



# Vinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING

February 24, 2026

The Vinton County Board of Developmental Disabilities regular session was called to order by President Tiffany Pierce at 5:32 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 2026.

### Attendance:

Member	Present	Absent	Prior notice
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia		x	
Tracie Dearing	x		

### Public Comment:

None.

### Approval of Organizational & January Board Minutes:

07-26 Moved by Karen Hauck, seconded by Sharon Chaney, to accept the Minutes for the Organizational & January Board Meeting, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

### Ratification of Paid Expenditures:

Karon Fisher presented the January 2026 Expenses and Financial Statements to the Board.

08-26 Moved by Dave Gill, seconded by Tracie Dearing, to approve the January 2026 Expenses, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

**Superintendents Report:**

1. Recently, you may have seen or heard about a couple of different initiatives and programs that have begun in Ohio. The first is the Blue Envelope Program. This is an envelope that is, indeed, blue. It is designed to be kept in a vehicle. It also has an informational sheet that can be filled out regarding a person with a disability who may not be able to answer questions about his or her needs if others in the vehicle are incapacitated. Along with those items is a quick reference card and a sticker to put on the outside of the vehicle so that trained law enforcement and first responders understand what to look for in case of an emergency. It is gaining traction in the state and becoming more recognized slowly. We have a supply of Blue Envelopes here at the Board office.
2. Along with the Blue Envelope, Governor DeWine signed House Bill 144 into law. This important legislation, known as Keith's Law, builds upon Communication Disability Law, enabling first responders to have information shared by people with disabilities when responding to countywide 9-1-1 calls. Any person with a diagnosed disability, who drives or regularly has someone with a communication disability in their vehicle, can voluntarily enroll in a database that connects to the Law Enforcement Agencies Data System (LEADS). The law enforcement officer can then be made aware that the driver or a person in the vehicle may have difficulty communicating and can approach the vehicle with awareness to reduce any potential misunderstandings or problems.
3. This evening, I will be presenting to you "Funding the Future." These are concepts that the Ohio Association of County Boards (OACB) along with county leadership from across the state have compiled. These are steps that we hope to make in the immediate future to get us heading in the right direction for sustainability. We will count this as part of your annual board training.

**Superintendent Jill Squires presented Board Member Training “Funding the Future” from 5:39-6:02 PM.**

**SSA Report:**

None.

**Old Business:**

**Approval of Contract for Supported Living between Buckeye Community Services and VCBDD:**

09-26 Moved by Dave Gill, seconded by Tracie Dearing, to approve Contract for Supported Living between Buckeye Community Services and VCBDD, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**Informational Items:**

None.

**Administrative Approvals**

None.

**Personnel Items:**

None.

**New Business:**

Karon Fisher presented the January Expenses and Financial Statements to the Board.

**Approval of Invoice Resolution #2026-02-01:**

10-26 Moved by Karen Hauck, seconded by Tammy Hopkins to approve Invoice Resolution #2026-02-01, as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

**Approval of Vinton DD Action Plan 2025-2027:**

11-26 Moved by Tracie Dearing, seconded by Tammy Hopkins to approve Vinton DD Action Plan 2025-2027, as amended. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

**Motion to Move into Executive Session to Consider the Employment of a Public Employee:**

12-26 Moved by Tracie Dearing, seconded by Tiffany Pierce to move into Executive Session to consider the employment of a public employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

**Board Moved into Executive Session at 6:07 PM.**

**Motion to Move out of Executive Session to Consider the Employment of a Public Employee:**

13-26 Moved by Tiffany Pierce, seconded by Tammy Hopkins to move out of Executive Session to consider the employment of a public employee. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

**Board Moved out of Executive Session at 6:20 PM.**

**Adjournment:**

14-26 Moved by Sharon Chaney, seconded by Tracie Dearing, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call	Yes	No	Abstain
Tammy Hopkins	x		
Sharon Chaney	x		
Tiffany Pierce	x		
Karen Hauck	x		
Dave Gill	x		
Ruben Garcia			
Tracie Dearing	x		

The meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved as to form:

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Tracie Dearing, Secretary

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Tiffany Pierce, President