# Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled

Opening Doors Through Coordinating Services

The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on February 15, 2024, at the Lawrence County Board Office. Members in attendance are as follows: Bill Alexander, Patricia Childress, Debra Bowles, Blenda Moore, Ellis Motley, Chris Freeman, and Martha Pettegrew. Members absent: Sharee Trout, and Lana Moore. The following guests were present: Kerri Watson, Brad Ridenour, Susan Miles, Deanna Cecenas, Suzanne DePriest, and Patty Pippin.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Alexander at 6:05 pm

The Board then reviewed minutes from the November 30, 2023, meeting. Patricia Childress made a motion to accept as written, Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All in favor, no opposed, motion passed.

The treasurer's report for November, December, and January was read by treasurer Chris Freeman. The motion to accept was made by Ellis Motley, seconded by Debbie Bowles. All in favor, no opposed, motion passed.

Executive Director Kerri Watson updated the Board about the Community Center. She also talked about the website being updated and Facebook next in line to be up and going. She also discussed still helping with TCM until the last position is hired and running smoothly. She discussed her meeting with the JRO/SRO intake and the upcoming meeting with the JRO Assistant Director. She is scheduled for Emergency Management Training and Mental Health First Aid in Adults in March and Mental Health First Aid in teens and a competency summit in April. She explained that county audits are now going to be done yearly. She informed the board that the TCM rent and the propane are paid in full for the year. She reported that the related services program (RSP) is doing well and already has 69 individuals signed up for the year.

Suzanne DePriest, TCM Supervisor, gave a TCM update. She reported that from January 1 through February 14, 2024, there have been a total of 12 new intakes. In November and December of 2023, there were 10 new consumers. As of 2/14/24, the case managers are carrying a caseload of 46-47 consumers with a total of 243 consumers. We currently have 4 of the 15 Partnership for Hope waiver slots filled. Bill, Patty, Kerri and Suzanne interviewed 3 candidates to fill the 1 vacant position. A candidate was chosen with the other 2 candidates as potential employees if other positions open. In December of 2023, case managers billed approximately $36,000.00. In January, it was over $58,000.00. The goal is when TCM is fully staffed to be billing $70-80,000.00 or 575 hours per month between 5 CM's. There has been an enormous amount of sickness in the office consisting of week long flueA and B absences that have affected billable hours. Suzanne has implemented weekly Friday supervision with each case manager regarding their progress and ensures meetings are held timely and time sensitive paperwork is submitted on schedule. There is also a billing review each Tuesday team meeting to make sure each TCM is on track and to get ideas from other CM's for improving hours billed.

Deanna Cecenas, Executive Director of Finance, Music Therapy, made her grant request for the Creative

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Art Center. She presented a 2024 budget to the board members and made the distinction between Art Therapy and Art Classes. At this time, she did request additional funding to be HIPAA compliant using Google Workspace.

Patty Pippin, Director of Peoples First and a member of the Music, Dance and Art Therapy Board, announced that a fundraiser was held on Valentine's Day and $965.00 dollars was made for the Music, Dance and Art Therapy program.

Brad Ridenhour, Clark Center CEO spoke and has 190 employees, several offices, a facility in Mount Vernon purchased Developmentally Disabled specific in program. MI and DD in restrictive environments with 1:4 ratio. Future housing project: Resource Center (Old Hospital in Monett), 3rd floor, 8 apartments in total with assistive technology. In Mount Vernon he is creating 20 tiny homes and 8 of them will be MI/DD population with Tornado Shelter available.

A resolution to reprogram the money that was approved for the previous Music, Art and Dance therapy agency to the Creative Art Center was passed along with the increase of funds requested. Previous $147,129.00 to the amount of 151,130.20. Which is an increase of $4,001.20. Motion to pass the resolution was made by Ellis Motley and seconded by Debbie Bowles. All were in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

A resolution for Chris Freeman to be added to all Banks to be able to sign checks was presented. Ellis Motley made motion to pass and seconded was Blenda Moore. Chris Freeman abstained from the vote. All others were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

A resolution for Kerri Watson and Chris Freeman to be added to the Safety Deposit Box was presented. Ellis Motley made the motion to pass and Debbie Bowles seconded. Chris Freeman abstained. All other members were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried

Next meeting is May 2, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Board Office.

Ellis Motley made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Chris Freeman made a motion to have a closed meeting, Ellis Motley seconded the motion. All were in favor. Patricia Childress took notes, please see attached.

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**Closed Meeting Minutes**:

At the conclusion of the open meeting of the LCBDD on February 15, 2024, the chairman of the board, Bill Alexander, requested to move to a brief closed session. Chris Freeman made a motion to move to closed session, seconded by Ellis Motley. All members present voted in favor of the closed session with none opposed.

Bill addressed the board, stating this was to keep the board informed of a personnel issue only. He then allowed the Case Management Supervisor to inform the board of the personnel issue and pending action.

One of our seasoned employees (referred to in this narrative as Employee 1) arrives early in the day to get organized and prepare for the day's work. At the same time a new employee (referred to as Employee 2 in this narrative) comes in but spends her time loudly venting about her personal problems while using unacceptable language (cursing) and makes personal statements about the Case Management Supervisor and Board Director. Employee 1 finds this action very disturbing; it causes added stress and upsets her.

It is further reported that EMployee 2 shares information with clients "because she knows them." This is viewed as a breach of HIPAA.

Employee 2 probationary period was extended 30 days due to her struggling to get her work and billing completed as required.

The board was advised Employee 2 would be terminated due to HIPAA violation.

Board members present told the Case Management Supervisor that they supported her decision.

Session was adjourned at 7:36 pm.

P. Childress, Vice Chair

Martha Pettegrew

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The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on May 2, 2024, at the LCBDD office/Community Center at 403 E. Elm Street, Aurora. Board members in attendance were as follows: Patricia Childress, vice-chair, Lana Moore, and new board member, Kristine Shanks. Board members absent were as follows: William "Bill" Alexander, chairman, Martha Pettegrew, secretary, Chris Freeman, treasurer, Sharree Trout, Blenda Moore, and Debbie Bowles. Guests in attendance were as follows: Suzanne DePriest, TCM supervisor, Susan Miles, Champion Athletes, and Kerri Watson, LCBDD Executive Director.

**Note: With only three board members present, there was not a quorum present. There were no votes held during this meeting. All items that require a vote will be presented at the next board meeting for review and vote.**

The meeting was called to order by Vice-Chair, Patricia Childress at 6:01 pm.

Kristine Shanks, the new board member was introduced to those present and welcomed by the vice-chair.

The members in attendance read/reviewed the board minutes from the February 15, 2024 meeting. No vote to accept was completed as there was not a quorum present.

The members in attendance read/reviewed the treasurer report numbers from February and March 2024. No motion/vote to accept was completed as there was not a quorum present.

Suzanne DePriest gave the TCM update to those present. She reported that case management is now fully staffed and the two newest case managers are finished with internal training tests and the state/DMH training and testing. CM Kodie Harris took over her caseload on May 1st and CM Owen Hopper will be receiving his caseload as of June 1st. All case managers are at a caseload of 47 or more at this time. Suzanne and Kerri are assisting or conducting meetings with consumers as needed to ensure timely meetings and Suzanne will maintain a caseload of at least 5 consumers after the last new CM takes over his caseload. Suzanne reported that over the last quarter, there have been 8 new consumers and 1 transfer from Barry county. There have been 2 discharges where consumers have moved out of the county. Suzanne reported that the flu ran through the office in March and it requires the office to be closed one day due to literally all employees, or their children, were out sick with the flu. Despite this, the 3 case managers that have been here the longest exceeded their 115 hours billing goal for the month. Suzanne reported she has streamlined the DMH service codes and provider choice forms to reflect those agencies available to our consumers in our area and has updated the training folders. Suzanne reported that she and Kerri had a positive regional office Web-X meeting for our quarterly call with the regional office and we had a good audit for last quarter. The annual TCM audit is scheduled for June 5, 2024.

Kerri Watson gave the executive director report. She explained that she has been covering a caseload at the TCM office while looking for, hiring and training new case managers. She reported she has also been able to remain involved with the Crisis Intervention Team (Show Me CIT) that meets every month, and has even been voted in as their secretary. She is involved in the Barry/Lawrence Systems of Care group that meets every month. She has met with Mt. Vernon Chamber of Commerce director, which LCBDD is a member of, who has linked Kerri with the Mt. Vernon Coalition of Charities that meets monthly in Mt. Vernon. While at that meeting in March, Kerri was linked with the person who spearheads the Aurora Coalition of Charities and Kerri is planning on attending those meetings when scheduling allows. Kerri also reported that she is active in MACDDS and is on their best practices committee, is attending their monthly meetings, and is a part of their first ever "Executive Director Institute". This is where Kerri and a handful of other new executive directors meet in person after the MACDDS monthly meetings and are taught about SB40 boards, sunshine law, the SB40 statute, and all the ways to be a good executive director. Kerri reported that she has also attended an Emergency Management Training for individuals with disabilities, Mental Health First Aid for Adults, and a Competency Summit. She will be attending Mental Health First Aid for Youth on May 30th. She has met with the director of nursing and the emergency room manager at the Aurora Hospital. They are going to do volunteer craft and training on hygiene with our individuals at the community center. She has also met with the Monett Police Chief and the Lawrence County Sheriff regarding how we can assist in a crisis with ID/DD individuals that may come through the jails and help educate them on the population we serve. She also reported that she is working with the regional office, as well as she has brought it to the attention of MACDDS to bring to the attention of the Department of Mental Health to try to find a way to help our people in a timely fashion in a crisis. Kerri aso reported that she had an information table at the Marionville High School Transitions Fair and at the Aurora Chamber Expo. She also attended webinars on Midwest disaster preparedness for individuals with disabilities and on how bills pass through the legislature.

Susan Miles explained where Champion Athletes do their activities currently at the request of the vice-chair.

The next board meeting will be held on August 1, 2024 at 6 pm at the board office. The tax levy and board officers will need to be voted on at this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Martha Pettegrew

The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on August 22, 2024, at the LCBDD Community Center/Board office, 403 E. Elm, Aurora, at 6:00 pm. Members present were Martha Pettegrew, Rick Lamb, Deborah Bowles, Kristine Shanks, Lana Moore, Bill Alexander, Patricia Childress, Blenda Moore, and Chris Freeman. Guests present: Kerri Watson- Executive Director, Suzanne DePriest – TCM Supervisor, Owen Hopper – TCM, Kodie Harris – TCM, Wanda Lefler – support coordinator, Melissa Freeman – parent.

Bill Alexander, chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

There was an introduction of all board members and case managers present so that the new board members and new case managers could meet everyone else.

The board members then reviewed the February 15, 2024, and May 2, 2024, board meeting minutes. Lana Moore made the motion to accept both as written. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, no opposed, motion passed.

The following treasurer's report was given by treasurer Chris Freeman for February 2024 – June 2024.

Bank of Billings

| start | debits | credits | Ending balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb - $110,810.54 | $31,796.26 | $0 | $142,606.80 |
| March - $142,606.80 | $111.66 | $0 | $142,718.46 |
| April - $142,718.46 | $129.03 | $0 | $142,847.49 |
| May - $142,847.49 | $40,123.83 | $0 | $182,971.32 |
| June - $182,971.32 | $155.40 | $0 | $183,126.72 |

First Independent Bank

| start | debits | credits | ending |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb - $192,492.25 | $31,608.58 | $30,000.00 | $194,100.83 |
| March - $194,100.83 | $49,389.23 | $60,000.00 | $183.490.06 |
| April - $183,490.06 | $55,063.61 | $50,000.00 | $188,553.67 |
| May - $188,553.67 | $39,004.27 | $80,000.00 | $147,557.94 |
| June - $147.557.94 | $32,303.21 | $50,000.00 | $129.861.15 |

Mid Missouri

| start | debits | credits | ending |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb - $90,000.00 | $ 0 | $ 0 | $90,000.00 |
| March - $90,000.00 | $10,000.00 | $0 | $100.000.00 |
| April - $100,000.00 | $0 | $0 | $100,000.00 |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| May - $100,000.00 | $0 | $0 | $100,000.00 |
| June - $100,000.00 | $0 | $0 | $100,000.00 |

Freedom Bank

| start | debits | credits | Ending balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| Feb - $100,321.11 | $506.33 | $65,426.19 | $35,837.56 |
| March - $36,382.56 | $274,927.74 | $187,258.94 | $124,054.36 |
| March - $124,054.36 | $50,318.32 | $82,125.48 | $92,247.20 |
| April - $92,247.20 | $40,016.98 | $69,457.75 | $62,767.70 |
| June - $62,767.70 | $67,474.54 | $58,962.43 | $71,279.81 |

Bill discussed the tax levy. The current tax levy is 0.0851. The motion to approve the current tax levy was made by Chris Freeman. Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Bill discussed raising the levy to 0.1000 and placing it on the April 2025 ballot for county voter approval. The resolution to request a raise from 0.0851 to 0.1000 on the April 2025 ballot was discussed. Patricia Childress made the motion to approve the resolution. Rick Lamb seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Suzanne DePriest, Case Management Supervisor, gave the TCM report. We currently have 10 Partnership for Hope waiver slots, we are currently utilizing 5 of the spots. TCM is down by 2 case managers. Interviews are being conducted to fill the open positions. All case managers are carrying approximately 50 consumers on their caseloads. There are currently approximately 235 consumers on Medicaid and 17 non-Medicaid consumers. TCM received 4 new consumers in the last 24 hours. The three current case managers are exceeding 115 goal hours of billing each month. And the Medicaid Quarterly audit went well with few remediations. The TCM annual audit went well with few remediations.

Kerri Watson, Executive Director, gave report. Kerri is finishing up the Executive Director Institute through MACDDS in September. The Community Center is still doing very well, very active and lots of smiling happy faces. Kerri is attending trainings and doing research to make sure the board is in compliance with all state, federal, and local entities. Kerri is also helping case management with covering some cases and training until it is fully staffed and trained.

Bill discussed current IT struggles and issues at the TCM office. He and the executive director discussed Google Suite issues and how Microsoft is what state and other TCM agencies use. With our agency being the only one using Google Suite, it makes transferring data difficult sometimes, especially to get Microsoft Word documents to open with Google Suite. Bill discussed the Lunch and Learn with Stronghold Data that he and the executive director attended on August 22. He discussed the need for cyber security and insurance. He discussed that he and the executive director have been in conversations with Stronghold Data, who came with glowing recommendations from the Lawrence County Public Administrator's office, and received a price work up for their services, 8 computers and their assistance in switching TCM from Google Suite to Microsoft. The board members discussed concerns and questions they had. Bill and the executive director answered all questions and addressed all concerns. Bill requested $25,000.00 to be set aside in the budget for August – December 2024, to pay for costs of implementing Stronghold Data as LCBDD's IT and IT security agency and for their assistance in onboarding 8 new computers from Google Suite to Microsoft 365. Lana Moore made the motion to approve the request. Patricia Childress seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Bill discussed the Sunshine Law Resolution/Policy. He explained that according to the Attorney General's office, this resolution needs to be in place at all SB40 entities. The resolution was reviewed and discussed. Debbie Bowles made the motion to approve. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Bill discussed the Conflict-of-Interest Ordinance. He explained since the board has an operating budget of over $1 million dollars; the Missouri Ethics Commission requires a conflict-of-interest ordinance/policy be in place. This was discussed among members. Debbie Bowles made the motion to approve. Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried. All members and the executive director signed conflict of interest policy acknowledgement forms that will be filed in the LCBDD board office, and a copy will be mailed out to each respective board member.

Bill then discussed the new Confidentiality Policy and explained why it was needed. The board members discussed this, and everyone signed a copy. A copy will be filed at the LCBDD board office, and a copy will be mailed to each respective board member.

Next was the election of officers as follows:

Chairman. Debbie Bowles nominated Bill Alexander. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Vice-Chair. Bill Alexander nominated Patricia Childress. Debbie Bowles seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Secretary. Patricia Childress nominated Martha Pettegrew. Debbie Bowles seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Treasurer. Bill Alexander nominated Chris Freeman. Debbie Bowles seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be November 14th, 2024, at 6 pm at the LCBDD board office.

Motion to adjourn was made by Chris Freeman. Patricia Childress seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 8 pm.

Martha Pettegrew 11-14-24

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The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on November 14, 2024, at the LCBDD Community Center/Board office, 403 E. Elm Street, Aurora, at 6 pm. The members present were Bill Alexander, Patricia Childress, Martha Pettegrew, Chris Freeman, Blenda Moore, Deborah Bowles, Kristine Shanks and Rick Lamb. Members absent: Lana Moore. Guests present included: Kerri Watson – Executive Director, Suzanne DePriest – TCM Supervisor, Rene Frazier – OATS transportation, Susan Miles – Champion Athletes, Shane Willis – Firefly, Gail Irwin – Redemption Ranch, Deanna Cecenas – Creative Therapy, Kaiti Rutledge – Creative Therapy, Brittany Brosseau – Creative Therapy, Lynda Painter – Barry/Lawrence Developmental Center, and Dave Dunn – SWI.

Bill Alexander, chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm.

The minutes from August 22, 2024, board meeting was reviewed. Patricia Childress made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

The following treasurer's report was given by board treasurer, Chris Freeman, for July – September 2024.

Bank of Billings

| Start | Debits | Credits | Ending Balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| July $183,126.72 | $160.55 | $0 | $183.287.27 |
| August - $187,337.49 | $155.74 | $0 | $183,493.23 |
| Sept. - $183,493.23 | $150.82 | $0 | $183,644.05 |

First Independent Bank

| Start | Debits | Credits | Ending Balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| July - $129.861.15 | $56,716.30 | $40,000.00 | $146,577.45 |
| August - $146,577.45 | $48,785.78 | $50,000.00 | $145,363.23 |
| Sept. - $145,363.23 | $45,067.31 | $0 | $190,430.54 |

Mid Missouri Bank

| Start | Debits | Credits | Ending Balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| July - $100,000.00 | $0 | $3,000.00 | $97,000.00 |
| August - $97,000.00 | $0 | $50,000.00 | $47,000.00 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sept. - $47,000.00 | $0 | $0 | $47,000.00 |

Freedom Bank

| Start | Debits | Credits | Ending Balance |
|---|---|---|---|
| July - $71,449.81 | $43,009.91 | $74,023.30 | $40,436.42 |
| August - $40,436.42 | $100,008.91 | $70,396.59 | $70,048.74 |
| Sept. - $70,048.74 | $11,007.87 | $54,085.00 | $26,971.61 |

The motion to accept the treasurer report as read was made by Rick Lamb. Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Next, Kerri Watson, executive director, gave the executive director report. She explained she had completed all recommended and required training courses over the last year. The last training was completed the week of October 21-25,2024. Kerri is currently working on the Medicaid revalidation that allows case management to bill Medicaid for TCM duties. This process is completed every 5 years. All required documentation has been submitted for review and Kerri is waiting to hear about any other information required. The switch from Google Suite to Microsoft 365 happened on October 15, 2024. The new computers were delivered at that time. There are a few TCM forms that did not migrate over well and are being fixed. Cyber security has been obtained to help cover costs in the event of a security incident. The Missouri Ethics Commission will be hosting a webinar on how and who needs to complete the personal financial statement for conflict of interest. Kerri explained that in the conflict-of-interest policy adopted by the board states that all officers and the executive director will be required to complete the form. Kerri will be reviewing and updating necessary policies for staff between now and the first of the year. Kerri is also going to be attending an economic summit on 11/15 and a resource fair in Monett on 11/21/24.

Suzanne DePriest, TCM supervisor, gave the TCM report. She explained there has been no change in the Partnership Waiver slots. There are 10 slots available and 5 are being used currently. We currently have 248-250 consumers, 15 are non-Medicaid. In the last quarter, 7 consumers were discharged and 6 transferred to other counties. TCM averages1-2 consumers a week. There are currently 3 full-time case managers that are far exceeding the required billing each month. One of the open CM positions was offered to an applicant after the background and DMH requirements were met. TCM supervisor created a new set of interview questions based on a hiring process from Christian County TCM agency, mixed with some of the current questions used by LCBDD TCM. The billing requirement for monthly billing has changed to 6 hours of billing time each working day of the month. This will be an average increase of 3 hours per CM each month. The goal is to have the new CM in the field and billing by January 2, 2025. Suzanne also explained that the quarterly Medicaid audit went well, with only minor corrections and/or issues that have been remediated.

Next, Bill presented the projected 2025 budget and opened the floor for discussion and questions. No questions were submitted. Deborah Bowles made the motion to accept the projected budget and Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Then Bill presented and explained the separate Administration and TCM budgets and how they are broken down. During this, Bill discussed and made the case for staff raises as he broke down the budget in sections. He also explained, with a handout from the Department of Labor, that the threshold for salaried employees increases to $58,656.00 as of January 1, 2025. The board has 2 salary employees, Kerri Watson, executive director, and Suzanne DePriest, TCM supervisor. Patricia Childress made the motion to accept the proposed salary increases for staff for 2025. Martha Pettegrew seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. The motion carried.

Administrative expenses from the proposed budget were discussed. There was a question by Kristine Shanks about the "emergency/attorney" line. Bill explained that the money in that category is designed to pay for any attorney fees that might come up throughout the year, as well as any big expense repairs, etc. that may arise throughout the year. The motion to accept Administrative Expenses was made by Chris Freeman and seconded by Deborah Bowles. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

TCM expenses were then discussed. No questions were posed. The motion to accept was made by Patricia Childress and seconded by Blenda Moore. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Next came the discussion and voting over three resolutions as follows:

A resolution to allow/designate Bill Alexander, chairman, to sign on all documents/contracts on behalf of the board for 2025 was presented. Rick Lamb made the motion to accept, Patricia Childress seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

A resolution to close the UMB credit card account due to issues on how to pay it down effectively was discussed. It was explained that because the board does not have a checking account at UMB bank, then the option to pay the bill electronically to keep the balance down better, is not available. Deborah Bowles made the motion to accept the resolution. Kristine Shanks seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

The third resolution was discussed to open a credit card at Freedom Bank, with the same available credit balance as the UMB credit card ($4000.00) so it could be paid electronically as the board already has an account at Freedom. Rick Lamb made the motion to approve the resolution. Patricia Childress seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Next the grant requests for 2025 were discussed and voted on as follows:

SWI – Workshop – Dave Dunn discussed and answered questions regarding the $77,000.00 being requested for the workshop. He also discussed how the money from the current grant and the assistance given by the board, in conjunction with the Barry County board, has improved the building and the jobs of those working there. There has also been an increase in consumer employees over the last couple of years. The motion was made by Patricia Childress to approve the grant request. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Barry/Lawrence Developmental Center: - Lynda Painter discussed and answered questions regarding the $25,000.00 being requested. She explained that they lost 4 kids when Marionville opened their new program this school year for this age group. This is why the grant request is lower than last year. Deborah Bowles made the motion to approve the request. Martha Pettegrew seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

OATS Transportation – Rene Frazier discussed and answered questions regarding the $78,546.00 being requested this year. This is broken into two categories: Workshop trips and rural trips. She reported that TCM's have been good at getting all the riders that they could on waivers over the last year which helps with the requested amount. Rick Lamb made the motion to approve the request. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Champion Athletes – Susan Miles discussed and answered questions regarding the $5,300.00 being requested. She reported they have good turnout and discussed the various sports they support and that they also teach life skills and socialization skills during their activities. Chris Freeman made the motion to approve the request. Kristine Shanks seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Creative Therapy – Deanna Rutledge, Brittany Brosseau and Kaiti Rutledge discussed and answered questions regarding the $134,610.78 being requested for music and dance therapy and art classes. Deanna reported that they had an approximate $16,000.00 roll over from the current grant due to cancellations. Kristine Shanks made the motion to approve the grant. Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Firefly (formerly Preferred) – Shane Willis discussed and answered questions regarding the $4,000.00 being requested. She explained that it is used to cover lawn care for 4 Individualized Support Living (ISL) individuals in Lawrence County and any large appliance purchases they may need. Rick Lamb made the motion to accept the request. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Redemption Ranch – Gail Irwin discussed and answered questions regarding the $5,000.00 being requested. Redemption Ranch is an equine therapy service/non-profit. This is a new request. Deborah Bowles made the motion to approve the request. Patricia Childress seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Bill Alexander then discussed and answered questions about the related services funds request. He stated he figured $500.00 for 250 consumers, which brings the total to $125,000.00 for the year 2025. Rick Lamb made the motion to approve the request. Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be February 20, 2025, weather permitting at 6 pm at the board office.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Patricia Childress, seconded by Deborah Bowles. All were in favor, none opposed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:23 pm.