

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its regular meeting on 11-27-23 in the Board Room at the Administration Building at 7:30 p.m. with **President** Teri Spoltman **presiding**.

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

Members Present: Mona Berning, Karla Butler, Beth Guggenbiller, Mike Linton, Dan Muhlenkamp, Teri Spoltman

Members Absent: John Werling

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

Consent Agenda (Attachment):

The Consent Agenda was accepted by a motion from Mike Linton and a second by Dan Muhlenkamp. Motion was carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

Levy Renewal---The levy was renewed by a 77% margin. Shawn wanted to thank the ARC for their help with signs and their support. We have a lot of community support, and a lot of good things have been said about Mercer County Board of DD. Our budget is good. Shawn also wanted to thank all the Board Members for their support and help with the levy.

Staff Awards Banquet—It was very nice. James Maurer received the Albert Heckler Award. Jim wanted it low key and we did in accordance with his wishes. Shawn feels that we have a younger group of staff now, 20 staff have less than 12 years of working here. Julie Duncan is doing a fabulous job. She really enjoys what she is doing. She has replaced Lynn, but she is contracted through Bob Hibners group.

Superintendent Discussion

Medicaid Changes –Beth explained there will be 2 rate increases—one on 1/1/24 and one 7/1/24. Our match will be going up accordingly. The Retention Payment is no more. The increase in July will not be as much. We do not have those numbers projected as of yet. This was to help with DSP wages—some of the agencies have been able to hire men as DSP providers.

Parents as Caregivers---this has come about due to COVID changes. Children with extraordinary needs—parents can be paid caregivers/employed by an agency if no one else is available or qualified. There will be assessments/qualifiers put in place. There will be more information coming as this rolls out.

The Board went into Executive Session at 8:01 pm to consider the appointment, employment, dismissal, discipline, promotion, demotion or compensation of a public employee or public official on a motion by Karla Butler and Seconded by Beth Guggenbiller. Roll Call as follows: Mona Berning, Karla Butler, Beth Guggenbiller, Mike Linton, Dan Muhlenkamp, Teri Spoltman.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:32 pm on a motion from Mona Berning and Seconded by Karla Butler. Roll Call as follows: Mona Berning, Karla Butler, Beth Guggenbiller, Mike Linton, Dan Muhlenkamp, Teri Spoltman.

Motion to approve Addendum A to Superintendent Contract. Motion by Dan Muhlenkamp and Seconded by Mona Berning

Motion to approve 2024 Cost of Living Adjustments and 2024 Budge Appropriations. Motion by Mike Linton and Seconded by Beth Guggenbiller.

Motion was made to adjourn by Karla Butler and a second by Mona Berning. Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration Building at 7:30 pm on January 27, 2024.