



**135 East Maumee Avenue, Napoleon, OH 43545
HENRY COUNTY BOARD OF DD MEETING MINUTES**

June 17, 2026

Board Members Present: Samantha Andonian, Daniel Bischoff, Chris Buchhop, Kim Cordes, Harmony Downing, Brenda Kruse. Nichole Tripp via zoom.

Superintendent: Kelly Rieke

Staff Present: Keri Bunke, Melinda Camp, Tracy Deblin, Jessica Harmon, Heather Obermyer

Visitors: Lisa Owen

The Henry County Board of Developmental Disabilities (HCBDD) Regular Board meeting was held on June 17, 2026 at 135 East Maumee Avenue, Napoleon, Ohio. The meeting was called to order by Daniel Bischoff and roll call was taken.

Approval of Minutes, Revisions, or Additions to the Agenda

Resolution 26-29: The HCBDD approve the minutes of the May 20, 2026 Regular Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Cordes. Roll call was taken and Resolution 26-29 was unanimously approved.

New Business from the Board

Resolution 26-30: The HCBDD approve the Superintendent Development Plan for 2026 – 2027.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Andonian. Roll call was taken and Resolution 26-30 was unanimously approved.

Resolution 26-31: The HCBDD approve the revised compensation levels as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Downing. Roll call was taken and Resolution 26-31 was unanimously approved.

Updates from the Superintendent:

Kelly Rieke, Superintendent, shared a few updates with the board.

DODD has shared a proposed regional model intended to help counties that are experiencing increased financial pressure and growing Medicaid compliance responsibilities. The current example involves a 10-county region in Southeast Ohio and is being discussed as a possible way to create more consistent access to Medicaid-funded DD services across counties.

County boards currently administer many Medicaid waiver functions locally. However, the State of Ohio retains statutory authority and federal accountability for the Medicaid system. County boards depend heavily on local levy dollars to meet mandated service obligations. This means a person's access to services can be affected by the financial condition of their county and its ability to pass or renew levies.

HB 795 is a pending Ohio House bill focused on Medicaid fraud prevention and oversight, particularly related to home health care and electronic visit verification. The bill was introduced on March 25, 2026, referred to the House Medicaid Committee on May 13, 2026, and has had multiple committee hearings. The current discussion has centered on strengthening program integrity while avoiding unintended harm to people with disabilities who rely on in-home support.

HB 585 is an Ohio bill regarding the authority of the Department of Developmental Disabilities to adopt rules for the use of community capital assistance funds. The bill would require DODD to establish a process for making these funds available to county boards of developmental disabilities for the purpose of acquiring housing for individuals receiving supported living services.

SB 35 is an Ohio bill that would establish supported decision-making as a less restrictive alternative to guardianship for adults with developmental disabilities. The bill has passed the Senate and is currently in the House Children and Human Services Committee. It creates a formal process for an adult with a developmental disability to choose trusted supporters who can help the person understand information, communicate decisions, and implement choices while preserving the person's self-determination.

Business Manager Report

Resolution 26-32: The HCBDD approve the May 2026 financial reports as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Kruse. Roll call was taken and Resolution 26-32 was unanimously approved.

Resolution 26-33: The HCBDD approve the contracts and addendums as presented.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Cordes. Defiance County Board of Commissioners & Defiance County Family and Children First Council (FCFC)

service coordination renewal, Northwest Ohio Wavier Administration Council (NOWAC) InterRAI assessment addendum and Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) Developmental Center Placement Agreement renewal was reviewed, and Resolution 26-33 was unanimously approved.

Personnel / Policies

Mr. Bischoff, Board President thanked the following employees for their years of service:

Caryn Lulfs, 3 years
Kelly Rieke, 4 years
Robin Sinn, 24 years
Melinda Dachenhaus, 27 years
Melinda Camp, 33 years

Resolution 26-34: The HCBDD approve the revised job description as presented.

A motion was made by Mrs. Downing and seconded by Mrs. Andonian, the revised Operations Manager job description was reviewed, and Resolution 26-34 was unanimously approved.

Departmental Reports

Keri Bunke, Community Relations Coordinator, shared information about Voices of HOPE efforts including advocacy, the creation and distribution of calming kits and fundraising efforts. Keri is also working on revising the HCBDD website to ensure ADA compliance.

Executive Session

Resolution 26-35: The HCBDD approve entering into executive session to discuss employment of a public employee.

Motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Andonian and resolution 26-35 was unanimously approved. Mr. Buchhop made a motion to come out of executive session and was seconded by Mrs. Kruse and approved unanimously. No action was taken.

Adjournment

Resolution 26-36: The HCBDD approve to adjourn the June 17, 2026 Regular Board meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Buchhop and seconded by Mrs. Cordes. Roll call was taken and Resolution 26-36 was unanimously approved.



Kim Cordes, Board Secretary

7/15/2026

Date

kjr