

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, October 27, 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 6:02 p.m.
2. Arian Smedley did roll call (all attended via Zoom).

|        |                               |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| ALLEN  | Absent (arrived by 6:05)      |
| BOND   | Present                       |
| CONNER | Present                       |
| DEMKO  | Absent (arrived by 6:05 p.m.) |
| JOLLEY | Present                       |
| LEWIS  | Present                       |
| OLIVER | Present                       |

Administrative Staff in Attendance:

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Dr. Kevin Davis    | Superintendent                               |
| Steve Kramer       | Director of Finance & Operations             |
| Gwen Brooks        | Director of Human Resources                  |
| Richard Suehrstedt | Director of Service & Support Administration |
| Becky Martin       | Director of Educational Services             |
| Doug Mitchell      | Director of Employment Options               |
| Autumn Brown       | Director of the Office of Integrate Athens   |
| Tristin Lawrence   | SSA Manager                                  |
| Scott Zielinski    | Medicaid Manager                             |
| Arian Smedley      | Assistant Superintendent                     |

3. Introductions of other attendees.

|                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| Stephanie Morris | Susan Weaver    |
| Becky Robinette  | Kendall Dearing |
| Lanae Roth       | Annah Korpi     |
| Jennifer Brown   | Tricia Congo    |
| Scott Crum       | Megan Stack     |
| Sarah Williams   | Cindy Johnston  |
| Jennie Booth     | Lyn Justis      |
| Kris Dunlap      | Sam Dunlap      |
| Tina Wilson      |                 |

4. Oliver read the Mission Statement.
5. Bond motioned to approve agenda.

MOTION#: 10-27-01  
MOTION: BOND  
SECOND: OLIVER  
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER  
CARRIES: YES

6. New Business:

**Items for review and discussion:**

- a. ACBDD's response to COVID-19.
  - General updates – Dr. Davis shared the agency's soft re-opening is still going well. We are now exploring Phase II of our re-opening. Each manager will evaluate what that means for his/her division.
  - Demko motioned to approve Phase II of Beacon's return to in-person instruction (Exhibit 1, Page 1-3).

Discussion: Dr. Davis shared a few updates since the proposal was shared with the board last week. He added that the health department is still in support of the school's Phase II proposal. He walked the board members through the exhibit in the packet. After discussing with the school union, the proposed start date has been changed to November 9. He also shared the classroom breakdown. Phase II means 35 students would potentially be in the building at the same time. Thirteen students have elected to do virtual learning exclusively. Results from the various surveys were also shared. There was also some discussion about bringing outside / community groups into the school. Dr. Davis stated this would need to be reviewed by the Safety Committee. There was a question about flexibility (if a family changes their mind about in person vs. virtual). Dr. Davis stated the school will be very flexible, given this is a special and challenging year. There was also discussion about substitute instructors.

MOTION#: 10-27-02  
MOTION: DEMKO  
SECOND: OLIVER  
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER  
CARRIES: YES

- Updates related to changes in waiver costs since start of pandemic (Exhibit 2, Page 4) – Dr. Davis walked the board members through the exhibit in the packet. The financial trends are moving in the same direction as they have been. These reports will continue to be included in the board packet, as the impact of COVID-19 is expected to be long term.
- b. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the 2020 Staff Engagement Survey (Exhibit 3, Page 5).
  - c. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the 2020 Staff Development Plan (Exhibit 4, Pages 6-18).
  - d. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve Batch 7 of the updated policies (Exhibit 5, Page 19, plus digital packet).

MOTION#: 10-27-03  
 MOTION: LEWIS  
 SECOND: ALLEN  
 AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER  
 CARRIES: YES

- e. Board members reviewed Batch 8 of the updated policies as a first reading (Exhibit 6, Page 20, plus digital packet).
- f. Board members discussed future meetings/trainings:
  - Next training: “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion” on Tuesday, Dec. 8, 5 p.m.
  - Next meeting: Tuesday, Dec. 8, 6 p.m. (combined for Nov. and Dec.)
  - Future training: Sunshine Law, early 2021

**Motions for vote:**

- a. Oliver motioned to approve September Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 7, Pages 21-26).

MOTION#: 10-27-04  
 MOTION: OLIVER  
 SECOND: DEMKO  
 AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER  
 CARRIES: YES

- b. Demko motioned to approve contracts with the Columbus Developmental Center (CDC) and the Mount Vernon Developmental Center, pending Prosecuting

Attorney's approval (Exhibits 8 & 9, Pages 27-42).

MOTION#: 10-27-05  
MOTION: DEMKO  
SECOND: OLIVER  
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER  
CARRIES: YES

- c. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve contract with Health Recovery Services (HRS) for psychological services, pending Prosecuting Attorney's approval (Exhibit 10, Pages 43-46).

MOTION#: 10-27-06  
MOTION: LEWIS  
SECOND: ALLEN  
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OLIVER  
CARRIES: YES

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

- a. Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 11, Pages 47-57).  
Report stands. He reminded the board it is nearly time for his professional evaluation.
- b. Director of Finance and Operations, Steve Kramer (Exhibit 12, Pages 58-68).  
Report stands.
- c. Director of Human Resources, Gwen Brooks (Exhibit 13, Pages 69-71).  
Report stands.
- d. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Butch Withem (Exhibit 14, Page 72).  
Report stands.
- e. MUI Coordinator, Katie Evans (Exhibit 15, Page 73).  
Report stands.
- f. Director of Service and Support, Richard Suehrstedt (Exhibit 16, Page 74).  
Report stands.
- g. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 17, Pages 75-78).  
Report stands.

- h. Director of Employment Options, Doug Mitchell (Exhibit 18, Pages 79-82).  
Report stands. He updated the board of the upcoming CARF accreditation review on Nov. 12 and 13.
  - i. Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 19, Pages 83-85).  
Report stands.
- 8. No comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
  - 9. No comments from Unions relative to the agenda.
  - 10. Dr. Lewis complimented the board packets.
  - 11. Bond motioned to adjourn at 7:04 p.m.

MOTION#: 10-27-07

MOTION: BOND

SECOND: DEMKO

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

CARRIES: YES