

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 23, 2020 – 6:00 P.M.
801 W. Union Street, Athens, Ohio 45701

**The Mission of the Athens County Board of Developmental Disabilities is to serve our
community with compassion, innovation, and transparency**

1. Dr. Jason Jolley, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
2. Arian Smedley did roll call (all attended via Zoom).

ALLEN	Present
BOND	Present
DEMKO	Present, arrived by 6:10 p.m. until 7:15 p.m.
JOLLEY	Present
LEWIS	Present, arrived by 6:15 p.m., rejoined at 7:15 p.m.
OLIVER	Present

Administrative Staff in Attendance:

Dr. Kevin Davis	Superintendent
Steve Kramer	Director of Finance & Operations
Gwen Brooks	Director of Human Resources
Becky Martin	Director of Education
Richard Suehrstedt	Director of Service & Support
Autumn Brown	Director of Integrate Athens
Scott Zielinski	Medicaid Services Manager
Arian Smedley	Assistant Superintendent

Others in attendance:

Megan Stack, Health Services Coordinator
Kris Dunlap, IT Manager

3. Dr. Jolley read the Mission Statement.
4. Oliver motioned to approve agenda.

MOTION#: 06-23-01
MOTION: OLIVER
SECOND: BOND
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, JOLLEY, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

5. New Business:

Items for review and discussion:

a. Board members recognized Beth Graham, SSA, on her retirement after 24.5 years with the ACBDD. Dr. Davis and Suehrstedt, SSA Director, shared a few words of appreciation and presented her with a retirement plaque. Graham shared a few remarks, as well. Dan Schoonover was also in attendance to wish her well. Dr. Jolley thanked her for her service. He said he hoped sometime in the future when things are back to normal, the ACBDD could host a meal during a meeting to celebrate her accomplishments and her retirement in person.

b. Updates to ACBDD's response to COVID-19.

- Re-opening plans – Dr. Davis walked the board members through the updates in the board packet.
- School update – Dr. Davis provided an update on school planning. He also shared results from a recent survey that was conducted asking Beacon families questions about reopening opinions. Given so much is uncertain and given how quickly things change, Dr. Davis recommended the ACBDD Board meet in July, which was initially not scheduled. Board members briefly discussed a few thoughts about school reopening options. Board members agreed to have a July meeting.

Dr. Allen motioned to approve hosting a board meeting on July 28 via Zoom.

MOTION#: 06-23-02

MOTION: ALLEN

SECOND: LEWIS

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER

CARRIES: YES

- Updates related to changes in waiver costs since start of pandemic (Exhibit 1, Pages 1-2). – Dr. Davis walked the board members through the information in the packet. Board members had no questions.
- Stakeholder survey results (Exhibit 2, Pages 3-9). Dr. Davis explained the rationale behind the survey, which was to gauge what we are doing well and what we need to improve. He walked the board members through the information in the packet. Dr. Jolley said the rating is well deserved. He praised the leadership team and the staff for their hard work and their communication.

- c. Oliver motioned to approve the proposed changes to Columbus Day (Exhibit 3, Pages 10-13). Dr. Davis explained the ACBDD should consider looking for ways to be more inclusive of others, beyond what we already do for individuals with developmental disabilities. One example is by considering the change proposed this evening – changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples’ Day and by making it a floating holiday. Board members had a brief discussion about the merits of such a change.

MOTION#: 06-23-03
MOTION: OLIVER
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: ALLEN, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER
NAY: BOND
CARRIES: YES

- d. Dr. Jolley brought up a new item for discussion. In line with the previous item and in an effort to further the ACBDD’s inclusiveness, Dr. Jolley proposed adding Juneteenth as a paid holiday for staff. Dr. Lewis agreed and supported the suggestion. She added several states, including Washington D.C., have included Juneteenth as a state holiday, and that there is a movement to make it a national holiday. Dr. Davis also expressed his support, stating he would be honored to have the agency recognize this important holiday. Dr. Allen and Oliver were also in support. Dr. Davis recommended there be a presentation during the July meeting. Board members agreed.
- e. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve Updated Policies Batch 4 (Exhibit 5, Pages 14-15, plus digital packet).

MOTION#: 06-23-04
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: OLIVER
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

- f. Board members read for the first time the Updated Policies Batch 5 (Exhibit 6, Pages 16-17, plus digital packet).
- g. Board members reviewed the Beacon School Wellness Plan (Exhibit 7, Pages 18-29). Dr. Davis shared that with this approved plan, Beacon has been granted \$20,000 to improve overall health and wellness of students and staff. Smedley walked the board members through the information in the packet.

- h. Board members reviewed the updated revised documents related to the property swap with the Athens City School District (Exhibit 8, Pages 30-38). Dr. Davis walked the board members through the information in the packet.
- i. Dr. Davis reminded the board members of a contract they recently approved with Eagle Consulting to review the ACBDD's HIPPA and security compliance. Kramer and Dunlap provided the board a brief update of their review. The final report will provide a few recommendations on how the ACBDD could improve security. Dr. Davis commended both Kramer and Dunlap for their work on this.
- j. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the ACBDD's 2019 Annual Report.
- k. Reminders on future meetings/trainings:
 - Training scheduled in June now postponed until fall.
 - July meeting has since been scheduled, as noted above. The July meeting will be by Zoom.
 - We will revisit in July whether the board would like to still meet in August.

Motions for vote:

- l. Demko motioned to approve May Regular Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 9, Pages 38-44).

MOTION#: 06-23-05
MOTION: DEMKO
SECOND: OLIVER
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

- m. Dr. Allen motioned to approve agreement with Athens County Family & Children First Council, pending Prosecuting Attorney approval (Exhibit 10, Pages 45-49). Dr. Davis highlighted the pertinent sections and explained this is the same agreement as in previous years.

MOTION#: 06-23-06
MOTION: DEMKO
SECOND: OLIVER
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

- n. Demko motioned to approve agreement with Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center for Occupational Therapy services provided at Beacon School, pending Prosecuting Attorney approval (Exhibit 11, Page 50). Dr. Davis explained this is

essentially the same agreement with a slight increase. Martin explained this is due to the additional preschool unit.

MOTION#: 06-23-07
MOTION: DEMKO
SECOND: ALLEN
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

- o. Oliver motioned to approve re-hiring Connie Davis as Part-time Nurse for Beacon School for the 2020-21 school year (Exhibit 12, Pages 51-54). Dr. Davis walked the board members through the information in the board packet. He shared this is the same arrangement as in previous years. Dr. Jolley asked how this arrangement would be impacted if school is not in session. Dr. Davis said he has already had these conversations and that there would be a plan for her in this situation.

MOTION#: 06-23-08
MOTION: OLIVER
SECOND: ALLEN
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

- p. Dr. Allen motioned to approve participating in Ohio Department of Education (ODE) Title 6.B Transition Grant for State FY 21, and in ODE's Early Childhood Special Education Grant for State FY 21, to receive available funds. Dr. Davis said these are grants we apply to every year. Kramer added these are reimbursements – one focusing on early childhood and the other focused on transition-age youth.

MOTION#: 06-23-09
MOTION: ALLEN
SECOND: OLIVER
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, OLIVER
CARRIES: YES

- q. Dr. Allen motioned to approve contract with Hylant Insurance for property, violence, auto and liability insurance, for period of one year beginning July 1, 2020. Kramer stated this is a renewal. He does not have exact figures, but does not expect there to be a significant increase. Dr. Jolley asked if there was any discount during this time of COVID-19. Kramer said he would look into this.

MOTION#: 06-23-10
MOTION: ALLEN
SECOND: OLIVER

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEIWS OLIVER

CARRIES: YES

6. Board Reports – Written reports only this month; no in-person updates:

- a. Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 13, Pages 55-68).
Report stands.
- b. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 14, Pages 69-71).
Report stands. She highlighted the success of graduation. She also shared parents appreciated their feedback was being sought via the survey. She also shared the Governor should be releasing formal guidance for schools soon.
- c. Director of Finance and Operations, Steve Kramer (Exhibit 15, Pages 72-80).
Report stands. He added that we are doing well financially, but one variable at this time is what the state budget will look like going forward. Dr. Davis added the state's share of our FSS line item will be cut this year. This is approximately \$28,000. He added this can be made up with local funding. He also added he hopes this is our only cut in funding.
- d. Director of Service and Support, Richard Suehrstedt (Exhibit 16, Page 81).
Report stands. Suehrstedt gave praise to his SSAs for working so well remotely. He also gave praise to Dunlap, our IT Manager, who has helped us work remotely so successfully. He thanked the board for recognizing Graham. He added Amy Goldsberry has filled that vacancy. Lastly, he shared the free 180-day admissions for stabilization at developmental centers will go away. Starting July 1, DODD will begin charging the waiver match. Dr. Davis said we have had five individuals in the past year admitted to a developmental center.
- e. Director of Employment Options, Doug Mitchell (Exhibit 17, Pages 82-85).
Report stands.
- f. Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 18, Pages 86-89).
Report stands. With Goldsberry's transition to the SSA Division, she and Dr. Davis will be reevaluating the transition coordinator position. She also highlighted the new partnership with 4H during the virtual summer camp.
- g. MUI Coordinator, Katie Evans (Exhibit 19, Page 90).
Report stands.
- h. Director of Human Resources, Gwen Brooks (Exhibit 20, Pages 91-93).
Report stands.

- i. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Butch Withem (Exhibit 21, Page 94).
Report stands.
7. No comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
8. On behalf of the PGO membership, Barb North-Moss thanked the board for all the support from leadership during this time.
9. Dr. Jolley stated his interactions with staff has been stellar. He expressed appreciation for the extra attentiveness during this time. Lastly, he thanked the board for considering the Juneteenth holiday.
10. Bond motioned to adjourn at 7:30 p.m.

MOTION#: 06-23-11

MOTION: BOND

SECOND: OLIVER

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, JOLLEY, LEWIS OLIVER

CARRIES: YES