

ATHENS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 22, 2023 – 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. Dr. Jason Jolley, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Arian Smedley did roll call.

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

Staff / Others in Attendance:

Dr. Kevin Davis	Superintendent
Arian Smedley	Assistant Superintendent
Scott Zielinski	Director of Finance
Tristin Lawrence	Director of Services & Support
Chris Linscott	Director of Facilities & Transportation
Stephanie Kendrick	MUI Coordinator
Autumn Brown	Director of Integrate Athens
Angela Carter	Director of Employment Options
Becky Martin	Director of Education
Amy Goldsberry	SSA, PGO
Doug Mitchell	Transition, ABEA
Crestlyn Chaney	Beacon, ABEA
Kendall Berry	Beacon, ABEA

3. Dr. Jolley read the Mission Statement.
4. Oches motioned to approve the amended agenda to include Item F under Motions for Vote asking for approval to purchase hearing and vision screening devices for Beacon School, which will be reimbursed by the Beacon PTA using funds raised through the Polar Bear Plunge.

MOTION#: 8-22-23-1
MOTION: OCHES

SECOND: ALLEN
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

5. New Business:

Items for review and discussion:

- a. Dr. Davis provided the board with a budget updated (Exhibit 1, Page 1). He walked the board members through the exhibit in the packet, which was a mid-year snapshot of the agency's finances. He highlighted we are under budget at this point in the year. The one area of concern is non-waiver supported living, which is over budget by a significant amount. He shared the team is monitoring that number closely. He also shared some good news in relation to this line item – the recent state budget decreased the cost of developmental centers for CBs. This cost decrease is expected to save the agency \$3,000/month per person in a developmental center.
- b. Dr. Davis provided an update on the school's driver situation (Exhibit 2, Pages 2-3). We only recently got to a fully staffed transportation department. Prior to this most recent hire, the situation was more dire, and so a letter was sent to families to prepare them for possible challenges. But the situation is now better, and we are hopeful to continue this trajectory.
- c. Dr. Davis walked the board members through the recently completed annual board member survey results (Exhibit 3, Pages 4-6). He highlighted the Opportunities for Improvement section.
- d. Board members discussed the updated policies (Exhibit 4, Pages 7-24). The discussion focused on the line pertaining to limited personal use of a board-provided mobile device. The board and Administration will re-evaluate this line and bring it, along with the other policies, back for review next month.
- e. Board members discussed future meetings/trainings:
 - Next board training: Tuesday, September 26, 5:00 p.m.
 - Next regular meeting: Tuesday, September 26, 6:00 p.m.

Board members also were reminded of their required board member trainings and where they stand. Because we have accreditation in October, board members are asked to complete all four hours by the end of September.

Motions for vote:

- a. Dr. Allen motioned to approve June 2023 Board Meeting Minutes (Exhibit 5, Pages 25-30).

MOTION#: 8-22-23-2
MOTION: ALLEN
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- b. Bond motioned to approve 2023 Fall ATCO Legacy Fund distribution cycle and priority area, if applicable (Exhibit 6, Pages 31-32). In addition, Dr. Davis shared which organizations have been funded since its inception.

MOTION#: 8-22-23-3
MOTION: BOND
SECOND: OCHES
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- c. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve paying the entirety of an individual's internet service bill (including taxes and fees), if they are eligible for the DODD FY2024/2025 Internet Assistance Project, which will reimburse the entirety of the individual's bill (including taxes and fees).

MOTION#: 8-22-23-4
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: OCHES
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- d. Dr. Allen motioned to approve covering the increased cost for the roof project due to unexpected weather-related damage (Exhibit 7, Page 33).

MOTION#: 8-22-23-5
MOTION: ALLEN
SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- e. Oches motioned to approve renewed Admission Agreements with the Columbus Developmental Center (CDC), Gallipolis Developmental Center (GDC), Mount Vernon Developmental Center (MVDC), Southwest Ohio Developmental Center (SWDC), and Warrensville Developmental Center (WDC), pending Prosecuting Attorney's approval where appropriate (Exhibit 8, Pages 34-73).

MOTION#: 8-22-23-6
MOTION: OCHES

SECOND: LEWIS
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

- f. Dr. Lewis motioned to approve purchasing hearing and vision screening devices for Beacon School, which will be reimbursed by the Beacon PTA using funds raised through the Polar Bear Plunge.

MOTION#: 8-22-23-7
MOTION: LEWIS
SECOND: ALLEN
AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES
CARRIES: YES

6. Board Reports:

- a. Superintendent, Dr. Kevin Davis (Exhibit 9, Pages 74-85).
Report stands. He highlighted a new feature of his board report, which is a comprehensive list of upcoming events agency wide. Board members are always welcome to attend these events.

He also highlighted a letter from Echoing Hills, a local provider agency, thanking the county board for supporting the increase in DSP wages.

Lastly, he shared an update about the upcoming staff engagement survey. Attempts to finalize plans with the firm identified by the board have been unsuccessful. Emails sent by Dr. Jolley and Smedley have not received any response. Board members decided to attempt to connect with the firm one more time. If we have not made progress by next meeting, we will re-evaluate plans for moving forward, including the possibility of finding another organization.

- b. Director of Education, Becky Martin (Exhibit 10, Pages 86-87).
Report stands. She highlighted the first day of school went well. She added there is still a need for paraprofessionals.
- c. Director of Finance, Scott Zielinski (Exhibit 11, Pages 88-106).
Report stands.
- d. Director of Human Resources, Gwen Brooks (Exhibit 12, Pages 107-110).
Report stands.
- e. Director of Facilities and Transportation, Chris Linscott (Exhibit 13, Pages 111-112).
Report stands. He highlighted the new SSA office is nearly complete. He shared excitement for the most recent driver hire, which came just in time for the start of the

school year. A question about parking capacity came up. Dr. Davis shared this is not an issue right now, but it may be an issue in the future.

- f. MUI Coordinator, Stephanie Kendrick (Exhibit 14, Page 113).
Report stands. She clarified the numbers in the report cover two months. She is looking into a few trends that she's identified and finding ways to help improve those.
 - g. Director of Service and Support, Tristin Lawrence (Exhibit 15, Pages 114-118).
Report stands.
 - h. Director of Employment Options, Angela Carter (Exhibit 16, Page 119-120).
Report stands. She highlighted the department is now focusing on Job Club for schools. She also highlighted the success of the Employment*Plus* picnic that was held earlier that day.
 - i. Director of Integrate Athens, Autumn Brown (Exhibit 17, Pages 121-125).
Report stands. She highlighted that she is onboarding the new FANs coordinator. She shared Unified Basketball is taking registrations now.
 - j. Assistant Superintendent, Arian Smedley (Exhibit 18, Pages 126-132).
Report stands. She highlighted that EI is focused on preparing for DODD accreditation. She also shared Doug Mitchell, Transition Coordinator, worked hard over the summer to prepared for services to start in the fall. Lastly, she shared Teen Time for the fall will expand to two time per month.
- 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.

MOTION#: 8-22-23-8

MOTION: BOND

SECOND: CONNER

AYES: ALLEN, BOND, CONNER, JOLLEY, LEWIS, OCHES

CARRIES: YES

- 11. Dr. Davis led the board members on a tour of the new SSA office. This will be for child-focused SSAs to be more connected with the students, families, and school staff.