Scioto County Developmental Disabilities
Board Meeting
@ Carousel Center Conference Room
Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 5:00 PM
MINUTES

The Board offered a moment of silence for SCDD service recipient and Happy Hearts Alumnus, James "Jim" Stapleton who passed away at the age of 78. SCDD extends sincere condolences to Jim's family, friends, and all who knew him.

1. ***Prayer and Pledge:*** Cindy Gibson offered the prayer and Jon Peters led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ***Roll Call:*** All members were present.

3. ***Agenda:*** No changes as presented

4. ***Minutes:*** Discuss/Vote on regular Board Minutes from January 22, 2026. A motion was made by Peters and seconded by Buckler-Callihan to approve. The motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

5. ***Expenses and Fiscal Report:*** Finance Director Steve Sowkulech reporting. Sowkulech reported the year-to-date beginning balance as of 1-31-26 was approximately $1.4 million. Following expenses and revenue, the ending balance was $922,259.67. It was noted that the agency has asked for three advancements of funds from the county Auditor's office that had been received as of the time of the meeting. Adams made the motion to approve the oral and written report and it was seconded by Murray. The motion carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

6. ***Superintendent's Report:*** Superintendent Matt Purcell reporting. Purcell thanked the Board for renewing his contract and allowing him the opportunity to build systems and solutions for the agency. Purcell updated that the waiver modernization (InterRAI assessment) training for assessors is set to take place in mid-April. Purcell stated that there will be 1,100 people involved in the pilot program, and the agency should be receiving the names of the individuals involved very soon. In mid to late May the second round of the program will begin. Fourteen counties are in our region and will be sharing three accessors. Purcell went on to explain that each individual will be assessed every three years. Superintendent Purcell informed the Board that on the 26th of February, that the Scioto County Commissioners would proclaim that the month of March be declared DD Awareness month. Purcell noted that SCDD would have a group at the courthouse after the Commissioner meeting to hear the reading of the proclamation as well as that Purcell would be bringing the proclamation to the March Board meeting for approval. Purcell also explained to the Board that the Ohio Association of County Boards has taken the lead on the Funding our Future project. Purcell noted that this is not only happening to our county, but across the state as well. The association brought a group together to create a list which consisted of twenty-four concepts to focus on sustainability. Purcell informed the Board that this list had been narrowed to ten concepts which will be expounded on during a training session after the March board meeting. Purcell went on to list the ten concepts for the Board which included: 1.) Ohio Mandates Early Intervention Service Provision as a County Board Service and Pays at Least Half of Costs; 2.) Strengthening Local County Board Governance Through Shared Services and Proactive Fiscal Planning; 3.) Establish Clear, Consistent Limits on Property Tax Contributions to Medicaid Waivers and Mandate Greater State Accountability for Cost Growth; 4.) Promote Independence, Establish Consistent Authorization Standards, and Create Shared Funding

Responsibility for Intensive Service Needs; 5.) Strengthening County Board Service Coordination and Fully Leveraging Federal Administrative Dollars; 6.) Strengthen Support for Children: Make Ohio a Katie Beckett State and Expand Pediatric Medicaid State Plan Options; 7.) Establishing a Waiver Ceiling and Waiver Floor and Modernizing State Waiver Allocation; 8.) Strengthening the Continuum of Care of Realigning Funding Responsibility for Individuals with the Highest Support Needs; 9.) Establishing Actuarially Sound, Outcome-Based Provider Payment Rates to Promote Fairness, Sustainability, and Appropriate Support; and 10.) Clarifying State and Local Funding Responsibility for Children and Multi-System Youth. Purcell also noted that concepts one through six were ready to move forward while concepts seven through ten were still being worked on.

7. ***Program Reports***: Mantell thanked the Directors for their efforts in providing the reports and keeping the Board informed with valuable insight on their Programs. There were no questions or comments.

8. ***Committee Reports***: Ethics Council, *Adrienne Buckler-Callihan, Chair* reporting. An ethics meeting was held prior to the Board meeting to review one direct service contract for respite care and the annual list of service contracts. No conflicts were found. Buckler-Callihan made a motion to approve them collectively, and it was seconded by Gibson. The motion carried in a unanimous roll-call vote.

9. ***Old Business***: **None**

10. ***New Business***:

    A. ***Discuss/Vote on Resolution 2026.02-01*** regarding the cash conversion plan for employees. This resolution puts an annual plan in place so converted leave can be considered earnable income and approved by the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System. It was noted a resolution was required each year for the plan to be effective. Adams made the motion to approve the Resolution and it was seconded by Nelson. The motion carried in an unanimous roll-call vote.

    B. ***Discuss/Vote on Resolution 2026.02-02*** regarding the Ohio Association of County Boards sustainability efforts. This resolution will show SCDD's support for the efforts and sustainability concepts being put in place and approved by the Ohio Association of County Boards. Nelson made the motion to approve the Resolution and it was seconded by Peters. The motion carried in an unanimous roll-call vote.

11. ***Other***: **None**

12. ***Comments from the Floor***: Speakers are required to state their name and address for the record. Additional speaking rules are on the back of the public agenda. There were no comments from the floor.

13. ***Executive Session***: In accordance with ORC 121.22 Public Meetings- Exceptions (G) (1), the Board entered into Executive Session at 5:21pm to discuss a personnel matter. They exited Executive Session at 5:37pm.

13. ***Return to regular session:*** The Board returned to regular session at 5:38pm. No action was taken.

14. Adjournment: A motion was made by Jon Peters to adjourn at 5:38pm. It was voted unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Cindy Gibson, Recording Secretary

Minutes Prepared by:
April Kozee, Board Clerk