



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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

Board of Juvenile Justice

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Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center Board of Juvenile Justice Meeting November 8, 2000

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 AM by Chairman Wilkins.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

No MOTION was made to approve the Agenda.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Maddra, seconded by Mr. Feng, the Board approved the Minutes for the September 13, 2000, meeting.

IV. COMMENTS OF PUBLIC

There were no comments.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Secure Services Committee

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to certify the Culpeper Juvenile Detention Center for three years with a letter of congratulations for 100% compliance. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to certify the Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center for three years. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, that the probationary status for Richmond Juvenile Detention Home be continued until January 2001 pending a review of staff working more than six consecutive days and pending a resolution of overcrowding. The Board Chairman is to send a letter of explanation as to what the probationary status means to the jurisdiction. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, that the probationary status for Crater Detention Home be continued until May 2001 pending a resolution of overcrowding and that the Board Chairman send a letter of explanation as to what the probationary status means to the jurisdiction. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, that the probationary status of Tidewater Detention Home be continued until May 2001 pending a review of incomplete life, health, and safety standards. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, that the certification status of Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center be continued until January 2001 due to the fact that there is no Board Meeting in December. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, that the certification status of Rappahannock Juvenile Detention Center be continued to April 2001 to allow for an audit of the program after a move into the new facility, which is scheduled for November 2000. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, that the Board of Juvenile Justice in accordance with Part V, §5.2.B and Part VII, §7.1.C of the Department of Juvenile Justice's Regulations for State Reimbursement of Local Juvenile Residential Facility Construction Costs (VR690-15-001), approves a cost overrun in the amount of \$121,628, of which the State Share is \$60,814 for the construction of the Norfolk Juvenile Detention Home. The availability of these funds for reimbursement as approved is contingent on the appropriation of funds by the General Assembly. Motion carried.

B. Non-Secure Services Committee

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to certify Smyth County and Buchanan County Offices on Youth for three years with letters of congratulations for 100% compliance. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to certify the Southside Regional Group Home for three years with a status report on their training program for staff in July 2001. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to certify the Charlottesville/Albemarle Commission on Children and Families for three years. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to certify the Salem House for three years with a status report in November 2001. Motion carried.

On Motion duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to approve the Virginia Juvenile Community Crime Control Act plans for the City of Richmond and the counties of Greene and Madison. Motion carried.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Murray introduced Mr. Charlie Edwards, Superintendent of the Culpeper Juvenile Correctional Center. Mr. Edwards welcomed the Board and introduced Ms. Carla White, Superintendent of the Culpeper Juvenile Detention Center.

Mr. Wilkins announced that he had to leave for an important appointment and that Mr. Feng would take over the meeting.

A. SABRE

Mr. Scott Reiner provided handouts to accompany his presentation on the SABRE (Substance Abuse Reduction Effort) initiative. He explained the background of the initiative, the variety of programs involved, how juveniles are helped by the services, and how the judges and community service boards work with DJJ to provide treatment based on screenings and assessments.

A discussion on the budget covered how the money is allocated based on Memoranda of Agreements with localities and vendors. Mr. Reiner discussed how the funding is monitored and services evaluated for effectiveness. He described the drug screening process, quality assurance of services, and compilation of statistics to demonstrate drug use reduction.

Mr. Reiner advised that locality practice determines how long a juvenile must remain drug free before being considered in violation of probation. There was further discussion regarding re-offending and incentives to not re-offend.

Mr. Howard and Mr. Peed informed the Board of Mr. Reiner's extensive background and qualifications. Mr. Reiner explained that this program is cutting edge; it is not a pilot program. In response to Mr. Lozano's concern pertaining to the use of consultants, Mr. Reiner advised that a statewide group had evaluated vendors and had not actively looked for outside consultants.

There was a discussion of how standards are set for local agencies.

B. Budget Update

Mr. Barry Green provided handouts regarding revenues available to the Department. He discussed the "Improving Productivity in the Commonwealth" initiative and the amendment budget requests. He further explained the 14 budget requests that DJJ made and the \$3.8 million dollar productivity reduction in DJJ's budget to be realized through management initiatives.

There was a discussion of the average cost per ward and the financial impact when facilities are overcrowded facilities (\$65,000 per ward, which includes the cost to educate at \$15,000 per ward). Costs vary due to overhead costs at the individual facilities. Staffing concerns were discussed regarding financial impact due to overcrowding.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Peed invited the Board to the VJCCCA Conference to be held December 4-6 in Roanoke. DJJ will cover expenses for the Board. Board members who will be attending the Conference should notify Mr. Gargasz as soon as possible.

He also invited the Board to the Natural Bridge Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony to be held on November 17. Expenses will also be covered if a Board member wishes to attend. Messrs. Wilkins and Feng have expressed interest in attending.

Mr. Peed said that the January Board Meeting will be held at the Department of Corrections Training Academy.

He said that Chairman Wilkins has advised him that Board members should have input into the Board Agenda and/or approve the Agenda. Ms. Gargasz will send the Pre-Board Agenda to the Board members for input and/or approval.

Mr. Peed introduced Mr. Carignan who discussed the draft document of regulations whereby the Board exercises the oversight responsibility for certifying programs. The Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) raised some questions regarding the language

in the regulations; thus delaying the process for public comment. The Board will be asked to approve any revisions to the language, if deemed necessary, after further discussion with DPB. If there are to be no revisions, the Board will be asked to schedule a public hearing. DPB is suggesting some simplification and specific language. Mr. Muse of the Attorney General's Office will be reviewing the document.

Mr. Peed re-introduced Mr. Edwards who provided a handout and further explained the operations at Culpeper. He explained his progressive housing program to provide incentives and consequences to give opportunity for individuals to be more responsible for own actions or choices. The goal is to help wards transition successfully out of the facility.

Mr. Marsden thanked Ms. Miller for her efforts in drafting changing guide specifications to reduce costs and improve environments for wards. He advised the Board that one proposal will be for double bunking of wards in larger rooms - 10% of rooms. This proposal would result in cost savings and is considered a good management tool. It is a well-accepted practice among the profession. The Board may anticipate some upfront variance requests.

IX. COMMENTS OF BOARD

Mr. Feng thanked Mr. Edwards for hosting the meeting and providing the space and lunch.

Mr. Maddra thanked Mr. Dalee Thomas, Superintendent of Richmond Juvenile Detention Home, and Mr. Andrew Brown, Director of Crater Detention Home, for attending the meeting and sharing their comments with the Committee.

Mr. Harding asked about the population forecast, and Mr. Green said it will be released later this month. Mr. Harding requested some information on length of stay to compare with what it was when Governor Allen was in office and today. He also mentioned encouraging people to live on the premises at Beaumont. He would like some input on feasibility of on-site staff housing as an incentive to employees. Mr. Harding said he was still confused on detention home reimbursement. He would like to be brought up to date in the near future on a fair, constructive method to determine 50% reimbursement. Mr. Maddra said he thought there were checks and balances in the process. Mr. Green said that DJJ has been trying to get a document from the Secretary of Public Safety's office for the Board to address this issue. Ms. Miller said that all the projects would be brought back to the Board at the January meeting. There was further discussion of problems with funding.

Mr. Lozano would like to address issues of overcrowding and the liability of the Board. He is concerned with facilities that are continually overcrowded and wants a method for the facility to come up with solutions. Mr. Marsden said that a big step was taken today by sending a letter to the detention homes regarding the chronic overcrowding.

Mr. Feng suggested that at the next meeting a discussion be held on the court system sending juveniles to our facilities and the ability to be able to accommodate these youth. He asked who would be the person to take the lead to get a dialogue going with judges regarding finite resources; how to go about communicating that idea and explore other options. He also mentioned the certification audit reports and said that he felt more comfortable with the new format. He did ask for more information so that he could anchor any statistical information included in the reports. He felt that a big improvement had been made with incorporating changes.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was not necessary to hold an Executive Session.

XI. ADJOURN

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Maddra, seconded by Mr. Harding, to adjourn the meeting at 12:45 AM and go on a tour of Culpeper. MOTION carried.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Patricia F. Rollston

Patricia F. Rollston