

Sandusky County Commissioners – 622 Croghan Street, Fremont, OH 43420

MEETING 2021

Meeting: Board Of Commissioners

Location: Commissioners' Board Room

Date: 1/21/2021

Time: 8:00AM

Present: Commissioners: Russ Zimmerman President; Scott Miller V-President; Charles Schwochow

Present: Theresa Garcia; County Administrator

Others present by teleconference: Ruthann House, Robin Richter, Craig Shoup

Others Present: Gwen Soule, Beth Hannam,

(*action items)

AGENDA ITEMS	BRIEF DESCRIPTIONS / ACTION STEPS:	PERSON RESPONSIBLE:	DOLLAR AMOUNT:	MOTION / VOTE
Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance (8:00am)		Russ Zimmerman, President		
*Review & Approval of Commissioner Meeting Minutes, incoming Mail Review & External Meeting Notices	The 1/19/2021 minutes were reviewed/approved by the Board. The Board reviewed incoming mail and external meeting notices.	Russ Zimmerman Scott Miller Charles Schwochow		*Motion: Move to Approve minutes Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3
Review of External board / Meetings Attended by Commissioners	Commissioner Zimmerman attended the Better Building contractor meeting. Facility management is settling in their new offices. The building code office had more work to be done and they should be moving in on Friday. There are some change orders coming through and seems to be more than they thought there should be. Poggemeyer is checking in to those. The doors in the two buildings still need to be repaired. The occupancy permit for service center has not been received yet. Boiler issue in service center is still not resolved. They are working on a plan for the jail to get the inside projects completed.	Russ Zimmerman		
	Commissioner Zimmerman was unable to attend the Soil & Water Board meeting. He did talk to the Soil & Water Director for an update. They do plan on coming in to talk to the Commissioners about additional funding. Administrator Garcia received the annual report for the	Russ Zimmerman		

	apiary for the County. She will get the information from the Soil & Water Director to complete the form. Commissioners noted they were planning on supplementing Soil & Water \$3,000.00 to pay for the services since they had asked them to help set this up.			
	Commissioner Miller attended the Health Board meeting by ZOOM. The revenue and expenses are in line with what they budgeted. They discussed the number of people registered to receive the vaccine. Bethany Brown, Health Commissioner, updated the Board on how she is receiving vaccines and how many she is receiving. They are receiving two different brands of vaccines. There are some challenges scheduling second doses to make sure everyone is receiving the correct vaccine. They discussed underage smoking statistics in the county.	Scott Miller		
	All Commissioners attended the TMACOG General Assembly opening by listening to the guest speaker on Tuesday and joined the County Caucus on Wednesday. They talked quite a bit about 2021 budgets and revenue as well as Covid-19 effects. There were several State Representatives on the Caucus that plan to take talking points to legislator. There were many different opinions and talking points on vaccines. They talked about H2Ohio program.	Russ Zimmerman Scott Miller Charles Schwochow		
	Commissioner Zimmerman attended the FCFC Executive Committee meeting. The FCFC by-laws were updated. There were questions on what was updated and what the changes were. Stacy will re-do the by-laws showing the changes on the new document so the members can identify the new changes.	Russ Zimmerman		
Commissioners and Administrator Discussion	The teleconference phone system is \$800.00. This includes two wireless mic's that can be moved to wherever they get the best reception. Wired mics are an option too. The Commissioners would like Atul to make that decision to make sure there is no interference with the mics.	Theresa Garcia		
* Then /Now Documents	One certificate was presented by DJFS. Vendor was not set up until January so a PO was not in place prior to a child being placed. One invoice makes up this certificate. Turning Point Residential Center - \$1,005.00 One certificate was presented by the Sheriff's Office. Services were provide past date permissible to open any 2020 PO's. Two invoices make up this certificate. Automatic Fire Protection - \$25.00 K&M Tire - \$540.00	DJFS Sheriff	\$1,005.00 \$25.00 \$540.00	*Motion: Move to Approve certificates Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes – 3

* Personnel	None			
* Travel Requests	None			
OSU Extension	<p><u>Gwen Soule – OSU Extension.</u> Gwen came in for her regular meeting with the Commissioners. She has been trying to keep the Board updated on what their office is doing. The office is closed except by appointment. They do have to ask health questions prior to allowing them to come in the office. They are in the office working, just not open. To have any face to face programs they have to file for an exemption. It has to have an intricate reason to have to do the program face to face. They are planning on regular summer camp at this time. They may not be able to do an overnight camp but possibly day camp. They were told to be prepared to be adaptable. Enrollment begins in February. Gwen is looking at a slightly lower number of enrollment mostly from the shooting camp. They do have a plan to get kids on the shooting range but this to may change. They typically have 150 enrolled in the program. They will be very creative in doing some virtual enrollment in all programs. Bigger programs will most likely have to be split up in small groups. They will be doing some virtual training by ZOOM. They will be able to do face to face as long as the group is 50 or under and there is space. Allen Gahler, Education Specialist, is doing some face to face pesticide training using the same guidelines. Katie Schlagheck, Educator, sent updates on the Educational programs. She is conducting ZOOM lunch and learns. These have really grown and she is receiving great response. She is very excited to have all the participation. Commissioner Schwochow asked Gwen about HB 375 regarding fairs. She didn't have much information but from what she hears they are working on another bill to allow fairs until closer to the open dates. They would like to at least conduct a Junior Fair again.</p>	Gwen Soule – Educational Specialist		
GLCAP – Senior Center	<p><u>Ruthann House and Robin Richter – GLCAP Senior Service Center.</u> Ruthann and Robin attended by teleconference to update the Commissioners on Senior Services. Ruthann wanted to make sure to update the Commissioners on virtual senior services. She asked Robin to review the handout she emailed to the Commissioners. Robin thanked the Commissioners for allowing them to be in the new facility. She reviewed all</p>	Ruthann House – CEO Robin Richter – Senior Services Director		

	<p>the programs they have been able to provide this past year. Senior Centers were closed in March due to the pandemic and they remain closed. The regulations they would need to follow to open is cumbersome. They feel it is more than what most their Seniors will want to follow. They have come up with many virtual programs to provide and have great participation. These programs are more teleconference than ZOOM as they get more participation in teleconferences. They are working with local shops to provide food for the meals on wheels. Commissioner Schwochow noted it is impressive how tech savvy most of the seniors are. They have been able to help out quite a bit this past year even working virtually.</p>			
Economic Development	<p>Beth Hannam – EDC. Beth came in to update the Commissioners on EDC happenings. Beth had received an email from a commercial vendor looking for some tax incentives. The review committee will be meeting to discuss this matter. There are a lot of rumors on possible expansions on some businesses and new businesses coming in to town. There has been more local movement/ requests then notices from Jobs Ohio on commercial requests. They have been working on County Branding. This was something that was suggested they look in to. They reached out to many groups on their thoughts. The townships and smaller organizations were interested more than the bigger municipalities. She asked for the Commissioners opinion and if they thought they should get some examples. The Commissioners all agreed it would be a good idea to at least get some information so people recognize a “logo” and know it is Sandusky County. She is prepping for the annual EDC meeting and to work on the next capital campaign.</p>	Beth Hannam – Executive Director		
* Resolutions	<p>2021 - 44 APPROVING FUND TRANSFERS AND SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION FOR ANNUAL FUNDING TO SPECIAL FUNDS</p>	<p>Disaster service Soil & Water Regional Planning OPWC Debt</p>	<p>\$6,094.00 \$44,400.0 \$36,566.00 \$3,790.00</p>	<p>*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3</p>

	2021 - 45 RESCINDING RESOLUTION 2021 – 30 REQUESTING THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THE CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF SANDUSKY COUNTY AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A REPLACEMENT OF A 1.0 MILL TAX LEVY	Senior Levy		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3
	2021 – 46 PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.03 OF THE REVISED CODE REQUESTING THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THE CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF SANDUSKY COUNTY AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A REPLACEMENT OF A 1.0 MILL TAX LEVY FOR PROVIDING FOR AND MAINTENANCE OF SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES AND FACILITIES, AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 5705.19 OF THE REVISED CODE	Senior Levy		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3
	2021 - 47 APPROVING AGREEMENT BETWEEN SANDUSKY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND SANDUSKY COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TO PERFORM BOTH CLERICAL AND NURSING SERVICES FOR SANDUSKY COUNTY TUBERCULOSIS (TB) RECORDS BUREAU	Health Department		*Motion: Move to Approve resolution Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3
Board of DD	<u>Sarah Zimmerman – Board of DD.</u> Sarah joined by teleconference for her regular meeting with the Commissioners. See attachment A for agenda items. It has been a challenging quarter. The last two months have been the most challenging. Sarah reviewed Federal and State funding impacts they are experiencing. These are all moving targets and it is unknown on how some things will affect them. There are still many restrictions on their programs and day service providers they are working with. The Commissioners had questions regarding the costs to clean the transportation vehicles. She reviewed the restrictions and the policy in place to do this. She gave an update on Covid -19 impacts on the facilities. She shared some numbers from clients and staff. They have had and have scheduled vaccine clinics. The Health Department has been very responsive.	Sarah Zimmerman - Superintendent		

Public Open Session	Citizens Attendees – none Media Attendees – Craig Shoup, News Messenger Elected Officials – none			
* Adjournment (am)	With business completed for the day the meeting was adjourned.			* Motion: Move to adjourn Moved by: Scott Miller 2nd: Charles Schwochow Yes - 3

Signature of:

Russ Zimmerman, President

Scott Miller, Vice President

Charles Schwochow

Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County Ohio

Attest:
Clerk to the Board / County Administrator

I, the undersigned, Clerk of the Board of Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy from the official record of said Board of County Commissioners as recorded in its Journal.

Clerk, Board of County Commissioners, Sandusky County, Ohio

2020 GLCAP SENIOR SERVICES

changing to help seniors in a time of need.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 caused Great Lakes Community Action Partnership to rapidly adjust its Sandusky County Senior Services programming to continue serving seniors while ensuring the health and safety of our age 60-plus population. This meant expanding meal delivery options, developing virtual programming, and thinking creatively about new ways to serve our county's seniors.

Emergency needs met

2,441 nutrition boxes including fruit, vegetable and dairy products delivered to seniors

6,031 wellness calls to at-home seniors to ensure that they were safe and feeling well on non-meal-delivery days

537 care packages delivered to seniors to provide snacks, toiletries and other items

500 activity packets provided to seniors for entertainment while at home



Expanded nutrition options

94,484 Meals delivered to seniors through Meals on Wheels

797 Seniors receiving nutritious meals

47 Seniors receiving assistance for pet food for animal companions



Enhanced distance/virtual programs

332 virtual socialization, health, education, and other programs to stay connected

100 seniors participating in teleconference programming

818 birthday cards delivered to seniors

20 different groups for book clubs, bingo, journaling and other activities

81 Sandusky County Seniors Facebook group members

1,500 newsletter subscriptions to keep seniors informed on upcoming events (up from 600)





Attachment A

Sandusky County Commissioners Report

January 21, 2021

2021 Significant Variables and Unknowns

- Federal Impacts:
 - It was recently announced the federal state of emergency has been extended through mid-April causing the eFMAP to be extended until the end of second quarter (June). This continues to temporarily reduce the Medicaid match percentages.
 - Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS) are reviewing Ohio’s Appendix K submission to extend the current regulatory relief, which is anticipated to be approved. After the extensions approval, Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) plans to submit an additional proposal for a one-time financial relief payment to all DD providers. This has been advocated and proposed in various forms unsuccessfully to ODM for several months. It is anticipated CMS will approve this with little hesitancy since other states have already acted on similar relief packages in 2020. This will be fully funded by all 88 county boards and allow Medicaid match assistance. All active providers would be eligible for this relief which will be based on a percentage of claims from the calendar year 2020’s fourth quarter.
- State Budget Impacts:
 - Ohio took an unprecedented measure and announced in December they reconciled county board cost reports for calendar years 2017 and 2018 with no audits occurring. For calendar year 2019 they already performed a desk review and randomly selected 21 county boards and 7 COGS to receive actual audits. Sandusky County board is one of these 21 audits to be completed. This unprecedented measure will generate a settlement or invoice to county boards in the first half of calendar year 2021 and will catch Ohio up to a timely audit process for the first time in more than a decade. County boards are encouraged to use any settlements received and apply it towards the one-time COVID-19 provider relief payments mentioned above.
 - It is unknown if the current state budget cuts to county boards will continue or return for the upcoming year or budget cycle. Current calendar year impacts are the elimination of rate matching for residential DSP which went into effect on 1/1/21 and for Family Support Services (FSS).
- Service Impacts:
 - Adult Service Rates: COVID service rate changes for all day program services remain increased and are anticipated to remain until at least March 2021.
 - Restrictions remain in place for all day program services for groups no more than 10 individuals.
 - Providers continue to struggle with staff overtime, staff shortages, and fixed overhead costs with unstable and unknown rate structures. Provider business sustainability is unstable and concerning. Several have had to close more than once due to exposures and spread.

COVID Updates

- School of Hope returned to in-person learning on January 19th after being in a hybrid model for several weeks then closed for two weeks due to an exposure incident.
- As of January 13th, SCBDD's COVID incidences were as follows for eligible individuals:
 - 5 deaths, 9 hospitalized, 30 positive and isolated, and 49 exposed and quarantined with either staff or family members.
- Many day providers have had to close at various times due to exposures and risks. Residential providers have had to move to essential (minimum) staffing patterns in several homes to ensure health and safety for all the homes they provide services in. Several isolation and quarantine homes have had staff move in with the individuals they care for the duration of the isolation or quarantine period. This has been a significant benefit to ensure stable staffing during a critical monitoring and care period.
- 1A Vaccine Clinic: On January 11th and January 14th, SCBDD and SCPH administered 153 vaccines to those living in congregate care settings and staff working in those settings. Approximately 85% of those individuals eligible in this category chose or were medically able to receive the vaccine. The number of eligible home staff is an elusive number, but 69 eligible staff attended with the individuals they care for and received the vaccine. We are optimistic with our county's response and hope this will help curb frequent exposure risks and aide in returning to 'normal' soon.
- 1B Vaccine Clinic: SCBDD is currently working with individuals and families to determine who is eligible for the vaccine in this narrow medical definition and based on age. To date we have 55 who are confirmed consents and SCBDD is working with SCPH to schedule the vaccine clinics. School of Hope staff are also eligible for the vaccines and are waiting their turn.
- Future Vaccines: The 1A and 1B priorities have not allowed day service or transportation providers to be eligible for the vaccine. Several staff working in these settings want the vaccine when it becomes available to them. Additionally, we have a growing wait list for individuals who want the vaccine who are not eligible in these current priorities.

Compliance Reviews

- School of Hope preschool received a successful licensure review and renewal.
- SCBDD also received a 3-year accreditation award recommendation in December.

DD Awareness Month – March