

MEDINA COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2017

I. Call to Order

The MCBDD Regular Board Meeting was called to order by Board President, Ms. Thomas Fain, at 5:05 p.m. Other Board Members present included the following: Ms. Orlandi, Ms. Barnes Brown, Ms. Holmes, Mr. Perkins, and Mr. Carroll (arrived at 5:15 p.m.). Ms. Morrison was excused from this Board Meeting.

Staff present included the following: Mr. Bluebond, Ms. Lees, Ms. Hetkey, Ms. Majoros, Ms. Davis, Ms. Bohner, Ms. Fiorella Batke, Ms. Hunt, Mr. Dryer, Ms. Goodrow, Ms. Wilbraham, Mr. Goebel, Ms. Brodzinski, Ms. Bates, Ms. Bucks, Dr. Stanley Bryson, and Mr. Walter.

Others present included the following: Greg and Cecelia Majoros (MCBDD Donor Scholarship winner).

II. Executive Session

A Motion was made by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Ms. Barnes Brown, to enter into Executive Session for the following reasons:

- A. To Consider Matters to be kept Confidential by Federal Law or Regulations or State Statute.

The Motion passed with a unanimous "yes" vote. The Board entered into Executive Session at 5:06 p.m.

The Board exited Executive Session at 5:35 p.m.

III. General Session

- A. Pledge of Allegiance
- B. Mission Statement Affirmation
- C. Approval of Minutes

- 1. **Approval of the Minutes from the MCBDD Regular Board Meeting, April 24, 2017**

A Motion was made by Ms. Orlandi, seconded by Ms. Holmes, to approve the minutes from the MCBDD Regular Board Meeting on April 24, 2017.

The Motion passed with a unanimous "yes" vote.

The Board President stated that the agenda has been revised.

D. Presentation

Donor Scholarship Presentation – Elaine Orlandi, Board Secretary, presented the scholarship awards to the following recipients:

Cecelia Majoros:

Cecelia is a senior at Medina High School and the Medina County Career Center where she attends the Teacher's Education Academy Program. She has already given over 80 hours of time to impacting the disabilities community, and has volunteered multiple times at the MCBDD. In addition to her involvement with the MCBDD, she also serves as the Commissioner of Link Crew, an organization of 40 juniors and seniors that mentor incoming high school freshman. She is also the captain of the tennis team, has been on both the Merit and Honor Rolls, was a part of the Concert Band, and took part in HUDDLE, which allowed her to serve as a mentor for fourth and fifth grade students. In the fall, Cecelia plans to attend Kent State University where she hopes to complete a degree in Special Education and would like to one day work with young students in a public school or county board of DD setting. On behalf of the MCBDD and its staff, we would like to congratulate Cecelia on this honor.

Taylor Rininger:

Taylor was on vacation with her family and therefore unable to attend the ceremony, but sends her heartfelt appreciation for this honor. Taylor recently completed her second year at Xavier University where she is working toward a degree in occupational therapy and a minor in deaf studies. She is part of the University's Scholars Program, which requires her to take an extra five honors classes a year, along with her typical course load. She hopes to one day work as an Occupational Therapist in a private practice in order to more closely impact the lives of children who have developmental disabilities, such as Autism, Down syndrome, Cerebral Palsy, as well as others. Taylor has job shadowed several Occupational Therapists through Kaleidoscope Therapies and the Crystal Clinic, where she was able to observe the role of therapists in working directly with patients. She is also employed in the University's Office of Disability Services, where she helps students with disabilities use adaptive technology to take tests. She is also a Student Academic Success Coach who helps students with disabilities with their study, organization, planning, and time management skills. Outside of school, Taylor has given her time by volunteering with Autism Speaks and Community Action Day. Through these activities, she was able to help raise awareness and funds for these programs and participate in hands-on activities to help individuals with disabilities. On behalf of the MCBDD and its staff, we would like to congratulate Taylor on this honor.

Community Employment - Mr. Dryer shared the following information regarding Community Employment Services:

Community Employment Services include the following:

- Job Development – Job Developers contact local employers, develop relationships with the business community, train individuals on resumes, applications, and interviews, and match individuals' skills with employers' needs.

- Job Coaching – Job Coaches provide one-on-one training, develop strategies for employee/employer relationships, develop a fade plan to leave the work site, and introduce follow-along staff.
- Community-Based Assessment and Work Adjustment – This service provides assessment/evaluation of individuals in real worksites, one-on-one service with a Job Coach, and identification of the individual’s interests.
- Follow-Along Services – This service provides on-going support with at least one visit per month to the job site and communication with both the individual and the employer.
- Summer Youth Work Experience - The Summer Youth Work Program includes four weeks of real work experience and two weeks of vocational classes. Participating businesses include Buehler’s, Hawthorne Suites, Bunker Hill Golf Course, Alter Reality Games, and American Classic Snack. There are over 30 transition youth this summer.
- Career Exploration - The Summer Youth Career Exploration Program includes three weeks of Career Exploration for younger transition students. They will visit and tour 10 different businesses in Medina County and see a variety of job sites, job responsibilities, and opportunities. So far, there are 16 transition youth for this summer’s program.
- Transition Services include the Bridges and STEP Programs and focus on transition youth finishing school and vocational training and education. Services include transitioning from a previous job to a new job and/or transitioning to a better job.

There are currently 108 individuals employed in the community and over 75 business partners/work sites. Over the past year, Community Employment Services were provided to over 200 adults and students. Twenty-nine individuals obtained new jobs this past year; of those twenty nine, ten obtained their first community job.

Mr. Dryer shared Hour and Wage Information for the year 2016, based on 107 individuals working in the community. Information included hourly wage, weekly hours worked, years worked at current job, and monthly earnings.

Mr. Dryer addressed health and safety concerns by stating the following: one-on-one service is provided to individuals during Community-Based Assessment/Adjustment; Medina County provides transportation that is door to door; Job Coaches always evaluate the safety of an individual while on a job site; and the team process includes discussions regarding health and safety of the individual prior to proceeding with a service.

Mr. Dryer shared wonderful success stories including an individual who recently retired after working more than 25 years at Buehler’s.

Challenges to community employment include matching individuals with available jobs and transportation.

Early Intervention Makeover – Dr. Stanly Bryson and Marcy Fiorella Batke shared the following information regarding the EI program:

In June of 2014, Accreditation findings prompted changes in EI services. New team trainings and weekly meetings were held, along with statewide EI leadership workgroup meetings. In December of 2014, center-based classrooms for children with delays were closed. In March of 2015, therapy services were transitioned to home-based. In November of 2015, the MCBDD EI Program became a partner in eligibility evaluation. In January of 2016, DODD became the lead agency for EI. Staff and contract time were increased to address the growing need. In November of 2016, the Catholic Charities Director was added to the local EI leadership meetings. In January of 2017, the name Help Me Grow was changed to Ohio Early Intervention. Currently, planning continues for the service coordination changes. The move of Service Coordinators to the MCBDD building is anticipated in June of 2017, as well as the implementation of Intensive Needs Strategies in the natural environment, as the final EI classroom will close at the end of the current school year.

Federal funding for Part C services is based on scoring progress through a process called Child Outcome Summary (COS). The child is rated on the COS scale upon entry into EI, and again annually, and finally upon exit from EI services. This rating is a joint decision between the members of the evaluation team (including parents).

E. Old Business

1. Transformation Plan – The MCBDD Management Team has been working on the plan, analyzing different proposals to present to the Board. The Management Team would like the Board to have more than one solution regarding transformation. Mr. Bluebond introduced Crystal Brodzinski as the new Transformation Manager. She gave the Board a brief update on her work with providers. Mr. Carroll requested that a plan for the future of Windfall Industries be included at the Board Retreat in June.

F. New Business – There was no New Business this month.

G. Discussion Items

1. CMOR Survey – Ms. Finnerty was not present to discuss the CMOR Survey Results. Ms. Lees will re-send the survey to the Board Members. Questions and/or comments should be directed to Ms. Finnerty.
2. Staff Survey Results – Ms. Davis stated that the ERC (Employee Resource Committee) has reviewed the survey results and determined that the three major areas of concern are communication, assistance with staff transition, and training. The ERC will meet again in June and welcome input from the Board. Ms. Davis stated that considering the changes in the DD system, as well as the MCBDD, the ratings are positive overall. The staff survey is developed by the ERC and is reviewed every year for needed revisions. The Board requested a copy of the survey questions. Ms. Davis will send them out.

3. Board Retreat – The next MCBDD Board Retreat is scheduled for Thursday, June 15; held at the MCBDD. The focus will be Current Events in the DD Field, Transformation, and a short Public Relations training for the Board Members.
4. Visual Aid for Transformation – Ms. Orlandi had requested a visual aid to assist in understanding the Transformation of the MCBDD. Mr. Bluebond asked for clarification regarding her request. Ms. Orlandi will email Mr. Bluebond a sample of what she is requesting.
5. Guardian – Mr. Bluebond referred to several emails between the Board Members and Superintendent Davis-Kramp regarding this issue. Mr. Bluebond suggested that this discussion be tabled until the Superintendent is present. Mr. Carroll stated that he believes the Superintendent is working on a presentation regarding guardians and self-advocates.
6. Office Space Renovations – Paula reviewed the plan to renovate two classrooms on the school side to office space for the Service Coordinators that will be moving to this building in June. The total cost, per the quote, is \$32,918.10 for 14 work stations. The Service Coordinators will be bringing their own computers. We will receive grant money and in-kind contributions for this space. This information was given to the Board for review prior to a formal request being presented in the near future. Any questions can be directed to Ms. Majoros.
7. Boiler Bid Budget – Ms. Majoros, along with Mr. Bluebond, have been working on the competitive bid process. The budget bid came in above what was requested earlier this year for this project. If the cost actually goes above what was budgeted, a formal request for an increase to the budget amount will be made to the Board.

H. Reports Review

- Superintendent’s Report – The following was discussed:
 - Mr. Bluebond stated that on page six of the report, the CMS extension is for Adult Services to complete the transition to new settings by 2022. Ohio has said it will take until 2024 to comply. This is not a change in the conflict of interest for case management.
 - In regard to the article about the University of Cincinnati hosting statewide regional forums, information is on the agency website and the information has gone out in the e-blasts.
- Financial Report - Mr. Bluebond reviewed the Financial Report. The following was discussed:
 - The difference in revenues between 2016 and 2017 is due to Medicaid settlements. Any other variations are due to the timing of revenue receipt. The \$200,000.00 increase in revenue is due to new residential construction.
 - Farmers will get a tax break that will cause other homeowners’ taxes to increase.
 - The fund balance is comparable to the prior year.
 - There is nothing unusual in expenses.
 - The cost per individuals remains level. We get paid directly from the state for individuals in LEAs; however, we do get paid directly from the school for therapy services.

- Voucher Reports – Mr. Bluebond reviewed the Voucher Reports. The following was discussed:
 - The \$9,000.00 monthly cost to NEON is for contracted MUI services. Those services may move back to the MCBDD in the future.
 - The \$7,800.00 for repayment of a waiver is for an individual who is living in a DC (developmental center). The Board is paying the match, and has been for about three years. SSA is working with the DODD to get this individual long-term placement in the DC so that we would no longer be responsible for this cost. It should be noted that this individual does much better in this environment as he has been moved out several times and has ended up back in the DC.
- MCBDD Enrollee Statistics Report – The Enrollee Statistics Report was reviewed. There were no questions from the Board.
- Provider Report – The Provider Report was reviewed. The number of individuals being served by ViaQuest increased due to the phasing out of the Community Integration area. ViaQuest is looking to increase transportation options in the future.
- MUI Report – The MUI Report was reviewed. There were no questions from the Board.
- Personnel Control Report – The Personnel Control Report was reviewed. Although the reports shows there are 15 open positions, about half of those are filled with temporary contracts. All offers for the open SSA positions have been accepted. The true vacancy rate is about 4%.
- Quarterly Reports:
 - Operating Plan – Mr. Bluebond stated that there are no concerns at this point. Ms. Finnerty feels that things are progressing well. Any questions should be directed to Ms. Finnerty.

I. Public Relations

The MCBDD staff were present at more than 20 events, and interacted with over 4,000 people, during the month of May. The following activities were completed:

- Wadsworth Community Radio – On 4/26, Ms. Hetkey and Ms. Secaur, from Windfall School, completed a 30-minute morning show radio interview (drive time) regarding Autism acceptance. Topics ranged from Early Intervention to Community Acceptance.
- Facebook Live featured the Special Arts Festival on 5/4. There were four sessions with almost 2,500 in attendance and over 800 views.
- The Developmental Milestones outreach information was distributed to over 60 local healthcare providers/agencies regarding early detection of possible delays. The emphasis was on EI and its impact.
- A check for \$1,057.82 was received from Courthouse Pizzeria in Medina for the Light It Up Blue fundraiser that was held.
- Upcoming events include the following: Pizza Palooza on Saturday, 6/17, and the Ice Cream Social on Thursday, 6/29.

J. Open Forum (Board Policy 2.4.4)

Ms. Orlandi read a letter from a concerned citizen, Carole Feron. It was addressed to the Superintendent and asked if the county board or SHC were planning to sell busses to Intervention for Peace, who is trying to buy the Remsen/Myers Road complex in Medina Township. They are concerned about having the bus garage right across the street from the new home they built. Both the Board and MCBDD staff responded that they were not aware of any conversation regarding selling vehicles to Intervention for Peace. Ms. Lees will give the letter to the Superintendent to follow up with Ms. Feron.

Mr. Carroll commented that Open Forum possibly be moved to the beginning of the meeting. He stated that he is aware of some who would like to attend and address the Board, but do not want to sit through the entire meeting. Ms. Thomas Fain stated that the order of the agenda has always been flexible and if a guest would like to speak, we would move the Open Forum up on the agenda.

IV. Adjournment

A Motion was made by Mr. Perkins, seconded by Ms. Barnes Brown, to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

The Motion passed with a unanimous “yes” vote.

FOR APPROVAL

Sandra Thomas Fain
Board President
Medina County Board of DD

Elaine Orlandi
Secretary
Medina County Board of DD