

Jail Oversight Board- Special Meeting

Public Comment

Joe Qualtieri | 621 Magill Rd, Swarthmore PA

What will de-privatizing the mean for the ability to lessen the prison population? Will this mean that there is no longer the immoral prisoner quota?

Nelson V. Vecchione | 4719 Woodland Avenue, Drexel Hill PA 19026

Is it true that Delaware County Counsel has contracted with GEO Group to provide "Re-Entry" services to Delaware County residents following their release from custody? If so, please explain why GEO Group was selected to provide these services over other potential providers.

If Delaware County can transition the GWHCF back to County control and realize a cost savings with a smaller prisoner population, why wouldn't we do it?

Sarah Rosier | 413 Alexander Ave, Drexel Hill

My son is currently incarcerated at GWH and during most of our calls he discusses what a struggle it is to maintain his sobriety while incarcerated due to the amount of contraband currently on his unit. Though he actively participates in programs and seems to really enjoy them, he's told me that now more than ever the jail is rampant with K2, Suboxone strips and marijuana and having all these things readily available are huge triggers for him. He's even discussed seeing multiple cell phones, all of which he claims have been introduced to the facility by correctional officers in exchange for money on 'cashapp'. My questions are, what is being done to stop the introduction of contraband to the facility by staff? When/if these staff are being caught, are they being prosecuted? I know if my son was caught in the facility with contraband he would be charged. And my last question, is this problem a priority due to all the staffing issues that are reported each month or is it more of a 'a bad CO is better than no CO at all' attitude. We need to hold the security staff accountable for the safety and well-being of our incarcerated family members.

Jane Dunbar | 232 GARFIELD AVE NORWOOD PA 19074

As a tax payer of Delaware county on 2 properties, I want to put on record that I would not mind paying even A LOT MORE MONEY in my taxes for an outside medical service to take over

before the county official takeover, given the disgrace that Geo's medical department has proven to be. The poor medical services is well known throughout Delaware County.

I have a couple of questions regarding the RFPs for food and medical services.

1. Will the public have an opportunity to review the RFP before they will be sent out to potential vendors?
2. Will there be certain stipulations regarding quality written into each rfp to avoid the disaster that GEO has provided without them?

Peggy Bradin Wilson | 824 Drexel Avenue, Drexel Hill, PA 19026

I'm impressed by the strategic approach that the JOB is taking toward the issue of de-privatization.

I've been concerned about the state of the building systems and how diligent GEO has been in providing preventive maintenance. We've seen system failures such as the water supply and the HVAC which have required off hour and expensive emergency repairs. There is human cost in resident suffering during these incidents.

Assuming responsibility for the replacement and maintenance of George Hill's facilities will require a large upfront cost. But, over the long term, modern, efficient, well maintained systems will reduce costs and provide a better, safer environment for employees and residents.

Thank you for taking the time to make sure you are doing things right

Susan Duncan | 317 Valley View Rd, Media, PA 19063

Thank you all for your work. It is much appreciated.

It is so important to me from a moral and ethical perspective that Delaware County responsible for and control of GWHill

We will strengthen our community.

Heather Schumacher | 18 Waverly Ave Morton

Thank you for this comprehensive financial analysis. I urge the JOB to recommend deprivatization and to continue to work with our other county offices to keep the facility population lower as it has been during this pandemic. This is clearly both a financial incentive

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for the county, and even more importantly, a moral obligation we have to keep GWH, as well as our larger community, safer and healthier.