

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its annual meeting on 8-22-22 at the Administration Building 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.

Board Members Present: Mona Berning, Karla Butler, Beth Guggenbiller, Mike Linton, Teri Spoltman, John Werling

Board Members Absent: Dan Muhlenkamp

Others Present: Sarah Flenar, Beth Gehret, Rajean Hedrick, Melissa Kaup, Shawn Thieman

CONSENT AGENDA (ATTACHMENT) :

The Consent Agenda was accepted (after a question by Mike Linton/answered by Sarah Flenar) by a motion from Mike Linton and seconded by Karla Butler. Motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Building Projects—Things are looking very nice. Jay kept things moving, kept on top of the projects. Inside is finished, plumbing jobs are finished. Office/Conference rooms and bathrooms are all done including shampooing the carpets. Shawn has contacted Revival Interior Design to come in and look at the entry way---maybe soften up the cinderblock look, possibly pictures on the wall celebrating disabilities- Discussed having an art show and buying pictures that were done by artists with disabilities. Incorporate Special Olympic photos/golf outings. Just some finishing touches in the entry way. Will bring more information back to the board at the next meeting.

E-Trike Waiver—We have 1 E-Trike now, we have created a waiver form that will be signed by each individual it is loaned out to. We have a helmet. They will be trained on the proper/safe way of riding it. It will be loaned out for a 10 day period. The Board feels this is a wonderful opportunity for our individuals to try it and gain independence. The parent/guardian will also be required to sign the Waiver.

Levy Renewal—Shawn included a fact sheet in the Board's packet. This will be helpful in answering any questions regarding the levy that a board member may be asked.

NEW BUSINESS

Board in Service - ?? Prior to 10/24 or 11/28 Board Meeting (4:00—7:00) (5:00—9:30)

El staff are in charge of the training this year. The board discussed the different options. Tentatively decided to add this to the Board meeting on 10/24. This will be from 5:00—9:30. Shawn to check with Dan Muhlenkamp regarding this and let the board members know at the September board meeting.

Staff Awards Banquet – November 17—This will be at Romer's in the Back Room. It will start at 6:00 pm. Chris Schulte has 40 years with the Board of DD. Albert Heckler award will go to Mike Overman. Please make plans to attend this banquet.

2023 Budget Planning—Discussed preliminary budget. Sarah, Mike, and John need to meet possibly in September/October to work on this. Sarah will contact Mike and John to set up a meeting to talk about Staff Wages and numbers for 2023.

SUPERINTENDENT DISCUSSION –

Medicaid Rate Increase—There has been a 6.5% increase approved by the County Board Association. This will be paid out quarterly starting in October. The County Board Association and The Superintendents feel this is good, but it is not enough. The DSP wages need to increase. They will be lobbying for more money. Shawn will keep the board posted.

Superintendent Evaluations—It is that time of year again. Shawn will email the evaluation forms to the board members. Board members please send your completed evaluation forms to Teri. Teri and Shawn will get together and go over these—in Oct/November. This needs to be done by the end of the year.

“Meet the Board Members”—We have hired Janel Sanning (PR) from Westcon for 1 day a week. She has been doing PR for MCBDD. She has been conducting a meet the team Monday on Facebook. A way of recognizing team members. This has been well received. She wants to do something like that with the board members. A board member appreciation post. She will be taking pictures and the board members will need to fill out a little form, a getting to know the board members form. You can fill it out now, do it at home and email it back to Shawn. Please get it back to us as soon as possible.

Autism Awareness/Support—Shawn and Terri discussed having an Autism Awareness/Support day. Having various vendors and options available so that the parents know what is out there and available to them. Terri gave a discussion on a new program called “the Listening Program.” You would purchase this program and have a trainer available to help you with this. It involves music, headphones and can change the persons brainwaves. Discussed possible ways we could offer reimbursement for such a program. We do offer families a reimbursement program. Shawn has discussed having a SALT meeting around this topic, possibly in the Spring at the purple door church. Possibly have ARC pay for breakfast. Shawn asked Teri if she would be willing to help pull this all together. She will help in getting this all set up.

Mercer County’s Response to DD System Regulatory Proposal---Shawn discussed this with the board. This is Shawn’s responses to these questions. If the board has any questions, please contact Shawn.

Motion was made to adjourn by Karla Butler and a second by Beth Guggenbiller. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration Building at **7:30 pm** on **September 26, 2022**.