



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

P. O. Box 1110
Richmond, Virginia
23218-1110
(804) 371-0704

700 Centre Building
Board of Juvenile Justice Meeting
March 8, 2000

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

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 AM by Vice-Chair Thomas Wilkins.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Board accepted the Agenda as revised.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Harding, the Board approved the Minutes for the February 7-9, 2000, meeting.

Mr. Wilkins advised the Board of corrections to be made to the Minutes. Page III should be revised to state that the meeting (February 7) was adjourned at 3:10 PM. Page VII, second paragraph, seventh line should read "This amends the January 2000 motion which approved \$3,486,871 in state reimbursement for construction of 48 additional beds, plus renovation of 22 existing beds." Page IX, B. Mission Statement, second paragraph should read "On MOTION duly made by Mr. Wilkins, seconded by Mr. Harding, to adopt the revised mission statement."

Motion carried with corrections.

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 continue probation for Camp Washington until September 2000 with a status report on compliance with the corrective action plan and approve a variance to 140-600. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Harding, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to certify the Reception and Diagnostic Center for three years with a status report in 60 days on completion of repairs required in 4.59 and approve variances to 4.31 and 5.118. Motion carried.

B. Non-Secure Services Committee

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Wasowicz, to certify the 6th District Court Service Unit 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 certify the 25th District Court Service Unit for three years. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Wasowicz, to certify the Charlottesville Family Operated Group Home program for three years with a letter of congratulations for 100% compliance. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Wasowicz, to certify the Roanoke City Office on Youth for three years with a letter of congratulations for 100% compliance. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Maddra, to continue the certification of the 19th District Court Service Unit to April pending the receipt of the audit report. Motion carried.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Feng, seconded by Mr. Lozano, to approve the VJCCCA Plans as submitted for the localities of the City of Norfolk and the City of Radford. Motion carried.

A discussion of certification methods followed. Mr. Feng requested more specificity and detail in the certification audit reports with more information as to reasons for not meeting standards along with an annual report (one or two pages to detail what the program has done in the past, what it is doing now, and where it is going in the future; listing of assets/liabilities/improvements. Some

documentation to attest that the program is functioning in the community and that it is serving the purpose it should was requested by Mr. Harding. Mr. Feng volunteered to work with DJJ staff to develop the annual report format.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Certification Regulations

Mr. Carignan advised that the regulations process has advanced to the public comments stage. DJJ has filed with the Virginia Register and initial public comments will be scheduled for March 27. DJJ will receive comments for 30 days. At the May or June Board meeting, a presentation will be made with a proposal to incorporate any suggestions received from the public.

B. Religious Issues/Volunteers

Mr. Peed advised the Board that he had reviewed all policies and procedures for religious programming and volunteer access. He reported that a memorandum of agreement between DJJ and the Chaplain Service to provide religious service was signed in 1996.

Mr. Peed introduced Mr. Cecil E. McFarland, Executive Director, Chaplain Service of the Churches of Virginia, Inc. Mr. McFarland related the history and mission of his organization, which receives no state or federal funds but is supported by 18 denominational groups, foundations, businesses, and individuals. He identified the chaplains assigned to each JCC and their responsibilities, which are to preach the gospel, teach the Bible, counsel the wards, and coordinate volunteers. Mr. McFarland also discussed the importance of volunteers. He presented three concerns for the Board's attention: (1) Provide adequate office space for the chaplain inside the perimeter of the facility; (2) Expedite background investigations for volunteers; and (3) Allow Bibles/Korans and devotional materials to be available for wards.

Mr. Peed told the Board that another program, "Operation Turnaround," is supported by the Secretary of Public Safety. This program helps transition incarcerated juveniles back into the communities in their localities.

The Board discussed the importance of good aftercare for wards to help them after release along with the positive effect that religion can have in rehabilitation.

Further discussion of religious materials availability was discussed. Mr. Murray explained to the Board that religious materials are allowed; however, storage space for such materials is a problem. Mr. Peed told the Board that the policy on allowing religious materials will be reiterated to staff at the JCCs.

Mr. Marsden informed the Board that he will be conducting training sessions in April and May with middle management staff to talk about de-escalation and how to deal with people verbally in crisis situations. He plans to deal with judgment

issues such as religious materials, volunteers, etc., to achieve a more balanced approach in using good judgment to benefit volunteers and the wards.

Mr. Wasowicz asked the Department to explore and study the use of services offered by the faith community to be a catalyst for positive change in a person's life. Mr. Peed said that he and Mr. Murray will continue to emphasize the importance of religious programs.

C. Legislative Update

Mr. Peed stated that Deron Phipps, Legislative Liaison, will present legislative changes and the impact on this agency at the next meeting. Mr. Wilkins asked that Mr. Phipps spell out the role of the Board in the legislative process. Mr. Peed said Mr. Muse from the Attorney General's office could also assist in that regard.

VII. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Peed reported the Beaumont JCC has reduced the population dramatically and is below baseline capacity. He further explained how this reduction was accomplished. He stated that the Department is in the process of implementing a classification system to more appropriately assign offenders to and within institutions. Mr. Peed said that the Department is looking at what is driving the population. Although admissions have either been constant or have gone down somewhat, when lengths of stay increase, the population rises. The increase in lengths of stay has affected this population rise over the last three years.

VIII. COMMENTS OF BOARD

Mr. Harding requested information from the Inspector General on the process of handling complaints - how received, depth of Board involvement, etc. Mr. Peed will discuss this item with Mr. Muse and the IG. Mr. Peed reported that he, Mr. Marsden, the IG, and the Human Rights Advocates met to discuss feedback and follow-up on complaints. Mr. Maddra asked if feedback is provided to the person making the complaint if that person desired follow-up. The Board felt some feedback would speak to the credibility of the Board; that facilities were being policed and the Board was functioning as it should. Mr. Feng also wanted to know the procedures for the anonymity of the complainant, resolution of the complaint, what types of complaints are being alleged, and the numbers involved.

Mr. Wasowicz discussed getting more insight in how non-secure facilities are operated. He and other Non-Secure Committee members plan to visit court service units, judges, and group homes. He would make arrangements through Messrs. Peed, Marsden, and Howard. The Committee felt such visits would help them in their evaluations. Kelly reminded the Board that meetings will be held at the Northern Virginia Detention Home in April; Natural Bridge JCC in May, and the Wilderness Program in October. She is making arrangements to tour the boat program. Mr. Feng requested a tour of the training facilities at Cedar Lodge.

Messr. Lozano and Harding said they were pleased with the involvement with the faith community. There was further discussion of Operation Turnaround's mission to coordinate the ward's reintegration back into the community; taking a ward in the transitional phase and following him or her through parole. Mr. Lozano requested assistance with two churches that asked him, as a member, to bring in prevention resources to deal with gang problems, etc. He would like to contact someone for speakers. Mr. Aubry will provide Board members with information on the program called "Community United," a forum of the Northern Virginia Community College. Messrs. Maddra and Wilkins also expressed support for involvement in faith community programs.

Mr. Wilkins thanked Ms. Green for including the news items in the Board packet.

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Maddra, seconded by Mr. Feng, to conduct Board meetings during the months of February and March, when the General Assembly is in session, at a location other than Central Office due to parking problems. Motion carried.

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was not necessary to hold an Executive Session.

X. ADJOURN

On MOTION duly made by Mr. Maddra, seconded by Mr. Harding, to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 AM. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Patricia F. Rollston

Patricia F. Rollston



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

P. O. Box 1110
Richmond, Virginia
23218-1110
(804) 371-0704

AMENDMENT TO BOARD MINUTES February 7-9, 2000

At the Board Meeting of March 8, 2000, the Board approved the adoption of the minutes pending the following amendments:

Page III - The meeting (February 7) was adjourned at **3:10 PM**.

Page VIII - In the second paragraph, the seventh line should read "This amends the January **2000** motion which approved \$3,486,871 in state reimbursement for construction of 48 additional beds, plus renovation of 22 existing beds."

Page IX - B. Mission Statement. Second paragraph should read "On **MOTION** duly made by **Mr. Wilkins**, seconded by Mr. Harding, to adopt the revised mission statement."

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Patricia F. Rollston

Patricia F. Rollston