

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its regular meeting on 1-27-2025 in the Board Room at the Administration Building at 7:30 p.m. with **Vice President** Mike Linton **presiding.**

#### REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

OATH OF OFFICE – Shawn Thieman read the Oath to Board members and Board members all signed the Oath of Office paper.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President – Teri Spoltman

Vice President – Mike Linton

Recording Secretary – Beth Guggenbiller

A motion was made to elect these Board officers by Dan Muhlenkamp and a second by Karla Butler.

DESIGNATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS – Went over the dates that were in the packet. May 26 date will be changed to May 19 and July meeting will be on July 28 (if necessary). The Board meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month at 7:30 in the boardroom at Mercer County Board of DD.

BOARD MEMBERSHIP – ORIENTATION AND IN-SERVICE OBLIGATIONS – Went over that we will be doing the board in-service requirements after the meetings instead of 4 hours all at one time. It was thought it might be easier to break it into 1 hour sessions instead of 4 hours all at one time. Shawn will be in contact with the Board members 1 week prior to the meeting to make sure there will be a quorum at that meeting. We will try this on February 24<sup>th</sup>.

John Werling and Teri Spoltman have been reappointed by the commissioners for another 4 year term .

EXPLANATION OF COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS – Went over those, nothing has changed.

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, John Werling

Members Absent: Teri Spoltman

Others Present: Sarah Flenar, Beth Gehret, Tori Heck, Rajean Hedrick, Gregg Rutledge, Shawn Thieman

Consent Agenda (Attachment):

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

**OLD BUSINESS:**--none

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**350 Early Intervention Policy**---This was just changes in Rule Numbers and spelling some items out. Board looked over this policy.

**Motion made to Approve 350 Early Intervention Policy. Motion made by Dan Muhlenkamp  
Seconded by John Werling. Motion carried**

**Help Me Grow Home Visiting Accreditation**—The Help Me Grow Home Visiting Program has been accredited. It is affiliated with Healthy Family America. We have a Certificate, and they are accredited until the end of 2028. We would like to thank Melissa and Dannielle for getting this accomplished.

**2024 Vendor Report**—This shows the vendors we have used/money spent for the last 5 years. The board felt this was a very good and helpful report.

**ARC Housing Report**---Gregg went over ARC Housing. Gregg handed out a packet with a list of all the houses and their locations. The houses are in Celina, Coldwater, Maria Stein, and St. Henry. Currently we have between 45—47 individuals in these houses. We are not fully occupied; we have some openings for emergency cases. Once a house is bought, the renovations start right away. We make everything handicap accessible. We work with Capital Housing, 90% of purchase price comes from Capital Housing. The ARC takes care of all maintenance of the homes, lawn care, snow removal. The board is impressed by all the houses and the work that Gregg and Kathy Coon do. A big Thank You to Gregg and Kathy.

## **Superintendent Discussion**

**Potential Board Member**---The State of Ohio has passed a recent law that said every board of DD needed to have a member served to be on that board. This will happen when the next board member's term expires. After some discussion with the SSA department, it was felt that Tori Heck would be a great addition to our board. Tori agreed to come to a few meetings this year to see if she would be interested in this. Shawn introduced Tori and The board Members introduced themselves to Tori.

**Activities Aide Positions**---Addison Brewer has accepted a position at Wright Patterson. She has worked with Sam in Special Olympics, activities and respite care. She has been awesome and will be missed. We will be hiring someone to replace her. So, if anyone on the board knows a person going to College that would want a position like that, please let us know. This is a part time position---It is mostly evening and weekends.

**Medicaid Funding**---With the Presidential change, Trump is looking for way to cut budgets—this may include Medicaid and funding. Could be a significant cut. Might be moving the Medicaid Match numbers. Shawn will keep an eye on this and keep the Board Members informed.

Property Tax---Shawn has been hearing things about the property taxes due to the increase. Mercer County Board of DD is getting the same numbers as before. Those increases did not go to us.

Motion was made to adjourn by     Mona Berning     and a second by     Dan Muhlenkamp    . Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration Building at 7:30 pm on February 24, 2025