

Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities (FCBDD)
2018 3.5 Mill Renewal Levy Proposal
HSLRC Meeting Minutes
March 23, 2017

The Human Services Levy Review Committee (HSLRC) meeting was called to order by Jesse Hemphill on March 23, 2017 @ 3:07 pm.

ROLL CALL

HSLRC members present: Jesse Hemphill, Jim Bowman, Denise Bronson, Jean Carter Ryan, Zak Talarek and Jerry Friedman.

HSLRC members absent: Nathan Wymer.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB): Heidi Hallas, and Garrett Crane.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF METTING MINUTES

Mr. Hemphill: The next item on the agenda is the approval of the prior meeting board minutes and there are two (2). One for our meeting held December 15, 2016 and one for the meeting held earlier this month, March 2, 2017 at Franklin County Board of Developmental Disabilities. Ms. Carter Ryan made a motion to approve the minutes and Mr. Bowman seconded the motion. All members voted "Aye" and Mr. Hemphill said the motion carried.

HSLRC DISCUSSION OF LEVY REQUEST

Mr. Hemphill: The next agenda item is the discussion of the levy request presented by FCBDD. Any discussions and I think we've had a chance to take a look at that since our March 2, 2017 meeting? I guess what you are looking for Heidi is the discussions and additional information that we as board members would request.

Ms. Hallas: Yes, so if there is any discussion that you would like to have based on what was presented and what follow up items that I can send them in advance of our next meeting. If we don't have many, we don't necessarily have to have a meeting, but we'll decide that today.

Mr. Hemphill: Does any of the board members have any follow up questions that they would like to have additional information on? How about you Jerry?

QUESTIONS FOR FCBDD STAFF

Mr. Friedman: I'm sorry I missed that last meeting. I do have a question. I can understand given their history that there were not a lot of folks who actually became seniors, but now they say they have a growing senior population. The one agency that they didn't have any relationship with at the county level was the Office on Aging and I was wondering whether or not if they were planning to reach out. Whether or not there was an opportunity for coordination there?

Ms. Hallas: I do know that the level of care is much higher for BDD clients, and so they would be served by them first by virtue of law. In general they pick up those folks first. Most of them live in their facilities. I had mentioned that to them before because it caught my eye as well. They do have conversations about things, but in general the Medicaid wavers and things that have to come through BDD they just tend to managed outside of COAAA and Office on Aging. Do you want me to ask if there is more planning on that?

Mr. Friedman: Well maybe just in a broader context. I think they among all the agencies really seem to understand Medicaid matching and leveraging the local funds. I wonder whether they couldn't provide some guidance for some of the other agencies, maybe do a little tutorial for them. I think they have done a good job and there maybe some opportunities that they could share with others in terms of that. I know that they talk about leveraging, and there were actually two (2) numbers that didn't match up: \$120 million and \$140 million. One was in the minutes, just a transcription of Jed's presentation where he talks about \$120 million being leverage with \$60 million from the county and \$20 million from the state. Then on page 33 in the levy book they talk about \$140 million, the second paragraph from the bottom.

Ms. Hallas: He may have just misspoke, but I'll have him confirm.

Mr. Friedman: I'm curious whether or not they are leveraging administrative dollars as well as service dollars. There may be some opportunity for them to leverage additionally with regard to salary, time and effort by their staff as also being used as non-federal match.

Ms. Hallas: Let me check with Dot, their Chief Financial Officer.

Ms. Friedman: It's a 50% match on the administrative side, but it is separate and apart from the service dollars. Since those service dollars go through directly to the providers, I'm wondering whether some of those administrative dollars for their own effort in terms of their own coordination of care, some of their administrative services activities couldn't be leveraged as well, offset.

Ms. Hallas: From the state, correct. I'll check with Dot on that. I know that their system works backwards from everyone else. They take levy dollars and send them to the state and then the state draws it down and then whoever is providing service will get paid. So they do provide some direct service, they'll get the Medicaid payment from the state match with is technically their own levy dollars and then the other agencies will as well. But I'm not sure about the administration piece of it, so I'll find out

Mr. Friedman: There's a concept called Certification, and it's a Public Certification by an agency where they don't actually have to pass hard cash over. They can basically just sign a statement saying we spent this amount of money and I would think with regards to the administrative side, they are expending that on folks that are administering program. So there wouldn't be dollars passed to them through the state, it would be a local expenditure.

Ms. Hallas: Ok.

Mr. Talarek: I wondered if they captured that in their reconciliation. Because usually it's, was it about four (4) or five (5) years Heidi that they'll reconcile what they gave the state? Actually what's paid out and then they usually get, historically the last few years they have been getting a refund from the state because the match that were required up front was more than what was actually needed, so I'm wondering if part of that process they may incorporate it.

Ms. Hallas: They may also do real-time rates, so if they were charging them \$10 for something and it was really \$12 then they also reconcile that piece because they are so far behind. I'll ask Dot.

Mr. Bowman: Along kind of similar, Creative Housing in their material that they shared last time, they have a division or unit called Creative Renovations that was launched in 2008 to address the growing need for a centralized expert resource that could deliver accessibility construction and renovation services that are fairly priced, etc, to whether it be a senior desiring to "age in place" or a recovering stroke victim. So it seems like it could be some coordination between Office on Aging and FCBDD. They both seem to be in the renovation services business. I've always wondered how Office on Aging actually coordinated those renovation services, how they actually delivered those.

Ms. Hallas: They have a division of staff, a home repair unit, that has basically people who oversee contractors. So it's all bid out.

Mr. Bowman: So it looks like this agency which is affiliated in some way, I'm not quite sure.

Ms. Hallas: They're not under FCBDD, they're their own non-profit.

Mr. Bowman: Would they contract with them?

Ms. Hallas: That's something we can check out.

Mr. Bowman: What's the relationship? Is there some overlap there that could help some of the others, specifically Office on Aging or vice versa?

Ms. Hallas: We can ask.

Mr. Bowman: I was pretty impressed with the Creative Housing.

Mr. Hemphill: They build facilities for the board's patients or clients that have a long history of buildings across the city that are contracted by the board for the facilities used to house these clients. They are very unique in that they can build facilities that have unique characteristics for the patients' convenience. They do a good job and they have a monopoly across town. I know the board does a lot of work with Creative Housing for additional facilities across the city that is conveniently located.

Mr. Bowman: It seems like they have a lot of expertise and they have renovation services business unit it appears.

Mr. Hemphill: I have a question. The cash at the end of any given period is suppose to be equal to three (3) months of cash needs and on the projection included on page 42 of the fact book, there is a projection at the end of the tenth year 2028, of ninety one thousand?

Ms. Hallas: It's actually ninety one million, the round up to the nearest thousand just because they have so much money.

Mr. Hemphill: It's ninety one million? Does that equate to three (3) month of cash?

Ms. Hallas: It's greater than three (3) months, I don't have a calculator.

Mr. Bowman: The total is 269?

Ms. Hallas: Yes, so it would a one forth of that.

Mr. Friedman: I think it's about sixty seven million.

Mr. Talarek: It's just under sixty seven and a half.

Ms. Hallas: Yes.

Mr. Hemphill: Does the cash at the end of 2016, this is on page 41, two hundred ninety four million I guess. Is the pretty accurate in terms of the actual cash balance showing in the county records?

Ms. Hallas: Yes

Mr. Hemphill: Ok.

Mr. Bowman: What is the Medicaid Stability Fund?

Ms. Hallas: It's their ending cash balance.

Mr. Bowman: It's just their cash balance?

Ms. Hallas: Yes.

Mr. Bowman: And they call it Medicaid Stability Fund?

Ms. Hallas: Yes they do. The theory is if waivers go away, which they can. Who know with all the changes coming up with Medicaid waivers? We only get as a state fifteen hundred new a year, something crazy. A lot of places are wait listed and because we're the largest county and a lot of folks move here for our system. We get a lot of waiver, but if there are not enough waivers, they still have to provide the service. So if they go away, we still have these folks that need the service and then now they'll be paying 100% versus the 60/40 split. So to them they always want to have more than the 90 days if something happens.

Mr. Bowman: What's the 90 days about?

Ms. Hallas: For us, the committee has set that standard because the amount of money collected in a levy cycle does not come until March, end of March?

Mr. Talarek: It's supposed to be early March.

Mr. Bowman: The property tax zone.

Mr. Talarek: Yes the property tax zone, this year it happened the first week in March. So I think thought is you need to have resources to be able to meet that deadline and if for some reason it was a little delayed you can still meet it. There are provisions that if you are beyond that, you can ask for an advance.

Mr. Bowman: So Medicaid waivers don't materialize; they're still legally responsible to provide the care.

Ms. Hallas: Correct.

Mr. Bowman: Did the Supreme Court kind of reinforce that yesterday?

Ms. Hallas: I hadn't heard.

Mr. Bowman: Some minimum level of care wasn't the standard?

Ms. Hallas: I hadn't heard.

Mr. Bowman: It was just in the news yesterday.

Ms. Hallas: I have to look.

Dr. Bronson: I didn't read the article, but I know what you're talking about.

Mr. Bowman: Obviously it affects here in some degree. I think the board provides more than just the minimum level of care services.

Ms. Hallas: Our board?

Mr. Bowman: Yes.

Ms. Hallas: Absolutely.

Mr. Talarek: The language is you have to use your best effort, is some of the language that they used.

Mr. Bowman: The minimum is what they used, whatever that means. They would put extra strain on the levy if that Medicaid waiver got eliminated or reduced.

Ms. Hallas: Absolutely. In fact this last levy cycle, this last six (6) years, they really maximized Medicaid waivers which have allowed them to have so much cash. They were very aggressive. It used to be if you didn't want to go on Medicaid, they would pay 100%. Their board finally instituted a policy, if you qualify for Medicaid you need to get on a waiver. It gave folks some time to get use to it and it really help with their bottom line. Questions?

Mr. Friedman: I was curious about their waiting lists; they say they have 5800 on one list, 9900 on another and some people are on both list. Are those in addition to the twenty thousand they are currently serving?

Ms. Hallas: Do you know where that is on the report. It may be the waiver list.

Dr. Bronson: It is. It does have to do with the waivers and some people are getting on the list well before the need them and others are waiting until the right services comes along.

Mr. Bowman: Some people are putting their children on the list when they are young because they know they will eventually need it.

Ms. Hallas: Yes. It takes a while to get on the rotation.

Dr. Bronson: So the waiting lists are inflated.

Mr. Friedman: Page 28.

Ms. Hallas: I know that he mentioned some folks are waiting because they signed up early; they're not necessarily involved with FCBDD services at this time but knowing that as their child ages and those waivers become available that they would like to use those.

Mr. Hemphill: Doesn't that inflation make the waiting list number itself artificial?

Ms. Hallas and Dr. Bronson: Yes.

Ms. Hallas: The state, they keep having conversations on how to re-do it, but because of the wait list everyone wants to be on the waiting list. You understand the parents wanting to make sure they get on the list. He was just talking recently that there's been some discussion on a new way to handle that, but they're just looking at it at the State because they manage all that.

Mr. Friedman: So the folks who are in need of services currently who are on a waiting list for a waiver, they're probably receiving other services?

Ms. Hallas: If they so need them. If you are signing up early you don't necessarily need them yet. So I don't know of those how many they serve. I can ask that question.

Dr. Bronson: This may tie in. One of their assumptions is that 3-5% increase and others have given us some historical data in terms of supporting that projection. Either I missed it or they tell us that this is what they're basing their assumptions on. I'm not quite sure how they got to that, if that's based on recent trends.

Ms. Carter Ryan: I thought he told us at the meeting that he said it was because we did asked that question.

Mr. Friedman: There was a huge increase in the 90's and this was based on a trend break from 2001 to 2015. It was a pretty lengthy period.

Dr. Bronson: Ok, if that's already in there, then never mind.

Ms. Hallas: They don't say here's the trend by service because everyone is so individualized. So they just do a rough, here's our average.

Ms. Carter Ryan: They said it's growing but it's growing in different areas. So some areas are growing faster, some areas are growing slower but the trends are still the same as I thought he told us last week.

Dr. Bronson: Was it in the report somewhere?

Ms. Carter Ryan: It was in the minutes actually.

Mr. Bowman: The incidence of disability, is that what you want?

Ms. Hallas: On page twenty seven of the report?

Mr. Bowman: Yes, page twenty seven.

Ms. Carter Ryan: If you go to page seven in the minutes, we ask that. Go to the top of page 8, we look at history, projecting 3-5% in the past and talks about autism.

Dr. Bronson: I'm good.

Mr. Bowman: What's the difference between a level one waiver and the individual option waiver, those are the two numbers? I don't see that defined in here.

Ms. Hallas: I'm trying to think if they had it in the attachments. I can get those.

Mr. Bowman: I'm just curious.

Ms. Hallas: I think one's medical and one is not just from sitting in their meetings. I think medical would be the nurse. In fact they have been merging and renaming for the past year.

Mr. Bowman: What's their transportation budget? Is that broken out someplace? That's got to be huge.

Ms. Hallas: It is, but it's actually declining because of more private providers. You just see the money out through Medicaid in their budget and in house is slowly going down. I can get you that number.

Mr. Bowman: You see the buses everywhere. Are they second behind Columbus? That has to be a headache.

Ms. Hallas: They do a good job overall.

Mr. Hemphill: Does anybody have any additional questions for Heidi?

NEXT STEPS-OMB

Mr. Hemphill: There is a meeting scheduled for April 6, 2017 at the FCBDD facility on Johnstown Road.

Ms. Hallas: I think we have eight questions, do you feel we need to engage them face to face again, or we can get these responses? A lot of the time it easier to communicate when you don't understand the charts and graphs, but this are pretty much definitions and information. So that's up to the group. They have already scheduled a room for us, but I'll let you decide if it's necessary.

Mr. Hemphill: One of the pluses of meeting there would be the logistics of the parking. (laughter)

Ms. Hallas: That's fine. I'll just tell them to have this ready for that meeting and once they're done providing the information and if you guys want to continue to meet we can ask them to leave the room. I'm sure that will be fine if you need to deliberate following because it won't take long for us to go over this with them.

Group: That's fine.

Ms. Hallas: If that's all you have, I will get this to them.

Mr. Hemphill: Is everybody in agreement in meeting there? I don't want to force it on anybody.

Group: Everybody was fine with meeting at FCBDD.

Ms. Hallas: The other thing I think just based on your questions and reading the report, I feel like this one will probably move a little bit quicker. So if you want to start thinking about recommendations for the following meeting. They did a pretty good job and I haven't had a chance to go back on and look at what they plan to do in the next ten (10) years for this levy cycle, kind of their big things. I thought that was kind of helpful on what's on their horizon; it may help us to develop some items for them. I think our biggest workload will be around that.

Ms. Carter Ryan: Are you thinking that we would talk about that in our next meeting so that we can start? We're having a meeting anyway, why we don't move to the next item on the agenda if it's going to be quick.

Ms. Hallas: That's your guys' call. If you feel comfortable with the request that just becomes the next step. So yes, we can cut off the end of the time line if we need to. It doesn't cut off all our Briefing and General Sessions but it would at least cut off all your meetings and we could be done with the report. I think that's going to be the piece we're really going to focused on as a group.

Ms. Carter Ryan: Some of the other of request, we really needed to spend a lot of time thinking through a lot of the issues. This one seems to me fairly straight forward and I'm pretty comfortable with it and I do think if we could move to the recommendations sooner rather than later, I'm all for it.

Mr. Hemphill: Is the prior report we did last levy cycle, is it out there in that link you send us?

Ms. Hallas: I don't believe it is but I can get that in there.

Mr. Hemphill: I like to see it.

Dr. Bronson: You don't have a whole bookcase full of it? (laughter)

Mr. Hemphill: I'd like to be able to refer to it.

Ms. Hallas: They did address the last recommendations in here as well, so if you're curious they kind of put a concise table together. They are very responsive to whatever we request.

Dr. Bronson: And you can tell. This is a very nicely prepared report.

Mr. Friedman: Can you put them in charge of all the agencies? (laughter)

Mr. Hemphill: Is Dot their fiscal person?

Ms. Hallas: She is. She was recently promoted to Chief Operating Officer as well and she's over HR and IT, but she's been there awhile.

Dr. Bronson. She's been through all the levies.

Ms. Hallas: She's very sharp to understand all of those revenue streams and they're pretty good about maximizing it.

Mr. Bowman: There are a lot of different operations.

Ms. Hallas: Yes, they are down to one (1) school. They're pretty much getting out of that. They're actually kind of now shrinking because it's more of integrating in the school district buildings, now the staff and the schools are operating at school. They are not allowing anymore kids in, they kind of cut off the group. They are now in one (1) building until they mature out. The workshops are down one (1) and now they only have three (3) because they are integrating folks into the regular workplace. The model is really changing.

Mr. Hemphill: Where is the school physically located?

Ms. Hallas: I think its right here in Franklinton. I think the last one in Central.

Mr. Talarek: It's on West Town Street.

Mr. Hemphill: What grades do they offer?

Ms. Hallas: Well now it's cutting off every year, so I'm not sure whose left. I would say it's the middle school age on right now, if that. Overall, even the funding has floated to the school districts so now they're in the buildings. A lot of the funding used to come to them to do it segregated so now the schools will actually pay them and their staff to be a part of their buildings and facilities. I think the Special Education Program, in one of the school districts, they actually just manage the whole thing and they are really involved with them. More integration, which is good and more cost effective.

Dr. Bronson: And better service.

CLOSING REMARKS

Mr. Hemphill: I want to thank everyone for coming out and attending the sessions. Anybody have anything else before we close?

Mr. Talarek: The overall transportation budget for 2017 is \$24 million, approximately.

Ms. Hallas: Is that money out too?

Mr. Talarek: I think that's everything, so it would be not only operating budget don't they pay for service out of that as well?

Ms. Hallas: I'm not sure; I would have to look at the line items.

Mr. Talarek: It's the entire program of transportation, so it's probably everything.

FCBDD will meet again with the HSLRC on Thursday, April 6, 2017 for further discussion related to the levy request.

Ms. Carter Ryan made a motion to close the HSLRC meeting and Dr. Bronson seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:38 pm.