

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its regular meeting on 3-25-2024 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, Teri Spoltman, John Werling

Members Absent: Dan Muhlenkamp

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

Consent Agenda (Attachment):

The Consent Agenda was accepted by a motion from Beth Guggenbiller and a second by Mona Berning. Motion was carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Home Visiting Positions**—The part time position has been filled. Kate Scott will start on 4/9. She lives in New Bremen. She is a part time physical therapist/home health care. We are now fully staffed in the Help Me Grow Home Visitor Department.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Human Rights Committee**—Went over this yearly report. If an ISP has any restrictive measure or anything that might take away the rights from that person, it must go before the Human Rights Committee. We go through a process, we consult with Dynamic Pathways first., They help us with restrictive measures—we always try positive interventions. Then it goes to Human Rights Committee. They meet every other month. Mona is on this committee. The board thanked Mona for being on the committee.

**Transition Services/Summer Program**—Went over the number of people coming from EI. How we determine eligibility when they are 6 and also when they turn 16. We use the Ohio Eligibility Determination Instrument (OEDI) and the Childrens Ohio Eligibility Instrument (COEDI). This way we can start making long range plans for services that will be needed. We are also working on the Summer Program. The numbers are down a little bit. Karen L has retired. Jessica Baltes is meeting with families that will be involved. There will be no changes this year to the summer program.

**Special Olympics**—We have started a new Equestrian Program. This is a very remarkable thing to have. We will be competing in different styles, Western, Dressage, etc. We will be competing in Findlay. We will have the horses and the partners there competing. This is a very emotion filled program. We are practicing at the Circle T Ranch. Sam will come to a board meeting and give an update. The board is very impressed by everything that Sam has accomplished with the Special Olympics Program.

The project behind the building is coming along great. They will be pouring concrete this week. There will be a bocce ball/pickleball, basketball courts and a putting green. This will give our athletes many more opportunities.

**Arc Summerfest**—Teri usually has this at Coldwater Park. This year she is going to have it here. It is on Saturday, June 15. Will have Carnival type games, prizes, Kiwanis hot dogs/sandwiches, cotton candy, popcorn. A magician/ventriloquist. There is usually a great turn out, expecting the same here. We will have the tent set up in the back. This is a fun day.

**Mercer County Fair**—Not much to report on yet. Will be doing Show the Ring again this year. This was very well received. Also, will have the changing station/trailer available at the Fair.

**April 8<sup>th</sup> Eclipse**—The county is closing all their offices at noon due to traffic concerns. There are supposed to be a lot of people coming to this area to see the Eclipse. Shawn feels that we should follow what the county is doing. So, Staff will have to work in the morning or use some type of leave. We will close from 12:00—4:00 p.m. The board felt this would be a good idea.

### **Superintendent Discussion---**

Jean Giesige—Shawn had lunch with her. She was given a Yeti in appreciation of all her work on the Newsletter. She wrote a letter to the board expressing her gratitude and how wonderful she thinks this program and the board are. Shawn read the letter to the board members.

SSA Appreciation—Beth expressed appreciation for the day. It was a great team building/bonding experience.

Motion was made to adjourn by Karla Butler and a second by Mike Linton. 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 22, 2024