Technical ISP components and compliance review
- PASRR
- Documentation, data entry, and uploads
- Provider support and monitoring

- **OACB: Legislative Advisor, Jake Dowling**

House Bill 47 – Voter ID requirements

What does this mean for people with disabilities?

Neither HB 472 nor SJR 10 changes Ohio's current voter registration requirements or voting eligibility standards. However, the measures could affect how some voters access absentee and mail-in voting in future elections. Many people with disabilities use absentee or mail-in voting because of barriers they may encounter when voting in person. Changes to mail-in voting requirements could create additional steps in the voting process and may affect how some voters with disabilities access the ballot.

Senate Bill 315 – Electronic Benefits chip enabled

Senate Bill 315, originally introduced to mandate the creation of chip-enabled Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) cards but was amended to include language from House Bill 795 that addressed Medicaid fraud prevention, passed out of the House late last Wednesday by a vote of 88-10. The Senate later unanimously concurred with the House changes, sending the measure to Governor DeWine for consideration.

OACB is working with the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, the Ohio Department of Medicaid, and provider partners to understand how the new requirements will be implemented. OACB will share additional information as it becomes available, including any impacts on county board operations and on people with developmental disabilities and their families

What does this mean for county boards?

SB 315 includes several changes to Ohio's Medicaid system intended to prevent fraud. While the legislation has completed the General Assembly's approval process, implementation details remain limited until state agencies develop guidance and procedures. OACB is working closely with state agencies and provider partners to identify operational impacts and ensure county boards, providers, and families receive timely information about any new requirements.

- **Governor DeWine Passes Capital Budget**

The General Assembly passed the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2027-2028 Capital Appropriations bill last week, a biennial capital improvements budget for state and community projects throughout Ohio, totaling \$3.7 billion. The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) received \$236.5 million in allocated funds. This is an increase from the total allocation of \$56.3 million received in SFY 2025-2026. Of the funds, \$208 million was allocated for state Developmental Center facility improvements, primarily for maintenance rather than expanding capacity.

In addition to the \$208 million allocated for state facilities, another \$25 million was allocated for the Community Capital Assistance fund, which is used by county boards to acquire and purchase accessible housing for people with developmental disabilities.

Roughly \$3.5 million was allocated through DODD for various community projects, including:

- Bellefaire JCB - \$650,000
- Taking Root Farms, Field of Opportunities - \$400,000
- Flying Horse Farms - \$350,000
- Stockhands Horses for Healing - \$350,000
- Robert Fox YMCA Recreation Improvements - \$325,000
- Easter Seals First Child Care Project - \$300,000
- Morrow County Neil Avenue Facility Renovations - \$250,000
- Linden Grove School Autism Expansion - \$200,000
- Adams County Association for DD Accessibility - \$167,000
- Children's Home of Cincinnati - \$150,000
- Huron AOS Community Arts Facility - \$200,000
- New Hope Accessible Classroom Project - \$100,000
- DDC Clinic for Special Needs Children - \$100,000

What does this mean for county boards?

For county boards, the budget is primarily informational but does include several items related to Ohio's developmental disabilities system. The largest DD-related investment is \$208 million for maintenance and improvement projects at state-operated facilities, reflecting DODD's continued focus on developmental center infrastructure. At this time, the funding is expected to support maintenance and facility needs, not expanded capacity. The capital budget also includes \$25 million for the Community Capital Assistance Program, which supports community-based housing and service options for people with developmental disabilities. In addition, about \$3.5 million is included for local community projects that may benefit people with developmental disabilities and their families

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

There was no Executive Session.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mark Harrington made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting at 6:35 p.m. Mrs. Mary Peters seconded the motion. With all members in favor, the motion passed and the June Board meeting was adjourned.


 Recording Secretary


 Date