

**MEETING OF THE  
JUVENILE DETENTION BOARD OF MANAGERS  
May 16, 2022 4:30 PM**

<b>Present:</b>	Chris Eiserman	County Controller Joanne Phillips
	James E. Turner	Councilwoman Elaine Schaefer
	Candice L. Linehan	Council President Dr. Monica Taylor
	Chair Councilman Kevin Madden	Chekemma Fulmore Townsend
	Nathaniel Nichols	Vice Chair Marie N. Williams

**Call to Order.** Chair 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.** Member Chekemma Fulmore Townsend moved to approve the April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 minutes and revised March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Motion was seconded by Council President Dr. Monica Taylor. The Motion carried unanimously.

**Juvenile Court and Probation Services Report.** Kiersten Fitzsimmons, Resource Supervisor, Delaware County Court & Probation Services reported there were three (3) youth detained at partnering Juvenile Facilities. Ms. Fitzsimmons also reported on two (2) direct file youth. There was one (1) youth held at Delaware County Prison awaiting an available bed.

Chair Councilman Kevin Madden stated there was an executive meeting held on April 18, 2022, to discuss public safety and contractual matters.

**Superintendent for Juvenile Justice Services Report.**

**Status Report -- Secure Detention Space:** Superintendent Irizarry stated the County is involved in on-going discussions with its neighboring counties with regard to finding immediate assistance in finding space for secure detention.

**2022 Juvenile Justice Service Strategy update(s):**

1. **Personnel Update.** David Irizarry announced two (2) new hires, Ms. Kirshna Hillyard as Deputy Director and Mr. Nelson Walker as Community Development Supervisor.
2. **Questions/Comments:**  
Vice Chair Marie N. Williams welcomed the new team members.

County Controller Joann Phillips welcomed the new members and requested a copy of the job descriptions so the Board could better understand how Mr. Irizarry is setting up his office.

Chair Councilman Madden welcomed the team and stated a lot of work had been put in Mr. Irizarry's capable hands with regard to reimagining Juvenile Justice in Delaware County, and encouraged new members to make sure the Board looks at detention not in a silo, but across the continuum of non-detention services.

3. Youth Center Design Committee Update: The design committee met on May 4, 2022. Danielle Floyd, the Director of Public Works, facilitated the presentation: *Program and Spatial Considerations for Juvenile Justice Services in Delaware County*. Public Works is responsible for all Delaware County-owned buildings and maintenance of forty-six (46) bridges. It is also their responsibility to prepare and present for review and approval the capital budget to County's Council. The overall deliverables are 1) to identify program and space needs for Juvenile Rehabilitation Center and Juvenile Justice Services; 2) to develop floor plan and facility options (short and long-term); 3) to provide information of design costs, construction costs, and project timelines; 4) to co-present options to County Council for review and approval.

The initial meeting on May 4, 2022, consisted of responding to questions regarding the program model, number of juveniles being served, who will be providing services, etc. Additionally, data was shared regarding the demographic of youth served. Discussions were had regarding what kind of services would be provided and how long youth will be at the center. The next meeting is scheduled for May 18, 2022.

Chair Councilman Madden thanked members of board who volunteered to be members of the subcommittee.

**Old Business.** Council President Dr. Monica Taylor inquired about the status of the RFP for Delaware County's system/program Evaluation. Superintendent David Irizarry stated that the proposal had been drafted, and that the goal is to have that on the agenda for the next board meeting scheduled for June 21, 2022.

**New Business.** There were no new business items to report at the time.

**Public Comments (All relevant items).**

Leroy Ambrose of Morton, PA, has an outpatient clinic for therapy focusing on juveniles. The goal of the program is to help juveniles unlearn negative behavior and relearn positive behavior that will help them succeed. The program offers tutoring, job assistance, and therapy. Mr. Ambrose mentioned having the capacity to serve 50+ juveniles per year.

Susan Duncan of Upper Providence Township, PA, stated she heard we were going to reopen the detention center, and she had some concerns. She mentioned the County facility having a history of abuse and neglect. She asked this Board to consider alternative approaches to our troubled youth.

Mary Austin of Media, PA reiterated her concerns with reopening the facility, and emphasized the importance of training staff to address children dealing with trauma and investing in community alternatives.

**Board Member Comments.** Chair Councilman Madden introduced Michael Resnick, the new Program Manager for Criminal Justice Community Justice and Rehabilitation.

**Adjourn.** Chair Councilman Kevin Madden moved to adjourn, seconded by member Chris Eiserman. The Motion carried unanimously.

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