

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its annual meeting on 4-26-21 at the Administration Building Boardroom at 7:30 pm

The meeting was called to order with President Teri Spoltman presiding and a roll call revealed that a quorum was present.

Members Present: Mona Berning
 Karla Butler
 Beth Guggenbiller
 Mike Linton
 Jim Maurer
 Teri Spoltman
 John Werling

Others Present: Tonya Clark
 Samantha Fledderjohann
 Beth Gehret
 Jean Giesige
 Rajeane Hedrick
 Melissa Kaup
 Claire Loughrige
 Shawn Thieman

Board Members Absent:

CONSENT AGENDA (ATTACHMENT):

The Consent Agenda was accepted by a motion from Jim Maurer and seconded by Mona Berning. Motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) AND VACCINATIONS - Most people have already been vaccinated (if they wanted it). Health Dept contacted Beth and let us know they will be doing vaccination clinics at Health Dept.

EARLY INTERVENTION EMPLOYEES -- Summer or Casandra will be coming to a board meeting sometime in the future.

CLASSROOM PROJECT— We have all the quotes for the classroom side of the building. Baumer Construction will be overseeing the bulk of the work. We were very happy with how they handled the construction of the new front entrance. We will also be utilizing some local companies for the classroom project. Date of completion is first week in August. It needs to be finished before the next school year. Will continue to give the board updates.

BUSINESS DIRECTOR—Sarah Flenar has been hired. She has been working at Auglaize County DD. She was working in a financial position there, then was offered Quality Assurance Manager for SSA Dept. She has an Accounting Degree and Business Management degree and has SSA experience. Her first day will be May 24. Tonya will stay on in June and July to cross train her.

NEW BUSINESS

Special Olympics—Sam Fledderjohann gave a presentation on Special Olympics showing some of the activities that have been going on. The board enjoyed seeing those activities. She also discussed upcoming activities and plans. Powerlifting in the Park at the Celina Amphitheater on May 15. Starts approximately 11:00 am. Golf Outing on 6/12—100% of profits to Special Olympics. Also Arc activities are starting back up.

PROJECT SEARCH— This is a National Program. Mercer Health is the host business. We will have a classroom at Mercer Health. This is for kids transition age--last year of school. This will be 3 10-week internships, working on employability skills in different parts of the hospital. This is open to any student with an IEP. Beth gave the board a hand-out with information regarding agencies involved and details about this program. The board is very excited about this new program. A lot of the students have been hired by the host business.

QA MANAGER— This person will work on writing plans/outcomes. They will help with the new Standardized ISP that is coming from the state. This person will help SSA's create plans that are more functional and more accurate. Possible internal interest. Motion to approve the creation of the QA Manager position. Motion made by **Karla Butler**, Seconded by **Beth Guggenbiller**. **Motion Carried.**

DSP RECRUITMENT AND RETAINMENT— Big Issue. Providers are struggling to find DSP's. Discussed how we can help. We have done videos, social media posts. Discussed options that we can do—College age/High School Students or older retirees. Seasonal help for Sam/Karen—maybe hire a few more (4) for a full time position this summer. They could help with Special Olympics and do some extra services as a DSP. The board felt this would be a good idea. Shawn will have something developed by next board meeting; however, we might want to hire those positions before the next board meeting. If so, we will contact board members by email. Karla brought up possibly putting something in church bulletin. Beth, Shawn, John—to talk about this. Beth Guggenbiller brought up Substitute Teacher list—maybe using that (College graduates—might be interested in DSP). Shawn felt that was a great idea.

WESTCON REPORT--- Shawn put quarterly report in packet sent to the board.

SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION

County Home—closing 1 DD person was there and she has moved out today to an ARC home.

May 15—Powerlifting at Amphitheater check our Facebook page.

June 13—Picnic in the Park (Coldwater) Teri is in charge of this for the ARC. Noon to 3:00 thinking a carnival game atmosphere, prizes etc.

Gala—BTL is having their Gala on 6/19 at the Galleria 60—70 people have signed up.

Motion was made to adjourn by Mike Linton and a seconded by Karla Butler. Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration Building at **7:30 pm** on **April 26, 2021.**