

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its regular meeting on 2-24-2025 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, Teri Spoltman, John Werling

Members Absent: Mike Linton, 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 John Werling and a second by Karla Butler. Motion was carried.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Home Visiting Positions**—Sawyer Weitzel has resigned. Kate Scott (our Part-time Home Visitor) has gone full time. We have hired Maggie Seeger as the new part time Home Visitor. She has 8 year's experience in Education, also has some experience in DD. Will be starting end of March.

**Activities Aid Position**---We have hired Brooke Gerlach to fill this position. However, her summer schedule for college has changed. We might not be able to utilize her fully due to her new schedule. She can help out for respite if needed. We are interviewing other people and will be hiring someone else.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Special Olympics Job Description**—We just added a paragraph to the Special Olympic Recreation Coordinator Position. It just states that if the Coordinator leaves that position, that all the funds in the Special Olympic program account will remain under DD management. This is just a safeguard that needs to be in place due to some issues that other counties have had. **Motion to Approve the Changes to the Special Olympic Recreation Coordinator Position. Motion made by Mona Berning. Seconded by Beth Guggenbiller. Motion Carried.**

**Board Membership**---Shawn reported that Beth Guggenbiller will not be eligible to be on the board next year. She has served the maximum years allowable. She will be off the board starting In January 2026. Dan Muhlenkamp talked to Shawn, and he will be stepping down at the end of the year. Tori Heck is definitely interested; she was unable to come to the board meeting tonight. We will need to have two members starting the first of the year. Possibly in the Fort Recovery or Coldwater area. Please let Shawn know if you know of anyone that might be interested in serving on the Board of DD. Maybe they can come to a few meetings towards the end of the year. Dan's position does not need to have a family member that is served by DD to be on the board.

**Policy 7.06 Drug Free Workplace**—We need to make a few changes; things are highlighted in red. States more clearly that we have a Zero Tolerance Drug Policy while at work. With all the Marijuana law changes, we felt it best to update this policy.

**Motion to Approve Policy 7.06 Drug Free Workplace. Motion made by** Karla Butler **Seconded by** John Werling **Motion Carried.**

**Adult Changing Trailers**—They will now be called Universal Changing Tables. We have two trailers stored in Mercer County for West Central Ohio Network. The Celina Lake Festival had contacted Shawn to have one of the trailers available for use during the Lake Festival. However, this will not work out, There are 3 County Fairs going on that week and we will be unable to let them utilize a trailer. Shawn will suggest that they use our Universal Changing table that we have here. Teri said the Lake Festival has a family restroom by the new splash pad. We might be able to utilize the Changing table there. Shawn will get in contact with the Lake Festival Organizers. The Universal Changing Trailer will be at Mercer County Fair and the Summerfest that we have here at Mercer DD.

**Grand Lake Mariners**—The Annual Mercer DD Day at the Grand Lake Mariners will be on Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Free Admission for Associates and Caregivers, staff and board members. Please stop by and watch the game.

### **Superintendent Discussion**

**Board In Service**---the next meeting in March, Melissa will be in charge of the Board In Service. We will be having it right after the meeting. It will be for approximately 1 hour. Please plan to attend this meeting. For this year, this is how we are going to get the Board's In Service requirements done. We will discuss this at the end of the year to see if we will continue this or go back to the other way.

**Medicaid Changes**—There was some concerns about some cuts to Medicaid. Right now, it is felt that this will not be affecting the DD population. The Medicaid Match should not be affected either. This is all very early stages---nothing is happening yet. Shawn will keep the Board up to date.

**New County Auditor**---Jeff Larimore---Shawn has met with him. There is a lot of talk about property taxes and the amount of increase in them. None of that goes back to DD.

**IEP's**---Teri just had a question about how the cuts to Department of Education would affect the kids IEP's. They will move to Health/Human Services from Department of Education. (If the cuts happen)

Motion was made to adjourn by       Mona Berning       and a second by       Beth Guggenbiller      . Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned.

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