

The Mercer County Board of Developmental Disabilities held its regular meeting on 10-28-24 in the conference 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, Mike Linton, Teri Spoltman, John Werling

Members Absent: Beth Guggenbiller, Dan Muhlenkamp

Others Present: Sarah Flenar, Melissa Kaup, Shawn Thieman

Consent Agenda (Attachment):

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

OLD BUSINESS:

2025 Budget Discussion – Sarah reviewed the 2025 Appropriations for each fund along with 10-year cash projections. Also, discussed 2025 COLA payments. Overall, we are in good financial standing.

Motion to approve the 2025 Appropriations. Motion by John Werling. Seconded by Mona Berning. Motion carried.

Transition Specialist (full-time to part-time) - Jessica requested to work 32 hrs./week as opposed to 40 hours. The position was previously part-time and changed to full-time when Jessica was hired in order to be more present in the local schools. The position continues to be more appropriate for part-time work so no concerns with this request. (Noted in Finance Committee)

New hire 3 weeks' vacation – Tonya Sieftring, SSA, was previously employed with Shelby DD before starting at Mercer DD on 8.26.24. Per Shelby DD's personnel policy, employees receive 3 weeks of vacation after 5 years of service as opposed to 8 years at Mercer. Shelby implemented this change in 2023 to attract and retain employees. Tonya met this milestone on 2.18.2023 and has requested to accrue vacation leave at 3 weeks annually.

Motion to approve accrual of vacation at 3 weeks annually for Tonya Sieftring, SSA. Motion by Karla Butler. Seconded by Mike Linton. Motion carried.

November 21 Mercer DD Award Banquet – This will be at Romer's backroom area in Celina. Social hour begins at 5:30 and is followed by the Albert Heckler Award. Please RSVP to Rajean.

NEW BUSINESS:

Superintendent Evaluation – Shawn will send the electronic evaluation form out to all board members. Board members are to send completed forms to Teri within the next two weeks. Will need to have forms for November meeting.

NMT Employment Rates - Proposed cost for non-emergency medical transportation (NMT) changing to community integrated employment (CIE) was shared with the board. This cost included CIE provided to both individuals on waivers and locally funded individuals.

Superintendent Discussion

There was a really nice article about the ARC in the Daily Standard about ordinary heroes. Roger Sudhoff did a great job of recognizing all family members as being heroes in our field. He also highlighted the things the ARC has done and how they work together with Mercer DD for housing and other activities.

Motion was made to adjourn by Mike Minton and a second by Karla Butler. Motion was carried. Meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be held in the Board Room in the Administration Building at 7:30 pm on November 25, 2024.