

**August 17, 2021 MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF MANAGERS OF JUVENILE DETENTION**

PRESENT: Kevin Madden, Chair Elaine Schaefer
Marie N. Williams, Vice-Chair Monica Taylor
Candice L. Linehan Chekemma J. Fulmore Townsend
Joanne Phillips

Call to Order. Mr. Madden called the meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments on Agenda Items. There were no public comments on agenda items.

Approval of Minutes. Ms. Phillips motioned to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2021 meeting of the Board of Managers of Juvenile Detention, seconded by Ms. Fulmore Townsend. Motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor Appointment. Explaining that solicitor candidates were previously interviewed by several Board members, Delaware County Solicitor William Martin went on to recommend Carlton Johnson, Esquire, Shelley Smith, Esquire, and Jeffrey Scott, Esquire from the law firm of Archer Greiner for consideration as solicitor to the Board. Ms. Williams made a motion to accept the recommendation, seconded by Ms. Fulmore Townsend. Motion carried unanimously.

Custody Report. Danielle DiMatteo, Director, Delaware County Juvenile Court & Probation Services reported there would be six (6) youth in custody as of August 18, 2021. The youth will be housed as follows: two (2) in Bucks County, two (2) in Montgomery County, one (1) in Chester County, and one (1) at the Aspire facility in Uniontown, PA.

Committee Reports.

Human Resource Committee: Ms. Schaefer reported the first meeting of Human Resource Committee focused on the hiring process for the Director of Juvenile Detention and Rehabilitation Services. A position description drafted by the County Personnel/HR Department will be circulated to Board members for prompt review and approval for public release to encourage qualified candidates to apply. A final hiring decision will be made by a majority vote of Board members.

Facilities and Contract Committee: Ms. Williams reported members debriefed on their visit to the closed Juvenile Detention Center. Other discussion topics included the committee's scope and role; needs of youth in custody; short-term alternatives to placing youth in another county's facility; long-term solutions regarding the existing Lima facility; potentially identifying new provisional locations and providers, including whether youth can be served in the community rather than in alternative placements; and presentations from the Public Defender and District Attorney offices on the juvenile justice system and how that contrasted with the adult justice system. Mr. Madden summarized an informational session with representatives of the Youth Advocate Program (YAP) regarding its evidence-based detention alternatives aimed at keeping

youth in the community. He raised the possibility of inviting the organization to present to the entire Board. He added that the cost of detention is \$525/day compared to a YAP program cost of \$92/day for community-based alternatives that delivered better outcomes in terms of recidivism. The intention was to offer a range of juvenile detention tools for use at the Court's discretion to supplement rather than replace detention.

2022 Budget Preparation. County Solicitor William Martin suggested the Board select representatives to work with County staff and the Executive Director's office to draft a 2022 budget, explaining County Council is expected to approve departmental budgets sometime in the first half of December 2021. He noted a 2021 budget of \$4,039,000 and \$513,000 for juvenile detention and the kitchen, respectively. The budget was created with the assumption there were 65 employees while only 42 positions were actually filled. It was presently unclear how many employees were working in the first quarter of 2021 when the facility was closed. Board members were urged to think about operating assumptions for creating a 2022 budget.

Presentations. Ms. Linehan asked about who provided mental health programs and would providers be interested in presenting to the Board about what programs and services remained available. Danielle DiMatteo, Director, Juvenile Court and Probation Services, suggested that the Delaware County Intermediate Unit (DCIU) be invited to present to the Board on that range of educational programs that were offered at the detention center. The County previously worked with Magellan for mental health services and CCBH will likely be the provider in the future. She noted there were 2300 active cases with about 1800 youth in the community monitored via various means. Child Guidance provided mental health services in the detention center. Ms. Williams expressed an interest in learning about all the vendors who contracted with the County to provide services both within the detention center and the community. County Executive Howard Lazarus suggested having a Human Services representative present on what services the County provided through that department.

New Business. Ms. Phillips indicated attention must be given to unsecured files in the detention center and facility maintenance. Ms. Linehan expressed concerns about potentially sensitive files left out in the open and had questions regarding the chain of custody. Mr. Madden requested getting guidance from the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office about building access for securing documents and maintaining the facility as the state continued its investigation.

Public Comments. (All relevant items.) There were no public comments.

Adjourn. Ms. Fulmore Townsend motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Linehan. Motion carried unanimously.