

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY BOARD OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

DATE: Regular Meeting, Tuesday, May 27, 2025

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	(excused)
Julie Brinkman	x		
Thomas Fantin		x	(excused)
Andrea Legg	x		
Heather O'Connor	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 28, 2025 Board meeting.

Motion: **Andrea Legg**

Second: **Kathleen Arthurs**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	
Kathleen Arthurs	x		
Lucinda Bihari	absent		
Julie Brinkman	x		
Thomas Fantin	absent		
Andrea Legg	x		
Heather O'Connor	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. The most significant source of revenue for April was the Property Tax

Homestead Rollback. The next highest source was Refunds & Reimbursements with the largest portion of that being made up of the reimbursement TuscbDD receives to cover the FCFC salaries and fringe benefits, which will be billed monthly going forward. The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce revenue seems to have adjusted based on our higher enrollment numbers as receipts are becoming more consistent. The Medicaid Match invoice for April through June was the largest expense for April and was aligned with the budgeted amount for the SFY 2025 projected invoice total. Samantha Farmery explained that Medicaid Match expenses are approximately 26% higher compared to the April 2024 invoice as we continue to see the impact of the DSP wage increase. Contract Services appears high at this point in the year but includes our annual payment to MEORC for services, the flow-through of the expenditure for the house purchased by Belmont County, and the payment of administrative fees that accompany the Medicaid Match billing. The Family Respite line item looks high as it is fully expended; however, this was from grant funds.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to approve the financial statement as presented which includes the approval of total expenditures in the amount of \$1,635,944.49 for the month of April.

Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Second: **Heather O'Connor**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	abstain	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

III. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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. Advocates for Success wants to continue providing these services with no rate increase for the second year in a row.

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: **Andrea Legg**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

2. Keeping Families Together Crisis Intervention Funding

This grant application is seeking \$7,000 to cover the cost for Starlight School staff to be trained in a new crisis intervention training known as PCM. Currently, staff are trained in QBS, but switching to PCM would provide a more efficient training process on a crisis intervention protocol that has less restraint issues. This would also enable both TuscBDD and ESC staff to all be trained in the same crisis intervention training which would be great for building-wide consistency.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to authorize the Superintendent to apply to the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities for Keeping Families Together Crisis Intervention Funding.

Motion: **Ryan Yoss**

Second: **Kathleen Arthurs**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

3. DD Council Grant

This grant application is seeking \$5,000 in funding from DD Council to fund additional translation support for the Latino Pilot Project when someone new is hired. Nate Kamban shared that DD Council is made up of people with developmental disabilities. After learning about the Latino Pilot Project, they were very excited and reached out to Nate Kamban to learn more.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to authorize the Superintendent to apply to the DD

Council for a grant to support the Latino Pilot Project.

Motion: **Andrea Legg**

Second: **Heather O'Connor**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

4. OAPSE Contract Ratification

Nate Kamban commented about the positive bargaining session that was held with the OAPSE team in April. An agreement for a three-year contract was reached in one session.

Recommendation to adopt a motion to ratify the collective bargaining agreement between the Tuscarawas County Board of Developmental Disabilities and the Ohio Association of Public School Employees (OAPSE)/AFSCME Local 4 and its Local #103.

Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Second: **Heather O'Connor**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

5. Donations

Nate Kamban recognized Mark Incarnato for the significant impact he had on the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities during his time here at TuscBDD. We will seek to use these donations to honor his legacy and celebrate his musical talent.

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

- \$100.00 from the Ferris Families & Ferris Chevrolet Employees to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$50.00 from Bob and Lisa Grossenbacher to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato

- \$25.00 from the Andrew and Julie Jones Family to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$20.00 from Tom (Chopper) and Lori Phillips & Jill Phillips to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$50.00 from Jeffery and Lauri Mamarella to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$25.00 from James Watson to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$20.00 from the Clifton Family Trust (Frank & Connie Clifton) to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$100.00 from Darla Caswell to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$150.00 from John and Tami Cunningham to TuscBDD in memory of Mark Incarnato
- \$156.00 from Little Caesars Dine to Donate Fundraiser to TuscBDD for Starlight School's PBIS program

Motion: **Ryan Yoss**

Second: **Andrea Legg**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

VI. PERSONNEL

1. Personnel Actions:

- Emma Koile – new hire – Teacher, effective August 1, 2025
- Kathy Kent – retirement – Registered Nurse, effective November 14, 2025
- Jeniece Schering – resignation – Behavior Support Supervisor, effective August 1, 2025
- Starlight School Openings for 2025-2026 School Year: Classroom Assistant, Intermittent Substitute Teacher

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. **Federal/State Updates**
 - **U.S. House Passes Budget Reconciliation Bill – Medicaid Cuts Draw Scrutiny:** This bill includes a new provision requiring able-bodied adults to meet Medicaid work requirements starting in 2026. It also includes \$700 billion in cuts to Medicaid; however, there is currently not any clear language in the bill indicating that this will affect people with developmental disabilities at this time. Most discussions

around Medicaid cuts have largely excluded the DD population, and we are hopeful these cuts will not have an impact on them.

- **Governor DeWine Opposes Proposed Property Tax Elimination Amendment:** A significant number of bills to reduce property taxes have been introduced, including a proposed constitutional amendment to eliminate property taxes. Governor DeWine has voiced strong opposition to this proposed amendment, warning of “devastating” impacts on local services, including county board of DD. This proposal, recently approved for signature collection, aims for the November ballot. There is also a proposal to give the Budget Commission, made up of the local Prosecutor, Auditor, and Treasurer, more authority to control who gets funding.

3. Local Updates

- **Meeting with Representative Salvo:** Nate Kamban and Christi Otte met with Representative Jodi Salvo and were able to share highlights about the work done at TuscBDD and Tuscarawas County FCFC including recent grant projects, Starlight School sustainability efforts, and the increased number of youths served by FCFC. Also discussed was the crucial role of local levies in sustaining DD services. It was a very positive meeting, and Representative Salvo immediately understood the importance of our work with her background in human services.
- **SEI Compliance Review:** During SEI’s compliance review last month, DODD had some questions regarding some of the Individual Service Plans developed by our SSAs. DODD felt that the information gathered in the assessment portion of the plan did not end up clearly translated into goals that are then noted in the ISP. Corrections have been made to each plan, and a training was held in May with the SSA team on this topic. This has since been seen as a trend statewide, and the SSA team is preemptively reviewing the plans that will be reviewed by DODD in future provider reviews for this calendar year in an effort to avoid future citations.
- **Utilities Rates:** Nate Kamban confirmed with the Board that TuscBDD has locked in rates for both the electric and gas suppliers. The electric contract will expire in January of 2026, and the natural gas contract will expire in September. We continue to look for ways to keep the cost of contract services low.
- **Tech Home Updates:** Interest in the Technology Home remains strong with a total of 22 tours and 3 overnight stays conducted. Grant funding for this project, which we used to purchase technology, pay for services, and pay SEI vacancy costs, runs out in July. We are in the process of solidifying plans for this home upon the completion of the grant with various options being considered such as continuing in the current manner and paying for vacancies, identifying a few individuals who could live in the home who are willing to still allow tours, or considering sharing this home with multiple counties. Research will continue and the Board will be updated in the coming months.
- **Litigation Update:** Work continues on a possible settlement. If there are updates to share, Nate Kamban will schedule an Executive Session at an upcoming Board meeting.
- **Future Funding Planning:** Meetings have been held internally to review our 10-year financial plan and prepare for a possible levy in 2026. This includes

correspondence between Samantha Farmery and the Tuscarawas County Auditor to determine the amount of additional funding that we will need to operate for a continued 10-year period. Originally, we were hoping to replace older levies; however, it does not look like that will be a possibility. Members of the Finance Committee, Kathleen Arthurs, Ryan Yoss, and Heather O'Connor, will be asked to meet to review the scenarios we are working on prior to sharing it with the full Board.

4. **Good News Moment – United Way Day of Caring:** Nate Kamban recognized the TuscBDD staff members who helped their community and participated in the United Way Day of Caring. He thanked them for their efforts laying mulch at Zoar Village on a very cold, miserable weather day!

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Major Unusual Incident (MUI) Report
2. Newspaper Articles

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Recommendation and motion to enter into and conduct an executive session in accordance with Revised Code 121.22(G)(1) for the purpose of consideration of the following matter: The employment and compensation of a public employee. A majority of the quorum of the Board determined by roll call vote is required to hold an executive session. A roll call vote will be taken.

Motion: **Ryan Yoss**

Second: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Roll Call:	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>
Kathleen Arthurs	x	
Lucinda Bihari	absent	
Julie Brinkman	x	
Thomas Fantin	absent	
Andrea Legg	x	
Heather O'Connor	x	
Ryan Yoss	x	

The President declares the motion **carried**.

Time in: **5:57** p.m.

2. Recommendation and motion to adjourn executive session and return to the open meeting. A roll call vote will be taken.

Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Second: **Heather O'Connor**

Roll Call:	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	
Kathleen Arthurs	x		
Lucinda Bihari	absent		
Julie Brinkman	x		
Thomas Fantin	absent		
Andrea Legg	x		
Heather O'Connor	x		
Ryan Yoss	x		The President declares the motion carried .

Time out: **6:12** p.m.

After returning to open session, the following actions were taken:

1. Recommendation to adopt a motion to add a motion to the agenda to consider the superintendent contract for vote after returning to open session.

Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

Second: **Ryan Yoss**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	
Kathleen Arthurs	x		
Lucinda Bihari	absent		
Julie Brinkman	x		
Thomas Fantin	absent		
Andrea Legg	x		
Heather O'Connor	x		
Ryan Yoss	x		The President declares the motion carried .

2. Recommendation to adopt a motion to enter into a five-year contract to appoint Nate Kamban to the position of Superintendent, effective July 1, 2025.

Motion: **Andrea Legg**

Second: **Heather O'Connor**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	
Kathleen Arthurs	x		
Lucinda Bihari	absent		
Julie Brinkman	x		
Thomas Fantin	absent		
Andrea Legg	x		
Heather O'Connor	x		
Ryan Yoss	x		The President declares the motion carried .

XI. ADJOURNMENT

1. Adopt a motion to adjourn.

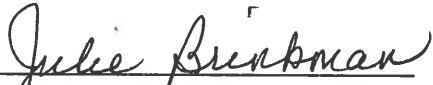
Motion: **Kathleen Arthurs**

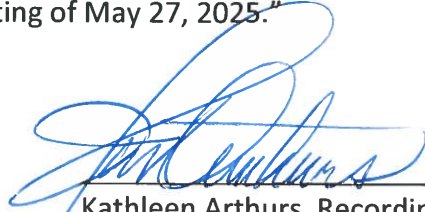
Second: **Ryan Yoss**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	
Kathleen Arthurs	x		
Lucinda Bihari	absent		
Julie Brinkman	x		
Thomas Fantin	absent		
Andrea Legg	x		
Heather O'Connor	x		
Ryan Yoss	x		The President declares the motion carried .

Time: **6:15** p.m.

"This is a true and accurate record of the meeting of May 27, 2025."


 Julie Brinkman, President


 Kathleen Arthurs, Recording Secretary

This is not a verbatim transcript of the May 27, 2025 Board meeting.

2025-0527 minutes