



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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Members
Kenneth G. Feng
John E. Harding
Jorge G. Lozano
A V. Maddra
Connie W. Seago
John A. Wasowicz, Esq.
Thomas A. Wilkins

Board of Juvenile Justice

Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center Beaumont, Virginia Board of Juvenile Justice Meeting March 14, 2001

Present: Kenneth Feng
John Harding
Jorge Lozano
A. V. Maddra
John Wasowicz
Thomas Wilkins

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:50 AM by Chairman Wilkins.

Mr. Wilkins recognized Mr. Lee Noble, Superintendent of Beaumont JCC. Mr. Noble introduced Mr. Jim Davis from DCE and the principals of Beaumont's schools - Ms. Margaret Payne (Blandford) and Ms. Trina Harris (Expansion). He invited everyone on a tour of the facility. Ms. Jackie Green, Public Relations Coordinator, introduced Mr. McMahon of DPB and Ms. Donna St. Jean of SPS.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Maddra, seconded by Mr. Feng, the Agenda was approved. Motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Maddra, the Board approved the Minutes for the January 10, 2001, meeting. Motion carried.

IV. COMMENTS OF PUBLIC

There were no comments from the public.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Secure Services Committee

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to certify Roanoke Valley Juvenile Detention Center for three years and increase the facility's rated capacity to 48 residents. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to approve the vehicular sally port renovations of the Henrico Juvenile Detention Home in accordance with Section 16.1-309.5 of the Code of Virginia. The total projected amount for these renovations is \$132,158, of which the State share is \$66,079. The availability of funds for reimbursement as approved is contingent on the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to grant a blanket variance to 6 VAC 35-140-540 C for all secure custody facilities. The variance will allow two staff of an opposite gender of the residents to provide supervision in the living units. Motion carried.

B. Non-Secure Services Committee

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to certify Louisa Office on Youth for one year with close monitoring and technical assistance by the DJJ Prevention Specialist. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to certify the Green House for three years with a letter of congratulations for 100% compliance. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to increase the capacities of Discovery House from 10 to 11 residents, Hampton Place from 12 to 13 residents, and the Chesterfield Group Home from 14 to 16 residents. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to approve the proposed variance to Office on Youth standards to allow a single visit per year to each office by DJJ staff. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to approve the VJCCCA plan for Prince William County contingent upon the County: (1) Revising the plan to reflect eligible youth; (2) Documenting that only VJCCCA

eligible youth are served with VJCCCA funds; and (3) Establishing an inclusive planning process to efficiently and effectively assess juvenile justice needs to be the basis for the next VJCCCA plan.

A discussion was conducted regarding the locality and planning with the court service unit. Mr. Jim Rankin, CSU Director, was recognized and complimented on his service. Messrs. Wilkins and Wasowicz expressed an interest in visiting the court service unit. Mr. Wasowicz recognized Mr. Rick Perez from Prince William County.

Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to approve the VJCCCA plan amendments as proposed for the counties of Chesterfield and Southampton and the cities of Franklin and Hampton. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to approve the construction reimbursement for the Chesterfield County Group Home in the amount of \$37,103 for the remaining unfounded beds that are now, and have been, operational in accordance with Section 16.1-309.5 of the Code of Virginia.¹ The availability of funds for reimbursement as approved is contingent on the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly. Motion carried.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Budget Information

Mr. Barry Green distributed handouts and explained the budget. He further outlines the affect on DJJ due to the shortfall in revenues. Capital project money had been frozen. However, DJJ will receive maintenance reserve money. Also money was restored for three major projects - Beaumont's kitchen and dining hall and renovation of some cottages for the transitional program and at Hanover. He advised that the two private facilities - Kenbridge Youth Development (KYDS) and the boot camp - would now remain open unless something occurs in a special session, if there is one. If a special session is held, these figures could be changed. The biggest issue DJJ faces is detention funding, as number of centers will be opening this year. DJJ has money this year for the 50% reimbursements. There is no money in fiscal year 2002 to reimburse detention centers. He further discussed this situation. He advised tht in the 2002 session, it is likely that a "caboose bill"

¹ Chesterfield Group Home had a motion passed by the Board in 1990 for construction reimbursement for 12 beds out of the 16 beds the facility could accommodate. The State share approved at that meeting was in the amount of \$322,000. The total cost of the facility was \$792,415, fifty percent of which is \$396,207. The unfounded portion of reimbursement, at that time, was \$74,207. In 1995, the Board increased their capacity to 14 beds and approved reimbursement in the amount of \$37,104, fifty percent of the remaining \$74,207. They are asking for the remaining unfounded balance of \$37,103.

may be passed to deal with the existing biennial budget. He further explained aspects of the budget impact. The governor cannot appropriate money, but he can cut budgets to match revenues to avoid overspending.

Mr. Wilkins informed the Board of a call he received from Congressman Wolfe, Congressional Appropriations Committee, to discuss DJJ's needs. Mr. Tom Davis told Mr. Wilkins that he would work cooperatively with DJJ to help.

B. Legislative Update

Mr. Steve Pullen distributed handouts pertaining to legislative actions affecting DJJ. He advised the board members that more in depth information could be obtained from the various websites he indicated. He discussed several bills in particular; namely, House Bills 2038, 2340 (for which Board member participation was requested), 2631, 2795, and Senate Bill 1296.

C. Rescinding Policies

Mr. Don Carignan presented seven policies for the Board to rescind as the requirements of each policy are addressed in certain standards. He advised that more policies would be presented to the Board for consideration at a later date. This action is to streamline regulations.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to approve the recession of Policies 20-408, 20-410, 20-411, 20-413, 20-418, 02023, and 20-510. Motion carried.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Peed welcomed everyone to Beaumont and directed attention to the package assembled for the Board. He advised the Board that parking would be arranged on the Capitol grounds when the Board meets in Richmond. A tour of the Governor's Mansion will be arranged when the Board next meets in Richmond. Business cards will be printed for the Board members. Mr. Peed advised the Board that Hanover JCC would become a total JROTC facility. DJJ is moving cautiously to transfer wards based on age criteria and offenses. Cottages will be renovated and DCE will run the program. Participation in JROTC could lead to enlistment in the military. Mr. Peed discussed some scheduled activities at which DJJ will be giving presentations - Norfolk and Alexandria. Mr. Wasowicz asked for a copy of the brochure of the event in Alexandria. Mr. Peed also mentioned Victims' Rights Week in April.

IX. COMMENTS OF BOARD

Mr. Wasowicz asked the status of faith-based community initiatives. Mr. Peed related a meeting with Fr. Biber. Mr. Howard discussed Prison Fellowship and his opinion that he felt this issue was best handled at the local level with volunteer agreements. In response to Mr. Wasowicz's concern about transitional initiatives for wards returning to the same

bad situations, Mr. Howard advised of a number of programs focusing in major areas for parole. Line Item 294 would use funds to focus on the high-risk population by using the risk instrument. He further explained how the court service units monitor the wards, the plan set prior to release, and the incentives for advancement. He stressed the three components to address - victim, public protection and competency skills.

Mr. Harding requested recidivism rate information. Mr. Pullen will send this information to the Board.

Mr. Maddra asked if Secretary Petera had responded to a request for a replacement for Ms. Seagle. Mr. Wilkins has not received a reply and intends to call Secretary Petera. Mr. Peed mentioned that he had also sent a letter. He advised that two Board member terms would expire this June. He requested that those Board members advise the Secretary of their desire to be re-appointed. Mr. Maddra complimented Mr. Peed and Susan Gholston on the annual report.

Mr. Feng discussed his visit to Cedar Lodge. He said he was impressed, however, he questioned the reports of deficiencies in the 40-hour annual training. He felt that there was a question if the 40-hour training was mandatory. Staff needs the training in safety, and for career development. He asked if the first line supervisors aren't taking the training seriously enough. He mentioned the videotape training and that he felt Lisa Walker was doing a great job with little resources. Mr. Feng discussed the Performance Evaluation Form. He was concerned that there was no job element or expectation for training. There was a discussion of the form and that requirements were written for individual jobs. Kelly Gargasz will send Mr. Feng composites of some generic forms. However, this form will no longer be used, as the new Performance Evaluation System will be effective this spring. Forms for the new system will be sent to Mr. Feng when available. He stressed that he would like to see accountability for training, career development. He addressed the problem of high turnover rate and the need for better recruitment and retention.

Mr. Lozano stressed the use of technology when possible in order to be cost effective and help provide information quickly. Use of technology could result in improvements at the facilities. He also liked the annual report. Mr. Lozano required information on area statistics to show what localities are producing the juveniles in DJJ facilities. He felt that statistics would help understand the localities and where to target the use of funds. He also inquired if cultural aspects may be involved. Mr. Pullen will provide this information.

Mr. Wilkins commended Mr. Peed and the dynamic, pro-active leadership that has resulted in a dramatic change since November 1999. He stressed working with Congressman Frank Wolfe and other federal representatives to secure funding for DJJ. He would like to arrange for meetings to include Mr. Peed in Washington, D.C., to present DJJ's case. Mr. Wilkins advised the Board that there are few agenda items for the April meeting. He suggested that the Board forego the meeting and hold the next meeting on May 9 at 700 Centre Building with the understanding that a meeting can be convened if necessary.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Maddra, seconded by Mr. Feng, to reconvene in Executive Closed Session, pursuant to Section 2.1-34 (A), (1) and (7), for discussion of personnel matters and for consultation with legal counsel and briefings by staff members, consultants or attorneys, pertaining to actual or probable litigation, or other specific legal matters requiring the provision of legal advice by counsel, and for matters involving security otherwise exempt under the Freedom of Information Act. Motion carried.

At the conclusion of the Executive Session, Board members were individually polled and certified that to the best of their knowledge (1) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the Executive Meeting, and (2) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the Executive Meeting were heard, discussed, or considered.

XI. ADJOURN

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Feng, to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 PM. Motion carried. Lunch was served, and Mr. Noble conducted a tour.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Patricia F. Rollston

Patricia F. Rollston