Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board
Board Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday, July 16, 2026
5:30 p.m.

The **combined work session and regular meeting** of the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board was held on Thursday, July 16, 2026 at the Summit DD administrative offices located at 2355 2nd Street, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio 44221. The **work session** convened at 5:30 p.m.

BOARD MEMBERS
Allyson V. James, Board President
Gregg Cramer, Board Vice President
Tami Gaugler, Board Secretary
Jason Dodson
Randy Briggs
Stacy Youssef
Elizabeth Schrack - *Excused*

ALSO PRESENT
Lisa Kamlowsky, Superintendent
Holly Brugh, Assistant Superintendent
Drew Williams, Assistant Superintendent
Russ DuPlain, Director of IT & Facilities
Maggi Albright, Recording Secretary
Mira Pozna, Director of Fiscal
Laura Gleason, Director of HR
Billie Jo David, Director of Communications & Quality
and others

I. CITY OF HUDSON COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND AND SUMMIT DD RECOGNITION

Superintendent Kamlowsky introduced Mayor Jeff Anzevino of the City of Hudson who provided an update on the Inclusive Dream Playground. The playground is located in Oak Grove Park on Barlow Road, and a ribbon cutting is scheduled Sunday, August 9 from noon – 2:00 p.m. Mayor Anzevino presented a certificate of recognition to the Board in appreciation for the role it played in securing funding for the first fully inclusive playground in the County. Ms. James thanked Mayor Anzevino on behalf of the entire Board.

WORK SESSION *(continued)*

II. NEW POLICY 2040 – STANDARDS OF RESPECT AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

New Policy 2040 was developed in response to employee feedback, and it provides support and a framework for employees to work within to address and resolve interactions with individuals and family members that have become escalated. There have been no revisions to the policy since it was discussed at the May Board Meeting. New Policy 2040 has been recommended for approval by the May HR/LR and Services & Supports Committees.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The Board Committee recently held an administrative review hearing regarding a proposed reduction in local funding for an individual served. As required by Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) the full Board must take formal action to accept, reject or modify the Committee's recommendation which is outlined in attachment #2.
Mr. Briggs stated the administrative team did a good job in presenting the case and after hearing both sides there was no question whether the administration's decision should be upheld.

IV. REVISED POLICY 4044 – ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS

The request is to revise Policy 4044 to incorporate recent changes in the OAC that governs the process. This process is used by individuals and their representatives to appeal an eligibility finding or a proposed reduction to or denial of locally funded services. The revisions include the need for an informal resolution process at the front end with the goal of trying to reach resolution. There is also a reduction in the number of steps in the appeal process before it rises to the level of the county board. Revisions to Policy 4044 have been recommended for approval by the July Services & Supports Committee.

V. REVISED POLICY 4001 – PERSON CENTERED PLANNING

Revisions to Policy 4001 include changes in the OAC along with updated language focusing on the individual and how they are directing the planning process, with a philosophical shift away from the person as the "recipient of services" to the director of the process. Updated language also highlights the individual's right to choose who participates in planning meetings, when and where the meetings occur and that conversations respect and build upon the person's strengths, abilities and natural support that are important to the individual's overall quality of life. Revisions to Policy 4001 have been recommended for approval by the July Services & Supports and Finance & Facilities Committees.

WORK SESSION *(continued)*

VI. AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL HELP ME GROW CONTRACT

The request is to approve a contract with Akron Children's Hospital (ACH) for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027 to provide service coordination for Part C Early Intervention (EI) services. Summit DD is the administrator of the federal grant for EI in Summit County and the Board subcontracts service coordination to Akron Children's Hospital. As of May, there were 637 individuals served with another 200 pending eligibility. The contract amount remains unchanged from last year in an amount not to exceed $1,248,533. The ACH contract has been recommended for approval by the July Services & Supports and Finance & Facilities Committees.

VII. MAY/JUNE FINANCIALS

Revenue in May and June included first half trailer tax of $9,873; Medicaid Administrative Claims quarterly reimbursement of $598,400; quarterly Title XX reimbursement of $144,900 and proceeds of $27,100 from the County for the sale of the Cascade building. Expenditures in May and June included annual County chargeback of $171,500 for Workers' Compensation insurance; County chargeback of $9,300 for unemployment costs; quarterly Medicaid waiver administrative fees of $476,600; quarterly Medicaid waiver match of $9,748,200; payment of $27,200 for Special Olympics event and administrative expenses; payment of $46,100 to Binary Defense Systems for enhanced security monitoring of IT systems; and County chargeback of $36,200 for half year licensing fees for the Munis financial software system, which is slightly less than what the Board paid last year. At the end of June, the Gifts and Donations Fund had a balance of $87,893, the Medicaid Reserve Fund had a balance of $9,659,347, and the Permanent Improvement Fund had a balance of $1,481,724. Mr. Cramer asked if the Medicaid Reserve fund is an interest-bearing fund. Ms. Pozna replied that it is, however, the County receives the interest. June ended in deficit spending of $4,817,570 with a fund balance of $34,011,051. The May/June financial statements have been recommended for approval by the July Finance & Facilities Committee.

VIII. BUSINESS AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

A. SUMMIT DD/FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL (FCFC) ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT AGREEMENT

Ohio law requires each county to designate an administrative agent (AA) to perform certain services on behalf of the county FCFC such as employing staff, preparing financial reports and approving contracts on behalf of the Council. The request is to renew the agreement between Summit DD and Summit County FCFC authorizing the Board to serve as AA for the FCFC through the end of calendar year 2027. Ms. James asked how this relationship has been going.

WORK SESSION *(continued)*

VIII. BUSINESS AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL ***(continued)***

A. SUMMIT DD/FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL (FCFC) ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT AGREEMENT ***(continued)***

Superintendent Kamlowsky replied that it took a bit to get things up and running but everything is operating smoothly now. She noted that FCFC currently employs six staff. The renewal agreement has been recommended for approval by the July Finance & Facilities Committee.

B. FCFC PLACEMENT CONTRACTS

This request is to approve rates and residential treatment contracts for providers of children served through FCFC. The last page of attachment #8 identifies the residential treatment providers and the updated daily payment rates with the providers for services under the new contract terms. Rates are negotiated by Children's Services Board and are used county-wide. Established agreements with these providers allow for timely out-of-home placements if that is determined to be the level of care needed for youth who are served through FCFC. The new agreement and rates are effective retroactive to April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2029.

The work session adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

BOARD MEETING

The **regular monthly meeting** of the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board convened at 5:50 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

Ms. Cramer - Present
Mrs. Gaugler - Present
Mr. Dodson - Present
Mr. Briggs - Present
Mrs. Youssef - Present
Ms. James - Present
Ms. Schrack - *Excused*

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Leslie Frank, a parent and community member, commented that she is glad to see that the City of Barberton has a use for the Summit DD Barberton Center. She asked what will happen to Judy Berry Memorial Park and if the building will still have Russ Pry's name. The Superintendent replied that once the sale is complete it will be up to the City. Ms. Frank asked how soon the building will be transferred. Superintendent Kamlowsky responded that terms are still being negotiated. Ms. Frank asked if the Summer Youth Work Program is being held this year. Drew Williams responded that it was one of the things impacted by the Board's financial constraints, so it is not being offered.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. MAY 18, 2026 (combined work session/regular meeting)

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-01

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026 combined work session/regular meeting. Mr. Cramer made the motion and Mrs. Gaugler seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. JUNE 24, 2026 (special board meeting)

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-02

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of the June 24, 2026 special board meeting. Mrs. Youssef made the motion and Mr. Briggs seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. NEW POLICY 2040 – STANDARDS OF RESPECT AND PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-03

Resolved that the Board approve new Policy 2040, as presented. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mr. Dodson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

IV. BOARD ACTION ITEMS *(continued)*

B. ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-04

Resolved that the Board accept the recommendation of its Hearing Committee and uphold the administrative decision. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mr. Dodson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

C. REVISED POLICY 4044 – ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTION OF COMPLAINTS

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-05

Resolved that the Board approve revised Policy 4044, as presented. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mrs. Gaugler seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

D. REVISED POLICY 4001 – PERSON CENTERED PLANNING

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-06

Resolved that the Board approve revised Policy 4001, as presented. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mr. Dodson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

E. AKRON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL HELP ME GROW CONTRACT

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-07

Resolved that the Board approve a contract with Akron Children's Hospital for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, in an amount not to exceed One Million Two Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Five Hundred Thirty-Three Dollars ($1,248,533), and that the Superintendent be authorized to sign said contract. Mr. Cramer made the motion and Mr. Briggs seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

IV. BOARD ACTION ITEMS ***(continued)***

F. MAY/JUNE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-08

Resolved that the Board approve the May/June financial statements. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mr. Cramer seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

V. BUSINESS AS ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL

A. SUMMIT DD/FAMILY & CHILDREN FIRST COUNCIL (FCFC) ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT AGREEMENT

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-09

Resolved that the Board approve an Agreement to serve as Administrative Agent for the Summit County Family & Children First Council for the period July 1, 2026 through December 31, 2027, and that the Superintendent be authorized to sign said agreement. Mr. Dodson made the motion and Mrs. Youssef seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

B. FCFC PLACEMENT CONTRACTS

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-07-10

Resolved that the Board approve the FCFC residential treatment provider contracts for the period April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2029. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mr. Cramer seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. QUARTERLY UPDATE

The quarterly update provides a summary of the progress on the priorities established by the Board as identified through the annual Action Plan. The needs of individuals served continue to evolve and Summit DD is responding by preserving local resources, investing in services for individuals with the most complex needs and strengthening the organization to support this important work.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT *(continued)*

A. QUARTERLY UPDATE *(continued)*

Summit DD continues to support about 6,000 individuals across Summit County. Overall enrollment has stabilized, but the demand for services has not, particularly in the areas of EI and ages 6-22. Additionally, about 20% of newly eligible individuals have a co-existing mental health diagnosis. Without intervention those individuals would be in institutional settings. Summit DD is making strategic investments in services designed to help people remain safe in their homes and communities. The Intensive Treatment Team (ITT) is producing meaningful outcomes and since it's inception there have been 62% fewer admissions to developmental centers (DC) and significantly shorter stays, by as much as 60%, for those who do require placement. Summit DD has also expanded its investment in behavioral support capacity and as a result approximately 100 individuals/families have received behavioral consultation, allowing them to remain successful in their current living environment. In July 2025 the Board updated its Payor of Last Resort Policy to ensure local levy funding is used only after other available funding resources have been explored. January 2026 began the transition with 71 individuals transferring to Medicaid waivers, resulting in local funding being reduced by 52%. The policy update is helping preserve local resources so they can be reinvested in services that Medicaid does not adequately fund including behavior supports and intensive community-based services. Summit DD continues to monitor individuals who are anticipated to need Medicaid waiver services within the next year. About 55% of individuals on the current needs list have alternate funding sources while planning for future needs. Finally, the recent employee engagement survey showed 73% participation, which is strong representation. Overall engagement measured at 65.5% with only 9.5% of employees identified as disengaged. Both results exceeded public administration benchmarks despite a year of significant organizational and financial change. Employees continue to be one of Summit DD's greatest strengths. Survey results will guide ongoing improvements in communication, organizational alignment and employee recognition.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT *(continued)*

B. STATE UPDATES

House Bill 939 is the first bill to emerge from the Funding the Future initiative, which would mandate certain EI services be provided by county boards and that the state contribute at least 50% of the cost. States are required to provide EI services and historically in Ohio local county boards of DD have provided those services using local tax revenue, however those services are not required to be funded or provided by county boards. The bill is in the House Children and Human Services Committee and is awaiting future hearings.

House Bill 795, the Medicaid fraud bill, was introduced to address Medicaid oversight and anti-fraud measures in Ohio. There was significant testimony before the House Medicaid Committee in June. The provision in the bill related to reimbursement for personal care services provided by family caregivers that would have significantly affected individuals with disabilities was ultimately removed from the legislation following advocacy by people with disabilities and their family members. In mid-June the House Finance Committee voted to include language from HB 795 relative to Medicaid fraud into SB 315, a bill regarding SNAP EBT cards, and it will be sent back to the Senate. Changes that were ultimately accepted into the bill reflect a broader state and federal effort to increase oversight of Medicaid programs and address fraud concerns, including additional scrutiny around home and community-based services and provider enrollment requirements. Governor DeWine has signed this bill, but implementation details remain limited until state agencies develop guidance and procedures.

The General Assembly passed the state fiscal year 2027/2028 capital improvements budget of $3.7B for state and community projects throughout Ohio. The Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) received $237M in allocated funds, $208M of which has been allocated for state DC facility improvements of existing centers and $25M has been allocated to the community capital assistance fund which county boards access with not-for-profit housing partners to acquire and purchase accessible housing for people with disabilities.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT *(continued)*

C. MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

Superintendent Kamlowsky and Board President Allyson V. James met with Tracy Carter, President and CEO of Trailhead Community Health Foundation, along with Iriel Hopkins, Chief Investment Officer. The organization is an independent non-profit agency dedicated to improving community health through strategic grants, collaborative partnerships and targeted initiatives. Trailhead Community Health was created following the sale of Summa Health System to HATCo Industries and is responsible for administering all funds that were previously gifted for use by the Summa Foundation, among other things. Trailhead approached Summit DD to assist in seeking input for its strategic plan to ensure that the voices and needs of individuals with disabilities are heard and considered, as the survey results will shape Trailhead's grantmaking priorities in the areas of health access as well as medical and educational services. Trailhead's reach covers a five-county region that includes Summit, Portage, Medina, Wayne and Stark counties.

The Support Summit DD golf outing is scheduled for Friday, August 7th at Raintree Country Club. Support Summit DD is the ballot action committee that supports the passage of Summit DD's levy with the golf outing being the largest fundraiser. Presenting sponsors of the event are ViaQuest and Summit Housing Development Corporation. The Superintendent thanked the presenting sponsors, employees and volunteers who have devoted their time to help make this event successful.

VII. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Ms. James commented that these are complicated times and she applauds the Superintendent, the leadership team and employees for their dedication and she thanked the community for its continued support and for trusting the Summit DD team to carry out the Boards Mission. She noted that the Superintendent is transparent and always working in the best interest of all stakeholders. There will be more challenges ahead and she is confident that employees will operate with integrity and continued transparency. It is not always easy, but when everyone tries their best great things can be accomplished.

summit DD
Developmental Disabilities Board

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION
No. 26-07-11

Resolved that the Board enter into Executive Session in compliance with Sunshine Law, Ohio Revised Code 121.22, Section G, Subsection (1) to consider the employment of a public employee. Upon reconvening the Board may or may not conduct additional business. Mr. Dodson made the motion and Mr. Briggs seconded.

Roll Call Vote: Mrs. Youssef – yes, Ms. James – yes, Mr. Cramer – yes, Mrs. Gaugler - yes, Mr. Dodson - yes, Mr. Briggs - yes, and Mrs. Schrack - *Excused*

The motion was unanimously approved.

The regular session of the Board Meeting adjourned at 6:12 p.m.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:14 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened at 6:44 p.m.

There being no further business, the Board Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Tami Gaugler

Tami Gaugler, Secretary