

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

DATE: Regular Meeting, Tuesday, May 28, 2024

PLACE: Service & Support Center, 610 Commercial Avenue SW, New Philadelphia, Ohio

TIME: 5:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER: President

1.1 **ROLL CALL:** Executive Administrative Director

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg		x (excused)
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

1.2 **REVIEW OF TuscBDD MISSION AND VISION**

- **Mission:** Enhancing Lives
- **Vision:** Inspiring Innovation

1.3 **ADDITIONS, DELETIONS, CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA**

I. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2024 Board meeting and the April 22, 2024 Ethics Committee meeting.

Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Second: **Donna Wayt**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

II. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

1. **Monthly Reconciliation**

The financial report for April was provided for review. The noteworthy items were highlighted in the report. Tyler Smith noted that the year-to-date receipts for Targeted Case

Management have increased 14% over last year. The Department of Education revenue is down about \$79,000 due largely to attendance coding issues that have been fixed as of May and a prior year true-up from the state. On the expenditure side, Tyler explained that the switch to the Tuscarawas County Consortium for health insurance caused a change in how payroll-related insurance expenditures are reported that will be reflected as an increase in this expenditure for the entire year. The increase in Contract Services is largely attributable to costs tied to Medicaid Match for administrative fees paid to the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities as well as the timing of carryover expenses. We are also seeing the effect of the Medicaid Match rate increases in the Medicaid Match line item which was the top expenditure category for the month. Supported Living costs are higher than this time last year due to several temporary emergency situations between November of 2023 into early 2024 which are largely resolved. Expenditures are also up in the Youth Stabilization Homes over last year due to an increase in repair-specific costs and the effect of having two fully staffed homes. It is important to note that all expenditures related to this program are split with our partner counties. Nate Kamban also mentioned that TuscBDD continues to not have any developmental center admissions.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the financial statement as presented which includes the approval of total expenditures in the amount of \$1,477,570.65 for the month of April.

Motion: **Julie Brinkman**

Second: **Ryan Yoss**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

ETHICS COMMITTEE:

1. Presentation of Items Approved by the Ethics Committee

Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the respite care provider contracts with Debra Lilly, Carol Yoss, and Brooke Herbert and the list of direct service payments as presented in accordance with standards in ORC §5126.033 as reviewed and approved by the Ethics Committee.

Motion: **Julie Brinkman**

Second: **Donna Wayt**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	

Lucinda Bihari	x
Julie Brinkman	x
Thomas Fantin	x
Andrea Legg	absent
Donna Wayt	x
Ryan Yoss	abstain

The President declares the motion **carried**.

IV. **OLD BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD**

V. **NEW BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD**

1. **Janitorial Services Agreement**

This contract includes the requirement that individuals with disabilities are employed and involved in the performance of cleaning services. The cost of these services continues to fall below the threshold that requires competitive bidding, so bidding is not necessary. Advocates for Success wants to continue providing these services with no rate increase for the upcoming contract year.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the agreement for janitorial services between the Tuscarawas County Board of DD and Advocates For Success, LLC per the terms and conditions of the agreement as submitted and approved by the Tuscarawas County Prosecutor's Office.

Motion: **Ryan Yoss**

Second: **Julie Brinkman**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

2. **Supplemental Appropriations**

Nate Kamban shared that additional funds are needed in contract services to provide for an increase in legal fees due to the need for legal counsel related to various projects and grants. Additional funds are also needed for supported living due to a crisis situation that occurred near the end of 2023 that involved the need for local supported living funds that were not paid for until 2024. A supplemental appropriation is also needed to cover the cost of a van for one of the providers of the youth stabilization home as outlined in the contract, since a new provider is now in place. This cost for the van will then be split five ways between Tuscarawas and the other four partner counties.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the following supplemental appropriations:

FROM: UNAPPROPRIATED (E-1420-S050-S40)	TO: GENERAL FUND CONTRACT SERVICES (E-1420-S050-S22)	AMOUNT: \$10,000.00
FROM: UNAPPROPRIATED (E-1420-S050-S40)	TO: GENERAL FUND SUPPORTED LIVING (E-1420-S050-S41)	AMOUNT: \$50,000.00
FROM: UNAPPROPRIATED (E-1420-S050-S40)	TO: GENERAL FUND YOUTH STABILIZATION HOMES (E-1420-S050-S48)	AMOUNT: \$40,000.00

Motion: **Donna Wayt**

Second: **Kathleen Arthurs**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

3. Superior Technology Group – Information Systems Support

This contract with Superior Technology Group provides information systems support to our IT department that consists of high-level technical assistance with our network as well as troubleshooting and support. This support is very helpful to our IT Department, and they are recommending renewal of this contract at the same level of support. There is a 5% increase to the hourly rate included in the contract.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the contract for the provision of information systems support from Superior Technology Group, LLC per the terms and conditions of the contract as submitted and approved by the Tuscarawas County Prosecutor's Office.

Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Second: **Ryan Yoss**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	

Ryan Yoss

x

The President declares the motion **carried**.

4. Donation

Recommendation to adopt a motion to accept the following donation, to deposit it in the County Treasury under U25, S50 or N10, as appropriate, and to utilize it for its specific purpose as designated by the donor:

- \$10,000.00 from the Ruth Carlson Starlight Foundation to TuscBDD for the Starlight School Playground Project
- \$1.00 from General Mills Box Tops for Education to Starlight School

Motion: **Julie Brinkman**

Second: **Kathleen Arthurs**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

VI. PERSONNEL

1. Personnel Actions:

- a. Riley Morrison – new hire – Community Health Worker - Bridges to Wellness Program, effective June 3, 2024
- b. Bonnie Hastedt – change in status – Substitute Classroom Assistant to Full-Time Food Service Specialist, effective July 29, 2024

VII. REPORTS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

1. Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities Pipeline Newsletters

– These can be accessed online at <http://dodd.ohio.gov/pipeline/Pages/Pipeline-Quarterly.aspx> (*Copies are also available upon request.*)

2. State Issues

- **Waiver Changes on July 1, 2024:** Nate Kamban shared that waiver amendments will go into effect on July 1, 2024 that will apply to all three DODD waivers. Individuals on waivers will have access to remote telehealth as a part of their waiver services. Providers will also start to receive incentive-based payments when delivering individual employment supports and career planning which increase based on the acuity level of the individual.
- **Update on House Bill 344:** Representatives from the western part of the state sponsored HB 344 which would permanently eliminate the ability of local property taxing authorities to put replacement levies on the ballot. This will now go to the

senate for their review. Nate Kamban explained that OACB expects major opposition to this bill as this would also negatively impact local school districts.

3. Local Issues

- **Additional Preschool Classroom Update:** Nate Kamban shared that after several conversations with public school districts, it was determined that there was not full support to move forward with an additional preschool classroom for the 2024-2025 school year. As this project was discussed, we learned that the IEP slots in our preschool program have been largely filled by referrals from Early Intervention. This can be positive to ensure youth with intensive needs get more support; however, some districts are equipped and prefer to serve youth with intensive needs starting at the preschool level rather than having them sent to Starlight School. This would also leave more open slots at Starlight School for districts who may not be as equipped to start serving youth with intensive needs at the preschool level. We are planning to partner with the ESC and Early Intervention to streamline the preschool referral process for the 2025-2026 school year.
- **Starlight School Playground Discussion:** Unfortunately, no bids were received at the bid opening held in May despite having numerous companies request bid specifications. Our architect reached out to the various companies that expressed interest to learn why they did not respond with a bid. The companies mentioned that some needed more time to secure a local general contractor, they had a desire to include playground equipment from companies they represent, or the project size was not enough work for a general contractor to travel to the jobsite. The project will be rebid by publishing in three newspapers, rather than one, for three consecutive weeks to give playground companies more time to secure a general contractor. The specifications were also modified to include a total of five acceptable equipment manufacturers with the goal of generating more bids with official action then to be taken on the proposal at the June 24, 2024 Board meeting. On a positive note, a total of \$49,000 has been raised to date thanks to donations received from the Ruth Carlson Foundation, Rainbow Connection, and VFW. Nate recognized Mel Cronebach from the ESC for securing donations from the Rainbow Connection and VFW on behalf of Starlight School. This fundraising along with design changes is bringing us closer to a more feasible amount to be requested from TuscBDD to supplement the grant award in order to fund the overall project. All numbers are still very preliminary as we will not see official proposals from bidders until the bid opening.
- **In-service Training Topics:** Based on the completed surveys, the top three areas of interest for Board member in-service topics for 2024 are a tour of the tech home, an update and tour of Starlight School to see the sensory room and playground, and the ARPA grant review with community tour to see the universal changing tables. Based on when these projects are expected to be completed, we will tentatively plan to hold the ARPA grant/community tour in June, the tech home tour in September, and the Starlight School update with tour in October.
- **Outreach Team Update:** There is currently one vacant Behavior Support Assistant position on the Outreach team. After review of current caseloads and the

students who are expected to transition into Starlight School next year, it was decided to put the hiring of this position on hold until the need for this can be better evaluated at the beginning of next school year.

- **ARPA Grant Update:** The Latino Pilot Project is moving forward with two employees expected to start soon at AFS and two at CSS in the near future. This was made possible thanks to DODD's willingness to grant a waiver to permit non-English speaking people to be hired as DSPs. Nate Kamban also shared that there is a new therapy dog for Starlight School. Alisha Ketchem, Starlight School Teacher, agreed to be the handler, and training starts soon.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Recognition/Good News

- Nate Kamban recognized Christi Otte, FCFC Manager and Lisa Sidoti, Executive Administrative Director who graduated from Leadership Tuscarawas 2023-2024 class. They both completed community projects as a part of their participation in the program, and Nate Kamban shared that they were both a positive representation of TuscBDD based on feedback he received.

2. Major Unusual Incident (MUI) Report

3. Newspaper Articles

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

X. ADJOURNMENT

1. Adopt a motion to adjourn.

Motion: **Julie Brinkman**

Second: **Kathleen Arthurs**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	x	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	x	
Andrea Legg	absent	
Donna Wayt	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

Time: **6:06 p.m.**

"This is a true and accurate record of the meeting of May 28, 2024."


Thomas Fantin, President


Julie Brinkman, Recording Secretary

This is not a verbatim transcript of the May 28, 2024 Board meeting.

2024-0528 minutes