

Juvenile Detention Commission for Northern Virginia

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2024

Call to Order: Mr. Conklin called the meeting to order at 4:48 p.m.

ATTENDEES

Members present: Mr. Earl Conklin (Arlington – Chairperson) Mrs. Marguarite Gooden (Arlington) Mrs. Sonnja Brown (Alexandria) Mr. Yon Lambert (Alexandria) Mr. John Lawrence (Falls Church)

Staff present: Ms. Johnitha McNair, Mr. Ian Rachal, Mr. Jahi Banks, Ms. Emily Anne Reiney, Ms. Brianna Cain, Ms. Anita Robinson, Mr. Leroy White, Ms. Melissa Alarcon, Ms. Tiffany Kotak,

Other Attendees: Mr. Neil Title (Attorney), Mr. Charles Smith, and Mr. Amir Farshchian of 3-iT Accounting & Financial Services Corporation, Ms. Zakiya Worthey of KLamb, Mr. Mike Mackey (CSU-Alexandria), Dr. Seazante` Oliver(School Principal), Luis Pitarque (Dewberry Architects), Desha Hall-Winstead (Probation & Pre-Trial), Miguel Blancas (Alexandria Juvenile Justice Services), Christian Dorsey (Arlington County member of the public), Roberto Gomez (Even Scale)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes were approved by a majority.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR AND COMMISIONERS:

COMMISSION BUSINESS:

Authorization of Inter-jurisdictional Agreement to disseminate to member jurisdictions: Mr. Title stated earlier in the week he sent out the final draft of the agreement. There were two additional revisions added at the request of Mr. Conklin. Mr. Title stated there was only one item left to take action on and it would be to add a dollar amount to what the capital reserve would be or leave it open for further negotiations. Mr. Lambert stated he would suggest leaving the dollar amount open. Mr. Lawrence inquired if the dollar amount would help jurisdictions buy into the idea or if there is a downside for us. Mr. Title responded there is currently a capital reserve, and this agreement would legitimizes and sets up a mechanism for withdrawing and depositing funds. A discussion followed. Ms. Gooden made a motion authorizing the dissemination of the Inter-jurisdictional agreement to the three jurisdictions county and city managers who will review, negotiate and provide ultimate approval. Ms. Gooden second the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Authorization of Draft memo to the City of Alexandria: Mr. Lamber inquired if the intent of the memo would be for him to present it on behalf of the commission to the City of Alexandria. Ms. McNair noted she followed the directive given to respond to the questions presented. A

discussion followed. Mr. Conklin noted that the commission is asking for a small revision to be added to the memorandum to address the question of sheltercare and that space. Ms. McNair stated the revision would be provided by Thursday of the week. Mr. Conklin made a motion to that the memo be approved pending the revisions that will be provided electronically to the commission. All members unanimously agreed by saying I.

MOA Re-Entry: Ms. McNair reported the MOA has been submitted and she has not heard back to date. Ms. McNair provided an overview of what the program would be if approved. Ms. McNair noted there are only four facilities in the state providing these services. A discussion followed.

Update on Perimeter Fence: Ms. McNair reported that after posting the resolution, several companies for fencing had been identified. Ms. McNair recommended going with Long Fence because they design and install fencing. No contract has been signed to date. Mr. Lambert noted that he checked with the city's planning and zoning department to see if any additional or special permits would be required. Mr. Lambert stated because of the school component of the facility, Section 7 would apply, which permits an open or closed fence up to ten feet. Mr. Lambert also stated a site plan would be helpful, even if it is hand drawn and he would be happy to help.

Commission Retreat: Ms. Gooden stated she believes a retreat would be beneficial for members and staff. Mr. Gooden noted that she would like everyone to have a child centered focus. Ms. Brown stated she thinks it is a great idea but unsure if the timing is great. Mr. Lawrence noted that it is a great idea, and it should happen when members have a better idea from staff on how they see moving forward for the next year. A discussion followed.

REPORTS

Financial Report: Mr. Smith presented the financial report for the months leading up to July. Total assets were \$10.6 million, up from \$10.1 million at the end of June. Payments were received from Alexandria for the first quarter contribution, contributions from Arlington and Falls Church were previously received. Current assets at the end of July were \$6.1 million, up from \$5.6 million based on additional revenues received. Mr. Smith reported that the total equity was \$8.5 million, and liabilities were \$2.1 million mostly due to payroll and pension. Mr. Smith noted that the draft financial audit and statements were finally provided. The auditors concluded that the financial statements fairly present in all material respects. Mr. Lawrence inquired as to why there was a \$200k difference in expenditures between June and July. Mr. Smith noted there were three payrolls in the month of June. Mr. Lawrence also inquired as to when the final audit would be available. Mr. Lambert asked if it could be provided a week before the next meeting. Ms. McNair noted it would be sent out. Mr. Conklin asked of the reserve money on hand, how much is depended upon for cashflow versus how much is truly reserved. Ms. McNair responded that none of that money has ever been used for cash flow. Mr. Smith noted the money is in a totally different bank account. Mr. Conklin inquired how much cash is on hand to operate. Mr. Smith stated \$392k. Mr. Smith reported that Shelter care had \$1.9 million in total assets at the end of July, up from \$1.5 million. During the month, Shelter care also received its quarterly contribution along with the state program. Equity at the end of July was \$1.3 million. The auditors also concluded that the financial statements fairly present in all material respects for

Sheltercare. Mr. Lambert asked if the financial reports could be provided prior to the meeting. Ms. McNair confirmed after she reviews the report, it would be disseminated. Mr. Conklin asked Mr. Smith to describe the reserve accounts for Shelter care. Mr. Smith stated that there are four reserve accounts, the capital reserve has \$200k, certificate deposit has \$4000, the equipment reserve has \$89k, and the van account has \$41k. Mr. Lambert ask that Ms. McNair make a recommendation to the commission on how to manage the accounts. A discussion followed.

Executive Director's Report: Ms. McNair reported NATCAP is up and running. Ms. McNair stated the name of the behavior management system will now be behavior motivation and two staff from probation will be assisting in the change. A full-time career development virtual reality curriculum will be implemented, purchasing VR headsets to assist with the program. Ms. McNair noted that the center will be celebrating Hispanic Heritage month. The residents will be working with Roberto Gomez and his company Evenscale to rehab their rooms. Ms. McNair stated one of the vendors that worked with the residents last year doing photography will be coming in to work with residents on writing and publishing their own books.

Care Center Report: Ms. Reiney reported the population had increased in the month of July. There were seven residents in their home schools. One resident who made varsity football as a freshman. Art therapy will now be every day. Ms. Reiney noted the need for an after-school program , as residents who returned home are interested in keeping busy with the Carecenter's assistance. There were no serious incidents reports for the month.

School Report: Dr. Oliver reported that school year has begun. Residents have shown a lot of interest in reading, checking out books. Math testing will be every nine weeks. Ms. Hinton has been hired as the special ed teacher.

Neil Title: Mr. Title reported about the claim against the federal government. While they agree the money is owed, when the agreement was set up, it was under the name Northern Virginia Juvenile Home. The entity doesn't exist, and it should have been Detention Commission. The work continues to recover the funds.

CSU (Court Services Unit) Directors Reports:

Alexandria: Mr. Mackey wanted to reiterate comments of gratitude for the staff and center and was thankful for the collaboration of staff and the jurisdictions.

Arlington: Mr. Conklin echoed Mr. Mackey's comments, thanking everyone.

Alexandria Updates: Mr. Lambert reported under direction from the state, Alexandria has been restructuring its court service unit. Mr. Lambert stated that in order to give clarity to reporting, the state staff and city have been separated. The state staff will remain with Mr. Lambert and a portion of Mr. Mackey's staff will be under the direction of Ms. Hall-Winstead and Mr. Blancas. They all will continue to work closely with the others to support court and non-court youth. Mr. Lambert also noted that Alexandria has an annual legislative packet, this is where the city makes

legislative proposal to the state. This allows for boards and commissions to submit proposals for input. Mr. Lambert wanted to ensure all were aware.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

The Executive Session was certified by Commissioners Conklin, Lambert, Brown, Lawrence, and Gooden that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified by the motion by which the executive session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting of the executive session which concluded at 7:59 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.