

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, September 27, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.
Beacon School – 801 W. Union Street

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

1. Margaret Demko, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.
2. Arian Smedley did roll call.

ALLEN	Present
BOND	Present
CONNER	Present
DEMKO	Present
JOLLEY	Absent
LEWIS	Present
OCHES	Present

Staff / Others in Attendance:

Dr. Kevin Davis	Superintendent
Arian Smedley	Assistant Superintendent
Steve Kramer	Director of Finance
Scott Zielinski	Director of Finance
Tristin Lawrence	Director of Service & Support
Becky Martin	Director of Education
Autumn Brown	Director of Integrate Athens
Clayton Ray	SSA / PGO

3. Bond read the Mission Statement.
4. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve the amended agenda (removed Executive Session).

MOTION#: 9-27-22-1
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: BOND
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

5. New Business:

Items for review and discussion:

- a. Dr. Davis provided the board with a budget update. He walked the board members through a handout showing the agency's 10-year cost projections in three different scenarios – with the 6.5% provider retention payments already approved, a scenario with an additional 3% (for a total of 9%), and a scenario with an additional 6.5% (for a total of 13%).

Dr. Davis explained the 6.5% (approximately \$358,000 annually) is moving forward and so planning must adjust accordingly. However, he added there are talks of implementing another increase, which explains the different scenario increases. It is unclear at this time how much support there would be for another increase and how much the increase would be.

Based on the projections, the 6.5% provider retention payments shows the agency deficit spending by 2024 by approximately \$25,000. If the increase is 9% (approximately \$524,000 annually), the agency deficit spends the same year by \$190,000. If the increase is 13% (approximately \$716,000 annually), the agency deficit spends in 2023 by \$39,000.

In all of these scenarios, the agency continues deficit spending in the future years. Dr. Davis noted that in all three scenarios, the agency would not need to dip into the Medicaid reserve account until 2028.

Dr. Davis reminded the board these financial projections are assuming the board can renew its levy in 2023 or 2024. The term levy expires in 2025. He also reminded the board of the Medicaid "statewidness" issue – that the majority of counties will have a say in what happens and Athens County will have to do the same. He added that he serves on the state's financial hardship group to help plan, and that he voices the concerns of our county often.

He said he will keep the board updated as developments happen.

There was brief discussion about accountability with the increases for DSPs, the effectiveness of a rate increase on recruitment and retention, and about what happens when counties are unable to financially sustain these increases. Some questions remain unanswered at this time. Planning and discussion at the state level continues.

Dr. Davis then walked the board through another handout focused on the progress made with the agency's Healthy Futures Workgroup. He first showed the board the list of cost saving or revenue generating ideas brought up by the workgroup, which has representation from across the agency. All are just ideas at this point – no decision has been made to act on any idea. The ideas then go through a rigorous and consistent evaluation to assess the idea's potential impact on various stakeholders. At the end of the evaluation, the idea is given a number and is summarized as one of four possibilities: 1) low cost saving / low negative impact, 2) high cost saving / low negative impact, 3) low cost saving / high negative impact, 4) or high cost saving / high negative impact. If a proposal falls into the first or second category, it is possible to consider pursuing. If it falls into the third or fourth, it is unlikely something that will be pursued. Dr. Davis walked the board through the first seven proposals evaluated by the workgroup. At present, there are a total of 39 proposals – this number may decrease or increase, based on the conversations within the workgroup. The board will be presented with a new batch of proposals every month. The goal remains the

same – maintain current programming for as long as we can while finding cost saving opportunities. If it is decided to move forward with any proposal, the board will be made aware. Board members are welcome to share any ideas or suggestions for consideration.

- b. Dr. Allen motioned to approve updated policies:
- Policy 31. Development and Implementation of Behavioral Support Strategies (Exhibit 1, Pages 1-2).
 - Policy 44. Title XX Social Services Reimbursement (Exhibit 2, Pages 3-4).
 - Policy 5-2. Overtime Pay and Overtime Pay and Compensatory Time Accrual and Use (Exhibit 3, Pages 5-9).

MOTION#: 9-27-22-2
MOTION: ALLEN
SECOND: OCHES
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- c. Board members discussed future meetings/trainings. Next regular meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 25, 6:00 p.m. There was discussion of possible absences.

Motions for vote:

- a. Oches motioned to approve August 2022 Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 4, Pages 10-14).

MOTION#: 9-27-22-3
MOTION: OCHES
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- b. Dr. Allen motioned to approve ABEA union contract (Exhibit 5, Page 15).

Discussion: Dr. Davis added that after the union ratified the contract, union members expressed concerns of not feeling appreciated as a group. It was noted that these feelings were not expressed until after the contract was ratified. Administration will work with them to outline what is done currently to demonstration appreciation and to identify new ways to help them feel more valued and appreciated.

MOTION#: 9-27-22-4
MOTION: ALLEN
SECOND: OCHES
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- c. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve contract with McGohan Brabender for continuing services (Exhibit 6, Pages 16-22).

MOTION#: 9-27-22-4
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: ALLEN
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- d. Bond motioned to approve contributing to the required reserve account for the Stark County consortium (Exhibit 7, Pages 23-24).

MOTION#: 9-27-22-6
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: OCHES
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

6. Board Reports:

- a. Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 8, Pages 25-28).
Report stands.
- b. Director of Finance and Operations, Steve Kramer (Exhibit 9, Pages 29-37).
Report stands. Kramer added that the budget numbers discussed do not reflect the insurance changes.
- c. Director of Human Resources, Gwen Brooks (Exhibit 10, Pages 38-40).
Report stands.
- d. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Bridget Gilmore (Exhibit 11, Page 41-44).
Report stands.
- e. MUI Coordinator, Stephanie Kendrick (Exhibit 12, Page 45).
Report stands.
- f. Director of Service and Support, Tristin Lawrence (Exhibit 13, Pages 46-49).
Report stands.
- g. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 14, Pages 50-51).
Report stands.
- h. Director of Employment Options, Angela Carter (Exhibit 15, Pages 52-53).
Report stands.

- i. Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 16, Pages 54-55).
Report stands.
 - j. Assistant Superintendent, Arian Smedley (Exhibit 17, Pages 56-62).
Report stands.
- 7. No comments from Visitors relative to the agenda.
 - 8. No comments from Unions relative to the agenda.
 - 9. No comments from the Board.
 - 10. Bond motioned to adjourn at 6:37 p.m.

MOTION#: 9-27-22-7
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, DEMKO, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES