Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board
Board Meeting

MINUTES

Thursday, September 17, 2026
5:30 p.m.

The **combined work session and regular meeting** of the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board was held on Thursday, September 17, 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 - *Excused*
Tami Gaugler, Board Secretary
Jason Dodson
Randy Briggs
Stacy Youssef
Elizabeth Schrack

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. NEW POLICY 2041 – RECORDING OF MEETINGS AND INTERACTIONS

New Policy 2041 is the result of feedback from employees who are increasingly reporting that families are asking to audio or video record meetings. Its purpose is to give guidance to and outline expectations of employees in those situations. It is recognized that individuals receiving services or their parents/guardians have the right to choose to record interactions with Summit DD employees, and the policy applies whether the meeting is virtual or in-person. Accompanying procedures will ensure that employees respond to such requests consistently and professionally and understand their obligations with respect to confidentiality when meetings are being recorded. Mr. Briggs asked if the Unions had input into this new policy. The Superintendent replied that the policy was drafted in response to members asking for guidelines, and that it would run through labor-management committees. New Policy 2041 has been recommended for approval by the September HR/LR and Services & Supports Committees.

WORK SESSION *(continued)*

II. SUMMIT DD 2027 BUDGET

The Superintendent noted that the 2027 budget has not been revised from what was presented and discussed at the August work session. Highlights include: Operating Fund projects a net positive balance of $3.1M at the end of 2027 with a fund balance of $27M. The program and staffing reductions made earlier this year carry forward in the 2027 budget which supports a total of 309 full-time employees. The FTE growth aligns with Summit DD's levy plan, ensuring the number of SSA staff grow proportionately with the needs of the service population, and also affords flexibility as Summit DD enters the year with changes in leadership. Medical insurance costs increase by 5%, and dental insurance coverage increases by 2%. Medicaid costs are budgeted in line with state service cost projections and are anticipated to be just under $49M. The request also seeks approval of appropriations in the Gifts & Donations Fund, Medicaid Reserve Fund, and Permanent Improvement Fund as indicated in Board packets. Following the Board's anticipated approval tonight Superintendent Kamlowsky is scheduled to present the 2027 budget to the SSAB on October 6th and at a budget hearing with County Council on November 2nd. Mr. Briggs acknowledged that during this difficult time when hard decisions needed to be made staff did an amazing job with the budget process. Ms. James asked about relocation of the Smart Home. Superintendent Kamlowsky replied that staff have toured a number of spaces, and she anticipates that a selection for relocation will be made soon. The 2027 Summit DD budget has been recommended for approval by the August Finance & Facilities Committee.

III. CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM

The legislature has determined that the threat of cybercrime to Ohio's government entities is a reality that requires increased security efforts. As a result, all political subdivisions are now required by state law to formally adopt cybersecurity programs. Summit DD has a robust cybersecurity program that exceeds the minimum standards articulated in the law and is known to be ahead of the curve in this space. Elements of the program itself are confidential and accordingly are not shared in this space. An outline of Summit DD's program is included in Board packets and Board approval is requested based upon that outline. The cybersecurity program has been recommended for approval by the September HR/LR, Finance & Facilities and Services & Supports Committees.

IV. AUGUST FINANCIALS

Ms. Pozna noted that at the time the financials were prepared Summit DD had not received the second half tax settlement, however those funds were received this week and will appear in next month's report. Expenditures in August included County chargeback of $52,300 for second quarter unemployment costs and payment of $476,600 for quarterly Medicaid waiver administrative fee.

WORK SESSION *(continued)*

IV. AUGUST FINANCIALS *(continued)*

There was also payment of $10,153,900 for quarterly Medicaid waiver match and payment of $3,829,700 for annual supplemental waiver match. Payment of $69,500 for participation in the adult guardianship program as issued along with annual licensing, maintenance and support fees of $50,200, payment of $28,300 for the 2026 satisfaction survey, payment of $19,400 for legal fees and payment of $21,600 for the purchase of laptops in accordance with Summit DD's five-year refresh program. August ended in deficit spending of $24,677,699 with a fund balance of $14,150,922. The August financial statements have been recommended for approval by the September Finance & Facilities Committee.

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

A. FCFC PLACEMENT CONTRACTS

In July the Board approved numerous placement services agreements for FCFC preferred residential treatment providers that are effective through March 31, 2029. Two additional providers have come to agreement on daily rates, and the request tonight is to approve both Ohio Guidestone and Buckeye Ranch as additional authorized providers for FCFC.

The work session adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

BOARD MEETING

The **regular monthly meeting** of the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board convened at 5:40 p.m.

I. ROLL CALL

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

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Stemple identified himself as a 61½ year old man who lives with his wife of eleven years and has worked for Giant Eagle for 30 years. He stated he is attending the Board Meeting tonight to thank the Board for the support he has received over the years; however, he is disappointed with the decision around funding for his transportation. Mr. Stemple said he wants to be as independent as possible but with this budget cut it makes him dependent. He asked the Board Members how they might feel if their independence was at risk. Ms. James thanked Mr. Stemple on behalf of the Board for his courage in coming to the meeting to express his thoughts and concerns and said the Board is glad to hear his story. Mr. Stemple commented that he respects the Board and it was the hardest thing he had to do to speak to the Board and express his disappointment. He asked how he would hear back on this issue. Superintendent Kamlowsky thanked Mr. Stemple for speaking tonight and said that he can expect to continue this discussion with his SSA and other members of his support team.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. AUGUST 20, 2026 (combined work session/regular meeting)

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-09-02

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of the August 20, 2026 combined work session/regular meeting. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mrs. Gaugler seconded.

Roll call vote:	Ms. Schrack - yes	Mr. Briggs - yes
	Ms. James - yes	Mrs. Youssef - yes
	Mrs. Gaugler - yes	Mr. Cramer - *Excused*
	Mr. Dodson - yes	

The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES *(continued)*

B. SEPTEMBER 2, 2026 (special board meeting)

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-03

Resolved that the Board approve the minutes of the September 2, 2026 special board meeting. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mr. Briggs seconded.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

IV. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. SUMMIT DD 2027 BUDGET

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-04

Resolved that the Board approve the Summit DD budget for calendar year 2027 in the amount of Ninety Two Million Seven Hundred Seventy Two Thousand Eighty Two Dollars ($92,772,082) for the Operating Fund, Eighty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety Three Dollars ($87,893) for the Gifts and Donations Fund, One Million Nine Hundred Eighty One Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Four Dollars ($1,981,724) for the Permanent Improvement Fund, Nine Million Six Hundred Fifty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Forty Seven Dollars ($9,659,347) for the Medicaid Reserve Fund, and authorize positions of employment, as indicated in the 2027 HR/LR Staffing Report.

Be it further resolved that the Board approve up to Forty-Eight Million Nine Hundred Ninety-Six Thousand Two Hundred Ten Dollars ($48,996,210) of the 2027 budget to pay the non-federal share of Medicaid expenditures for services under Ohio Revised Code Sections 5126.059 and 5126.0510. The Board acknowledges that payment of the non-federal share represents an ongoing financial commitment of the Summit County Developmental Disabilities Board. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mrs. Gaugler seconded.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

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

B. CYBERSECURITY PROGRAM

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-05

Resolved that the Board approve Summit DD's cybersecurity program, as presented in attachment #3. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mr. Briggs seconded.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

C. AUGUST FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-06

Resolved that the Board approve the August financial statements. Mr. Briggs made the motion and Mrs. Gaugler seconded.

Roll call vote:

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

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

A. FCFC PLACEMENT CONTRACTS

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-07

Resolved that the Board approve Ohio Guidestone and Buckeye Ranch as preferred provider network agencies for the period April 1, 2026 through March 31, 2029. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mrs. Youssef seconded.

Roll call vote:

Mrs. Youssef - yes	Mrs. Gaugler - yes
Ms. Schrack - yes	Mr. Dodson - yes
Ms. James - yes	Mr. Briggs – yes

The motion was unanimously approved. Mr. Cramer – *Excused*

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VI. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Kamlowsky updated Board members about discussions between county boards and DODD which have taken a turn from a fiscal-only discussion to a broader conversation about system structure and waiver administrative functions. County boards have been focused through Funding the Future initiatives primarily on reducing or capping county waiver-match exposure. DODD has been focused on regionalization, contacting selected counties about launching a regional waiver administrative framework in exchange for the state's assumption of full waiver match for participating counties. This began with outreach to seven counties, then ten counties and now there are twenty-one counties that are interested in this model. County boards have worked hard to convene conversations that support statewide solutions and to prevent system-wide decisions from being made in a piecemeal fashion. Last week DODD stated for the first time that eventual full state assumption of county waiver match is a legitimate and viable option to pursue. Superintendents agree that if full state assumption of waiver match is on the table for discussion, it should become the preferred destination. However, the proposal is tied to structural change and remains far from being settled or politically viable. A minimum first step is to find meaningful statewide relief beginning in the next biennium budget, FY28-29, to avoid statewide fiscal collapse of the system. The cost to the state for full assumption of county waiver match obligation today is $1.4B. The state is interested in securing responsibility for all Medicaid administrative functions, establishing a state-wide waiver waitlist, control over who administers and how level of care assessments and wait list assessments are completed, and how waivers are authorized. This structure would align financial responsibility to pay for waivers with how waivers are authorized. County boards want to maintain current authorities under the SSA rule to ensure that county boards will continue to be the point of contact for individuals served in their own counties. Mr. Briggs asked if anything would happen before the November elections. The Superintendent replied that she does not expect meaningful conversations to occur until the new administration begins to prepare the budget at the end of January until it is due in March of 2027. She said she will keep the Board apprised as these discussions continue.

On Thursday September 24th Summit and Medina County boards, in partnership with We Thrive Together, are teaming up for the third annual interactive tech expo at Summit Mall from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Vendors and interactive displays will be set up throughout the mall showcasing a variety of supports including vision and hearing, home adaptation, daily living skills and safety, mobility devices and much more. All are invited to stop by and see how assistive technology and remote support can increase independence and improve quality of life.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-08

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. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mr. Briggs seconded.

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

The regular session of the Board Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:06 p.m.

The Board Meeting reconvened at 6:19 p.m.

VIII. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT – HOLLY C. BRUGH

RESOLUTION
No. 26-09-09

Resolved that the Board approve a contract of employment with Holly C. Brugh for the position of Superintendent for a three (3) year term commencing January 1, 2027, through December 31, 2029. Mrs. Gaugler made the motion and Mrs. Youssef seconded.

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

BOARD MEETING *(continued)*

VIII. ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS AFTER EXECUTIVE SESSION *(continued)*

B. OPERS PICK-UP FOR HOLLY C. BRUGH

R E S O L U T I O N
No. 26-09-10

Whereas the Board has established a qualified plan under Internal Revenue Code Section 414(h)(2) pursuant to Board Resolution No. 09-01-10;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board authorizes the pick-up of the employee's share of the statutorily required contributions to the Public Employees Retirement System of Ohio for Superintendent Holly C. Brugh under the fringe benefit method of employer pick-up. Mrs. Youssef made the motion and Mrs. Gaugler seconded.

Roll Call Vote:

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

The motion was unanimously approved.

There being no further business, the Board Meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

Tami Gaugler

Tami Gaugler, Secretary