HIGHLAND COUNTY BOARD OF DD

MARCH 16, 2021

6:00 PM REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Hills and Dales Gym

The Highland County Board of Developmental Disabilities met in a regular session at 6:03 pm, Tuesday, March 16, 2021. Board Members present: Karen Adams, Paul Pence, John Levo, Cheryl Lyle and Elizabeth Fryman. Absent: Michael Richards, Matthew Roberts,

Others present were Debra Buccilla, Superintendent, Sherry Burns, Executive Administrative Assistant, Kelli Williamson, SSA Director, Lori Moore, Business Director and Larry Gray, Operations Director

**ROLL CALL:** Paul Pence, present; John Levo, present; Michael Richards absent; Matthew Roberts, absent, Elizabeth Fryman, present, Cheryl Lyle, present; Karen Adams, present.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA**: NA

**Reports:**

**The minutes of the** February 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved in a motion by John Levo, seconded by Paul Pence Roll Call. All yea, motion carried.

**Roll Call: Paul Pence, yea; John Levo, yea; Cheryl Lyle, yea, Elizabeth Fryman, abstain, Karen Adams, yea;**

**New Vendors: Lenovo**

A motion was made by Elizabeth Fryman, seconded by Cheryl Lyle to approve the vendor for March. All yea. Motion carried.

**Roll Call: Paul Pence, yea; John Levo, yea; Cheryl Lyle, yea, Elizabeth Fryman, yea, Karen Adams, yea;**

**Transfers:** None

**Monthly expenditures for March 2021** were reviewed and approved in a motion by John Levo seconded by Elizabeth Fryman. Roll Call. All yea, motion carried.

**Roll Call: Paul Pence, yea; John Levo, yea; Cheryl Lyle, yea, Elizabeth Fryman, yea, Karen Adams, yea;**

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

We published our 2020 Annual Report a few weeks back. I hope you had an opportunity to look at it. Jennifer Goodwin designed the new format and we are pleased with the way it turned out.

Our referrals for HMG & Early Intervention continue to grow. Suzie will be meeting with the HMG team to begin looking at some long range plans to determine staffing needs. ODH has been very good with funding going directly to counties for incentive work and increased caseloads. This unfortunately has not been the case in EI. There continues to be no direct funding for this service and it is funded primarily thru the local tax dollar.

Family Support Services (FSS) you may recall that we discussed several times last year that the state funding for this program went away. We did however, prioritize 2 areas in our budget to continue to fund. These are adaptive equipment and respite services. Most families have adapted. We have had one family who has voiced concerns.

DD Awareness Event was held virtually this year. Madeline Rogers represented Highland County and one of the highlights of the event included a welcome by Governor DeWine.  Michael Richards and Kraig Walker represented Ohio’s People First and hosted legislative meetings for several Representatives and Senators.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Project Updates- Larry Gray**

Highco has been using two 16 passenger transit vans that belong to the HCBDD that they no longer need and we have a 2007 Thomas bus that we would like to sell. We will get pricing and ask permission in April to post on govdeals.com.

**Housing update- Larry Gray**

Highland Housing has been awarded approx. $15,000 for home repairs and will continue to apply for additional funds. HCCAO has been awarded approx. $65,000 for home renovations. The County board has been awarded $488,000 toward the construction of one new single family home and a duplex or another single family home. One home will be built through Highland Housing using a lot from the landbank at the lake. The build is still to be determined.

**Special Olympics- Debra Buccilla**

Track season is fast approaching however, there continues to be restrictions on group size, transportation etc. Summer games have been cancelled therefore the regional qualifiers were also cancelled. Although athletes have not had the opportunities to participate, donations continue to come in. We are hopeful that we can coordinate some activities to get folks moving in the upcoming months.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Highland Strategic Plan- Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

In your Board packet you received the front page of the new & improved Strategic plan format. Each quarter I will highlight some progress on one of the goals. In goal #1, objective #1, Create county wide social opportunities in which all children may participate. Before the world shut down, we were able to partner with Head Start and WIC to offer rotating playgroups in order to share assets and funds. In addition, we were able to designate community play sites throughout the county for family fun and opportunities.

**2021 Preschool Update – Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

We have begun taking enrollment for the 2021/2022 school year. I am very proud of all our preschool and operations staff who made it possible to operate this year even though we were at 50% capacity. For 2021/2022 we plan to operate at full capacity and we anticipate being full within the month.

**Vaccination Update – Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

We are pleased that all adults being served who initially wanted the vaccine have received it. We did have a few individuals who declined initially but have since changed their minds. They have been worked into the clinics being held at the YMCA on Thursdays. Overall, we had approx. 50% of those adults being served vaccinated at the clinics hosted at Hills & Dales. We are so appreciative of our partnership with the Highland County Health Dept. that we have been volunteering at the Thursday clinics at the YMCA as a “thank you”.

**2021 Board Trainings- Debra Buccilla, Superintendent**

February training was on Health and Safety Alerts and was .5 credit.

March training will be on DODD Executive Budget Summary and Testimony and will be 1 credit.

Please send Sherry an email for your files when completed.

Elizabeth Fryman made a motion to adjourn the HCBDD meeting at 6:39 pm, seconded by Cheryl Lyle.

**Roll Call: Paul Pence, yea; John Levo, yea; Cheryl Lyle, yea, Elizabeth Fryman, yea, Karen Adams, yea;**

Prepared by: Sherry Burns, Executive Administrative Assistant

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Karen Adams, Board President

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Cheryl Lyle, Recording Secretary