

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its regular meeting on 3-25-19 at the Administration Building Board Room at 7:30 pm with **President Phil Fullenkamp presiding.**

The meeting was called to order and a roll call revealed that a quorum was present.

Members Present: Mona Berning  
Phil Fullenkamp  
Beth Guggenbiller  
Mike Linton  
Jim Maurer

Members Absent: Deb Hecht  
Teri Spoltman

Others Present: Tonya Clark  
Beth Gehret  
Melissa Kaup  
Claire Loughrige  
Cheryl McKirnan-Guest  
Joan Steinbrunner  
Shawn Thieman

**CONSENT AGENDA(ATTACHMENT):**

The Consent Agenda was accepted by a motion from **Jim Maurer** and a second by **Mike Linton. Motion was carried.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**APRIL 4<sup>TH</sup> CHERYL ANN AWARDS DINNER**

- Shawn asked if all Board members were planning on attending the dinner. All at meeting said they would be there. Doors open at 5:30pm at Romer's Catering in Celina.

**SPECIAL OLYMPICS**

- Shawn reported that we are making great progress with this.
- Teri Spoltman would like to begin a mentoring program too.
- Cindy Rose is the Darke County Youth Special Olympics Coordinator and Shawn & Karen Leugers went to see what she does for this program. She said for this Youth Special Olympics event they bus all attendees to the Greenville track and they pick three events to be involved in.
- Shawn will be attending the meeting of Superintendents' of schools in Mercer County next Thursday to present this Youth Special Olympics program and see if they are willing to invest time and energy for bussing youth for that day. Some may have already been involved with this. The dream is not just one day but throughout the year. Shawn said that our goal is to hire someone soon to be the Coordinator for this in Mercer County. Not sure if this position will be full-time or part-time. May be hiring someone as soon as next month. This position in Darke County is a volunteer position. In Mercer County Bob

Owens handles Special Olympics for adults now. Want to make sure it can be sustained. This must be done with the public schools. Teri Spoltman is coming in on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 to talk about mentoring. Would like one person for this position, not two. Parents are asking for social activities for kids. They would like to be normal like all other kids.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **SERVER REPLACEMENT**

- Claire Loughrige (IT) talked about server replacement. She said that we have two servers and one is coming to the end of its life. Server's life is usually about five years. We replaced one in 2017. The one that needs replaced now was purchased in 2012. She said the one purchased in 2017 will need replaced in 2022 and the one we want to purchase at a price of \$13,556.62, to replace the 2012 (in 2019) will then need replaced in 2024. Claire said that she uses the old servers for storage. The new server hard drives are SSD which have no moving parts, so their end of life will be much longer. A motion was made to approve the purchase of new server by **Beth Guggenbiller** and a second by **Mona Berning**. **Motion was carried.**

### **WAITING LIST ASSESSMENT UPDATE**

- In September 2018 the DD Department passed new guidelines for the waiting list rule. Will do assessments to see what they are wanting instead of just putting them on the list with no idea what it is they are needing. Right now there are 147 individuals on the waiting list, 81 have been assessed with 61 determined to need no services. There were 11 rewarded enrollment waivers and seven assessed with current needs and two determined to have immediate needs and enrolled within 30 days. Each assessment takes about 45 minutes to an hour of staff time. All assessments are expected to be completed by September 2019.

### **EARLY INTERVENTION UPDATE (ODH SITE VISIT)**

- Melissa Kaup (EI Director) reported that there was an ODH Site visit on March 11, 2019 regarding the home visiting program. A National Board will visit in four years to evaluate Mercer County programs' progress. Board member asked what the average case load is for the EI Coordinators and she said it is about 17-18. Melissa said they have been getting a lot of new referrals. Have 176 families and last year had 144 families. Beth Guggenbiller (Board member) spoke of a family she knows that is happy with the EI services. Melissa said that the Department of Health gave raving reviews for EI. Consultants will come back yearly.

### **SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION –**

- Beth Guggenbiller thanked Shawn for the use of the county van to go see world-renowned autistic savant Temple Grandin who spoke at Sinclair College in Dayton. Temple Grandin is a professor of animal science and is known as a specialist in animal behavior. She is one of the first individuals on the autism spectrum to publicly share personal insights into the experience. She did not talk about autism and she said that is not what she is, it is only one part of her. Beth at first was disappointed with the presentation but soon changed her mind because of information gained and because a Mercer County teenage

attendee afterward said they think alike. Beth said the teen's comment made the entire trip worthwhile.

**Motion was made to adjourn by Mike Linton and a second by Jim Maurer. Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned.**

The next meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration Building at **7:30pm on April 22, 2019.**