

**January 18, 2022 MEETING OF THE  
JUVENILE DETENTION BOARD OF MANAGERS**

**PRESENT:** Kevin Madden, Chair  
Monica Taylor  
Nathaniel Nichols  
Joanne Phillips  
Elaine Schaefer  
Candice L. Linehan  
Chekemma J. Fulmore Townsend

**Call to Order.** Councilman 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.** Judge Nichols moved to approve the minutes of the December 21, 2021 meeting of the Juvenile Detention Board of Managers, seconded by Mrs. Fulmore Townsend. Motion carried unanimously.

**Introduction of New Superintendent of Juvenile Justice Service.** David Irizarry thanked the board for the appointment, and Juvenile Detention Board of Managers formally welcomed Mr. Irizarry

**Juvenile Court and Probation Services Report.** Kirsten Keenan, Resource Supervisor, Delaware County Court & Probation Services reported there were two (2) youth detained. The locations are as follows: one (1) in Montgomery County Youth Center for 42 days/previously at Aspire for 25 days, and one (1) at Chester County Youth Center for 4 days, and previously at Aspire for 26 days. She indicated one of the youths was in custody for 18 days in Montgomery County and was previously at Aspire for 25 days.

Danielle DiMatteo, Director, Delaware County Juvenile Probation, stated her agency is actively working on developing the most effective way to record, measure, and report out on incidents were youth whom needed to by detained, were not, due to being turned away by neighboring counties, from the lack of space or exercising their right to refuse. Also collecting data on these youth following their denial such as who as absconded and or who reported to the courts as directed. She also reported out on some Covid related challenges as they related to face-to-face visits, and some difficulties with the older demographics of Juveniles (18-21) due to lack of work and school.

**Status of Secure Juvenile Detention space and Central Processing facility.** Howard Lazarus, Executive Director, Delaware County reported on his latest meeting with Mr.Pat Bokovitz (Chester County Director of Human Services) and Mrs. Deb Maccariella (Chester County Youth Center Director) via zoom on 1/14/22 to review the status of the proposed agreement with Chester County for Delaware County to operate a pod in the Chester County facility. A summary of that meeting is as followed:

Mr. Pat Bokovitz has been working with the Chester County Solicitor to finalize the agreement, and indicated that we should have the contract in our hands by the end of next week. That will allow the Board of Managers' solicitor and Mr. Martin to review the agreement in time to have it before Council in February. Chester County was advised that we would be looking at a one-year agreement with an option for a second year. These timeframes will provide a degree of certainty to Chester County and allow us to have a little more time to work through the capital planning, design, and construction process to achieve our desired vision for our potential new facility option. The agreement will address staffing, training and support functions (e.g. food service, maintenance, security, case management, health care, and education) in addition to providing the space.

Mr. Irizarry, Superintendent, Delaware County Juvenile Detention & Rehabilitation also emphasized that this partnership could potentially give the opportunity to hire former detention staff with the approval of the PA's Attorney General's office, and higher pay compared to the salary of the previous detention officer position with the Board's approval.

Due to the nature of lack of detention spaces, both Councilman Kevin Madden and JDBOM's Solicitor Shelley Smith, Archer Law, discussed the emergency procedures that must be followed in order to expediate the process of hiring staff, approving the budget, and implementing a partnership, if in fact Chester County comes to an agreement with Delaware County as expected.

Mr. Lazarus committed to securing a draft of the terms of agreement from Chester County for the Board to review and approve, and stated himself, David Irizarry, and members of the board are scheduled to visit Chester County's Youth Center.

Councilwoman Schaefer and Councilwoman Taylor expressed concerns around vetting any former staff in correlation with the Attorney General's office as well as operationalizing the onboarding of Delaware County Staff in Montgomery County's Youth Center.

Mr. Lazarus also gave a brief update on the status of the new central processing center stating that the partnering architect will be meeting with all stakeholders on the design and functionality of the center. Board member Joanne Phillips expressed concerns about having enough space for a potential new detention center design since the central processing center will be created through renovated space from the former Lima Juvenile Detention facility.

**Discussion of future presentations.** David Irizarry stated he will be presenting out his first year's strategy and budget for the February meeting.

David Irizarry also gave a brief overview of his efforts since his start on 01/04/22. He stated he planned on bringing local, state, and national programs to present as potential community support programs and alternatives to detention to the board for their feedback.

**New Business.** Board Member/ County Controller Joanne Phillips stated that there needs to be a plan to efficiently address confidential files, records, and equipment remaining at the Lima JDC.

Mr. Lazarus committed to working with Mr. Irizarry and having an update at the February meeting.

Councilwoman Dr. Taylor requested that Mr. Irizarry be added to the stakeholder meeting for the center processing center

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

**Board Member Comments** – Board members thanked Jim Coyne for his service to the Board.

**Adjourn.** Judge Nichols moved to adjourn, seconded by Dr. Taylor. Motion carried unanimously.

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