



Regular Board Meeting

May 28, 2026

Donzella Administration Building – 1275 Lakeside Avenue E, Cleveland, OH 44114

and broadcasted live via Zoom – 5:30 pm

1. Opening

A. Convene

The regular Board meeting was called to order by President, Steve Scheidt at 5:32pm.

B. Roll Call

Members present: Allison Frazier, Dennis Roberts, Stephen Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Members present via Zoom: Alaina McCruel

2. Minutes

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities held April 23, 2026, a copy of which is made a part of the permanent record of this meeting, be accepted as directed by the President, without objection, and approved as published.

Motion by Dennis Roberts, second by Steve Scheidt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

3. Donations

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities gratefully accepts one equipment donation of unspecified value to Community Development's Museum of Contemporary Art Sensory Kit project and two equipment donations of unspecified value to the OT/PT Lending Library.

Motion by Dennis Roberts, second by Sara Steimle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

4. Financial Statements

RESOLVED, that the Operating Fund Statement and the Statements of Revenue and Expenditures - Planned and Actual for the year-to-date period ending April 30, 2026, be accepted and filed for audit; the payment of vouchers for the period April 1, 2026 to April 30, 2026 be ratified; and that all statements and voucher summaries are made a part of the permanent record of this meeting.

Motion by Sara Steimle, second by Steve Scheidt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Chief Business Officer, Rachel Sielski, gave a summary of the financial statements noting significant variances. We opened the month with a cash balance of \$123,314,746. Our total revenues were \$5,635,611, and our expenditures were \$26,775,972, for a cash balance ending of \$102,174,388.

5. Announcements

President, Steve Scheidt turned the meeting over to Superintendent, Dr. Amber Gibbs who gave the following announcements:

- On April 29, Gina Kerman from Rose-Mary, Elizabeth Day, and Superintendent Gibbs met with Rep. Dan Troy at a Rose-Mary home in Richmond Heights. They discussed the needs of the DD system, including continued support for providers in future state budgets so they can pay competitive wages to DSPs and gave him an update on Cuyahoga DD's plans for the future.
- May 12 was Cuyahoga DD's annual All-Staff Meeting. It's one of Superintendent Gibb's favorite days of the year, when we bring our entire staff together for a morning to celebrate the past year's accomplishments, announce staff award winners and take some time to learn something as a group.
- On May 21 and May 22, several Cuyahoga DD staff traveled to Columbus to attend the OACB Spring Conference. Cuyahoga DD was represented in two breakout sessions – Anne Sweeney and Kelly Ryba from our EITS team did a presentation on Early Intervention with a colleague from Lorain County. And Lori Mago and Sam Polczynski, also from EITS, did a presentation with FLOREO's CEO on our Digital Boundaries module partnership.
- Several recreation centers across the City of Cleveland now have communication boards, courtesy of Cuyahoga DD's EITS and Community Development teams. These boards have been installed at the Michael Zone Playground, Kovacic Playground, Eastbrook Playground, and Frederick Douglass Pool.
- From the end of March with our Hoops for Hunger game through the beginning of May, Cuyahoga DD staff rallied together to raise money for the Greater Cleveland Food Bank's Harvest for Hunger campaign. In addition to Hoops for Hunger, departments hosted themed lunches in our buildings, we held a 50/50 raffle, we did basket raffles, and we even had a prize vending machine that was a hit, and the proceeds it collected went to the campaign. We blew our \$9,700 goal out of the water, raising over \$13,800 for the Food Bank! A special thanks goes to our staff for participating in the fundraiser and to Karen O'Malley, for serving as Cuyahoga DD's Harvest for Hunger campaign coordinator.
- We recently received word that The Ohio House will soon be taking Concurrent Resolution 44 to the floor, recommending all County Boards of DD consider putting a Leadership Council in place. This effort, led by Rep. Tristan Rader from Lakewood and Rep. Mike Odisio from the Cincinnati area, began with a conversation Rep. Rader had with Board members Sara Steimle and Derek Topola at our annual legislative breakfast. Also providing input was Leadership Council Tracy Marie Greenberg, who knows Rep. Rader from her advocacy work in Lakewood. We are thrilled to see their advocacy be put into action, and we'll be sure to share when we know more about when the resolution will be brought to the floor in Columbus.
- Finally, I would like to thank former Board member Cindy Schulz for her 9 years of service to Cuyahoga DD's Board. Cindy let us know last week that she was resigning from the Board. During her tenure, Cindy was passionate about investing in services for people with DD and their families,

reducing or eliminating our waiting list, finding creative housing options, and using clear, accessible language to communicate with everyone in our community.

Cindy's decision to resign came from a desire to focus on a new chapter of advocacy aimed at finding cures for rare diseases that cause developmental disabilities, including leading efforts around the CASK gene disorder that affects her daughter. We thank Cindy for her service and wish her continued success in her important work ahead.

6. Discussion Topics

Building Sale Process - presented by Jessica French, Department of Public Works, Cuyahoga County

Jessica French, Land Deputy/Senior Project Manager of the Cuyahoga County Department of Public works spoke to the Board about the process that is undertaken when Cuyahoga DD sells one of its buildings. DD Boards in Ohio are not permitted by law to own buildings (with the exception of residential houses), so the county is designated as property owner. When Cuyahoga DD leadership decides to sell a building, they work with the County's Office of Procurement who publishes a Request for Proposals (RFP). This RFP is posted to the Cuyahoga County website for at least 30 days. Pre-bid meetings for potential buyers are held via Teams followed by an open house at the building. After the closing date for the RFP, the proposals are reviewed and scored by both Office of Procurement and Cuyahoga DD staff. The Superintendent & CEO discusses these proposals with the Board and if a proposal is selected, then it is awarded to the buyer. If there is not a good proposal, then a real estate services firm may get involved. After the sale of the property, the County and real estate firm (if involved) receive a percentage of the proceeds for their services and Cuyahoga DD is given the remainder.

7. Status Reports

Superintendent Gibbs had no comments.

8. New Business

A. Renewal Agreement for Short - Term Admissions to Developmental Centers

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to pay the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DoDD) for services provided to individuals served by the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities who are admitted into a DoDD Developmental Center, for an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000 for the period of July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. There is a Master Short-Term Admission Agreement with DoDD beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2027 to allow for the provision of these services. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Sara Steimle, second by Steve Scheidt.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that this item is brought to the Board every year at this time to coincide with Cuyahoga County's fiscal year which starts July 1. The amount is the same as the amount from the previous contract period but represents an overall decrease from the past few

years. This trend is a result of fewer individuals being placed in Developmental Centers, as we prefer to serve individuals out in the community unless they are in absolute need of a Development Center.

B. Locally Funded Transportation Agreement

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to enter a renewal contract for the provision of transportation services with the providers listed in the attached document titled “Locally Funded Transportation Agreement Attachment 7-1-2026” for the period July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2027, for a sum not to exceed \$75,000; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Dennis Roberts, second by Sara Steimle.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that this contract renewal item allows Cuyahoga DD to use local dollars to pay for non-medical transportation for individuals who are not on the waiver or who can't get transportation through the waiver. This is considered safety net transportation. The amount represents a 51% decrease from last year.

C. Declaration of Surplus Property

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities approves hereby and authorizes the Superintendent to declare items listed in the attached document 5.28.26 Surplus Property Memo, copies of which are made a part of the permanent record of this meeting, surplus or obsolete equipment that is no longer needed for public use, and to discard said items in accordance with Ohio Revised Code Section 307.12 (E) (I); and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Superintendent is authorized hereby to take any and all actions necessary to carry out these transactions.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Alaina McCruel.

Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Superintendent Gibbs explained that various items from Cuyahoga DD's OT/PT Lending Library are being declared obsolete for being broken or damaged and need to be discarded after Board approval of the resolution.

9. Comments from the Floor

Larry Rodriguez, a member of Cuyahoga DD's community, spoke of the topic of getting assistance to attend the upcoming Synergy Conference.

10. Adjournment

RESOLVED, that the Cuyahoga County Board of Developmental Disabilities hereby adjourns.

Motion by Steve Scheidt, second by Allison Frazier.

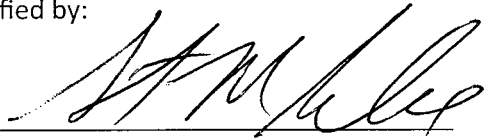
Final Resolution: Motion Approved

Aye: Allison Frazier, Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Steve Scheidt, Sara Steimle, Derek Topola

Time adjourned: 6:14 pm.

Next Meeting – June 18, 2026 at 5:30 pm, Donzella Administration Building, 1275 Lakeside Ave E, Cleveland, OH 44114 and broadcast via Zoom. Zoom link will be shared on the Cuyahoga DD website at cuyahogadd.org at least three days prior to the meeting.

Certified by:



Stephen Scheidt, President



Sara Steimle, Secretary



C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y Board of Developmental Disabilities

Regular Board Meeting May 28, 2026

M. A. Donzella Administration Building and via Zoom

Stephen Scheidt, Board President

Allison Frazier, Board Vice President

Sara Steimle, Board Secretary

Board Members: **Alaina McCruel, Dennis Roberts, Derek Topola**

4.29.26 - Meeting with Rep. Daniel Troy

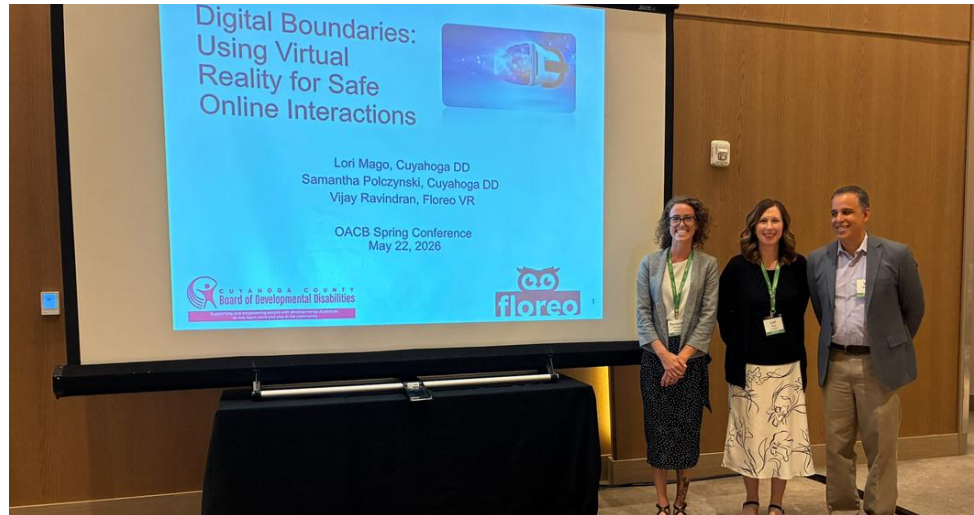


CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities

5.12.26 - Cuyahoga DD Annual All-Staff Meeting



5.21-22.26 - Cuyahoga DD Presentations at OACB Spring Conference



Communications Boards Developed for City of Cleveland Recreation Centers



2026 Cuyahoga DD Harvest for Hunger Campaign Results



Cuyahoga DD's 2026 Harvest for Hunger Virtual Fundraiser!!



Cuyahoga DD is raising money for Greater Cleveland Food Bank Inc
[Create a team](#)

Company, School, or Organization Drive/Campaign - 30 September 2026

Story

Your generosity makes all the difference.

142% **US\$13,838**
raised of US\$9,700 target by
32 supporters

[Give Now](#)

[Share](#)



Harvest for Hunger - Group Drives

Campaign by Greater Cleveland Food Bank Inc
(RCN 341292848)

Harvest for Hunger is one of the largest annual, community-wide food and funds drives in the nation. Will you join this year's campaign by hosting a food & funds drive through your company, school, civic group, or other organization?

[Read campaign & charity description](#)

Ohio HCR 44 - Leadership Councils

As Introduced

136th General Assembly
Regular Session
2025-2026

H. C. R. No. 44

Representatives Rader, Odioso
Cosponsors: Representatives Piccolantonio, Somani, Miller, J., Upchurch, Bryant
Bailey, Sims, Lett, Synenberg, Brennan, Russo, Cockley

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To encourage all county boards of developmental
disabilities in Ohio to adopt an advisory board
composed of self-advocates with developmental
disabilities.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):

WHEREAS, According to the Arc of the United States and the
Institute on Community Integration, self-advocacy is a civil and
human rights movement led by people with intellectual and
developmental disabilities to exercise their rights as citizens
by communicating for and representing themselves, with supports
in doing so, as necessary; and

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WHEREAS, Many supporters of the self-advocate movement
endorse a "nothing about us without us" message to affirm that
people with disabilities should be included in all spaces where
decisions about people with disabilities are made, including in
the public policy decisions that affect them; and

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WHEREAS, In November 2023, the Cuyahoga County Board of
Developmental Disabilities created an advisory group called the
Leadership Council; and

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CUYAHOGA COUNTY
Board of Developmental Disabilities

Thank you, Cindy
Schulz!





C U Y A H O G A C O U N T Y
Board of Developmental Disabilities

Building Sale Process

Jessica French

Land Deputy/Senior Project Manager

Department of Public Works, Cuyahoga County

Supporting and empowering people with developmental disabilities
to live, learn, work and play in the community

Comments from the Floor

