

Scioto County Board of Developmental Disabilities
Board Minutes
June 17, 2021
STAR, Inc. @ 5:00 P.M.

In complying with the Governor’s Urgent Health Advisory: Ohioans Protecting Ohioans, SCDD’s meeting was held in closed quarters and was live streamed on the SCDD Facebook page.

Vice-President Arnett called the meeting to order at approximately 5:05 P.M.

1. **Prayer & Pledge:** Cindy Gibson offered the prayer and led the pledge.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Vice President Michael Arnett, Recording Secretary Jeffrey Kleha, Cindy Gibson, Anthony Mantell, William Adams, and Jon Peters.
3. **Agenda:** No changes as presented
4. **Minutes:** Minutes for the Board meeting conducted on May 20 were approved on a motion made by Gibson and seconded by Mantell. The motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.
5. **Expenses and Fiscal Report:** Superintendent Matt Purcell reporting for Finance Director Lynne Webb. The Board received and reviewed the written report prior to the meeting. There were no questions or comments. Adams made the motion to accept the written and oral report and it was seconded by Kleha. The motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.
6. **Superintendent’s Report:** Superintendent Matt Purcell reporting. Purcell updated the Board on COVID safety procedures being followed by SCDD including lifting the mask mandate with the exception of congregant settings, and requiring masks for visitors. There had been no conflict yet regarding safety protocol from employees or visitors, but proper measures would be taken if it came to a combative situation when entering the building. Purcell commented any changes or issues would be reported to the Board as necessary.
7. **Program Reports:** The program reports were submitted to the Board prior to the meeting. Arnett thanked the Directors for their reports. There were no comments or questions
8. **Committee Reports:** Ethics Council - J. Kleha, Chair. There was one direct service contact for review by the Ethics Council. There were no known conflicts noted, and a motion was made by Chairman Kleha to approve the contract. The motion was seconded by Gibson, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.
9. **Old Business:**
 - A. **Discuss SSA Caseload Coverage Compensation Model and vote on approval:**

Purcell stated the Leadership Team had met to discuss the issue of current SSA’s receiving caseload increases due to personnel changes in the department. Purcell added it was SCDD procedure to keep caseloads to a maximum of 35 individual’s per SSA. Asking them to provide services to more than 35 individuals would be considered acting outside their current job description, and they should be compensated for their extra duties.

SSA Director Chad Phipps distributed caseload coverage data depicting expense, caseload information and benefits of using the compensation model to the Board for review. It was noted the additional cases would be assigned by a Supervisor based on the SSA’s current

number of cases and the service needs of the individuals. It was noted this compensation would be temporary and would not affect current pay rates for the SSA's. Phipps reviewed the financial outlook of the model and answered questions. Following further discussion, Adams made the motion to accept the compensation model as presented, with the understanding it may be amended as necessary following periodic evaluations. (Reevaluate after six months post implementation) Mantell seconded the motion and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

- B. Discuss staff rate adjustments and vote as needed:** Purcell stated he had met with HR Consultant Dave Zender regarding the salary market analysis, and the report was not yet completed. As the report contains relevant information regarding staff rate adjustments, it was decided this item could be tabled until the July meeting when all information is available.
- C. Discuss and vote of 2% wage increase for Providers:** Purcell informed the Board state funding had approved the increase without mandating financial assistance from County Boards; therefore, no vote was necessary.
- D. Discuss and vote on reopening of Board meetings to public:** Purcell explained as Ohio mandates had been lifted regarding public gatherings, it was possible to open the meetings back up to the public, as well as to SCDD Directors and staff. Several concerns were expressed including obtaining a larger space to meet the six-foot requirement, STAR being agreeable to open their building, and continuing the Facebook broadcasts in the future. Purcell suggested future announcements will note the meetings would be broadcast remotely as a courtesy only, and the Board agreed. Following discussion, Kleha made a motion to approve opening the meetings to the public. The motion was seconded by Gibson and approved unanimously in a roll call vote.

10. New Business:

- A. Review and vote on transportation contract with Petermann Transportation:** The Board received the proposal from Petermann for review. Purcell stated the proposal extends the current contract for another five years. This would cover both students at VRS, and adults as needed. He noted that as Petermann was the provider of record for the majority of adults, it was the individual's choice to use them for their transport needs. Pending several different scenarios, this could result in the contract looking somewhat different than originally created if individual's used different sources for their transportation, or decided not to return to their workshop or employment and therefore no longer needed transportation service. Kleha made a motion to approve the transportation contract and it was seconded by Adams. The motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.
- B. Update on 2021 In-Service Plan:** Purcell informed the Board a date of September 17, 2021 had been reserved for the 2021 All-Staff In-Service meeting. He noted the in-service would be conducted at SSU in the Morris ballroom, and members were invited to attend.
- C. Discuss Results of IT Audit:** Purcell stated the on-site IT audit had been completed and a report from ESC was currently being compiled. He stated he would email the results to the Board members once all info is received.

- 11. Other:** Board Member Anthony Mantell was recognized. He stated he wanted to express his thoughts on the Commissioners visit at the last meeting regarding prayer. Purcell noted for the record he had asked Commissioner Davis to consider not attending the meeting to allow the Board more time to work out an answer among themselves, but the Commissioners decided to go ahead and attend the meeting. Mantell noted he was not at all opposed to prayer at the meetings, but felt

the Board may have been overwhelmed and pressured by the Board of Commissioner's presence and stance on the issue. Mantell noted for the record, that he felt the Board should not have taken a vote on reinstating prayer at the meetings, but rather should have discussed the situation and agreed on an answer without taking formal action. Vice President Arnett commented the initial decision to discontinue prayer was made unilaterally by the former Board President, and should have also been brought before the full Board for discussion before making that decision. Arnett stated two meetings had passed presenting opportunity to discuss and/or vote on it, but the topic was not presented. He also stated the Board had been informed at the last meeting of the risks of continuing prayer and had agreed to take that risk. Discussion regarding Rockwell's resignation also ensued, with Mantell commenting he did not understand why the Commissioners accepted his resignation when it had not been sent to them directly; and once rescinded, why they would not accept the resignation withdrawal. Mantell also expressed his concern regarding politics entering into the SCDD decision process, and stated the Board needs to make their own decisions without outside influences. Additional discussion continued among members. It should be noted there were no past or present conflicts between any of the Board members or Commissioners resulting from this current decision.

12. **Comments from the floor:** None

13. **Executive Session:** The Board entered Executive Session on a motion made by Kleha and seconded by Mantell in accordance with *ORC 121.22 Public Meetings – Exceptions (G) (1)*, *the Board will enter into Executive Session to consider the employment, and/or compensation of a public employee(s) or official* at 6:47 P.M.

14. **The Board returned to regular session** at 7:20 P.M. A motion was made by Mantell and seconded by Peters to approve two management contracts as agreed upon. The motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

15. **Adjournment:** The Board unanimously agreed to adjourn at approximately 7:30 P.M.

Minutes Prepared by:
Carla Nelson-White
Board Clerk

Submitted by:
Jeffrey Kleha
Recording Secretary