

# **Juvenile Detention Commission for Northern Virginia**

## **Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, October 08, 2024**

Call to Order: Mr. Conklin called the meeting to order at 4:42 p.m.

### **ATTENDEES**

#### **Members Present:**

Mr. Earl Conklin (Arlington – Chairperson), Mrs. Margarite Gooden (Arlington), Mrs. Sonnja Brown (Alexandria), Mr. Yon Lambert (Alexandria), Mr. John Lawrence (Falls Church)

#### **Staff Present:**

Ms. Johnitha McNair, Mr. Ian Rachal, Mr. Jahi Banks, Ms. Emily Anne Reiney, Ms. Brianna Cain, Ms. Anita Robinson, Mr. Leroy White, Ms. Melissa Alarcon, Ms. Tiffany Kotak,

#### **Other Attendees:**

Mr. Neil Title (Attorney), Mr. Charles Smith, Mr. Amir Farshchian (3-iT Accounting & Financial Services Corporation), Ms. Zakiya Worthey (KLamb), Mr. Mike Mackey (CSU-Alexandria), Dr. Seazante` Oliver (School Principal), Mr. Luis Pitarque (Dewberry Architects) Ms. Desha Hall-Winstead (Probation & Pre-Trial), Mr. Miguel Blancas (Alexandria Juvenile Justice Services), Mr. Christian Dorsey (Arlington County member of the public), Mr. Roberto Gomez (Even Scale), Mr. Juan Cruz-Cruz (New Beginnings Inc), Mr. Chris Campagna (Trident Athletics), Ms. Dana Jones (Human Services-Falls Church), Mr. Richard Stevenson (Arlington-Finance), Mr. Khalid Payenda (Alexandria Finance & Budget), Mr. Mike Moran (Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates), Mr. Young Moe (Music Artist)

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** The minutes were approved by a majority.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**COMMENTS OF THE CHAIR AND COMMISSIONERS:** Mr. Lawrence shared his interest in updating the vision, mission, and core values.

#### **COMMISSION BUSINESS:**

**Presentation of Audit:** Mike Moran presented a PowerPoint presentation on the financial reporting for fiscal year 2023 for detention and Sheltercare. Mr. Moran's presentation included an engagement summary, the auditor's required communication with those charged with governance, audit and attestation results, as well as the financial highlights.

**FY26 Budget:** Mr. Lambert noted that the City Manager of Alexandria has already provided guidance to department heads and the school system about the operating budget guidance. Mr. Lambert shared some notes from the letter that was sent out to the school system. Mr. Stevenson noted that Alexandria and Arlington follow similar budget cycles; however, Arlington has not provided information in terms of percentages to the departments yet. Mr. Stevenson stated the

forecast will be presented in November with formal guidance coming in December. Ms. Jones stated that Falls Church is also on a similar cycle and the budget will be finalized in January. Ms. McNair stated that the proposed budgets are planned to be completed in two weeks' time. Ms. McNair suggested a meeting with a member of the board to discuss the proposed budget. Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Lambert agreed to meet with Ms. McNair. A discussion followed. Members agreed to an amended meeting schedule. On October 29th, Mr. Lambert and Mr. Lawrence will have a sanity check-in with Ms. McNair. The November commission meeting has been rescheduled for November 7th at 10 a.m. A special work session will be held on November 14th at 10 a.m. The December meeting time has changed to 2 p.m.

## REPORTS

**Financial Report:** Mr. Smith presented the financial report for the first two months of the fiscal year. At the end of August, the total assets were \$9 million, down from \$10.6 million. In August, the Center received the first quarter payment from the State Block Grant, which was around \$400 thousand. The primary reason the total assets declined is that the annual actuarial valuation adjustment for FY-2023 was recorded during August. The valuation adjustment, recommended by the FY-2023 audit, reduced the asset valuation of the Net Pension Assets from \$1.8 million to \$658 thousand. Current assets were \$6.0 million, down from \$6.1 million at the end of July. Mr. Smith noted that total expenditures for August were \$564.0 thousand, up from \$495.3 thousand in July. The comparison of budget to actual for the fiscal year shows that the revenues are about 27.3% of the projected revenues for FY-2025. Mr. Smith pointed out that in July, the Center received the first quarter contribution from Alexandria (\$558,638). The approved budget for the Center shows Alexandria's quarterly contribution to be \$624,218, a shortfall of \$65,580. A short discussion followed. Mr. Smith went on to cover the financial report for Sheltercare. Total assets on August 31, 2024, were \$1.7 million, down from \$1.9 million in July. Total equity is \$1.2 million, down from \$1.3 million. Sheltercare received no new revenue in August. The comparison of budget to actual for FY-2025 shows that revenues received are about 24.8% of the projected revenues for FY-2025.

**Executive Director's Report:** Ms. McNair reported the total population is thirty-six. Eleven are from Alexandria, eleven are from Arlington, eleven are DJJ residents, and three are out-of-jurisdiction residents. The center receives per diem for fourteen of the residents. Staff were asked to provide their feedback on the mission, vision, and core values of the center. There are two upcoming all-staff meetings. Even Scale has begun adding accent walls to the rooms as well as a chalkboard wall. The federal funding has been received. September had 119 family visitors, 9 virtual visits, and 21 special visits. The very first family day will be October 26th. Hispanic Heritage Month continues to be celebrated. There are 29 security staff, up from an average of 18 security staff. The behavioral management system continues to be revamped. The memo to the council requires a few more updates but will be ready by tomorrow.

**Care Center Report:** Ms. McNair recognized the employees of the month. Ms. Reiney noted the population increased, leading to a waitlist for boys and girls. Mr. Pinkney has been on a one-to-one for the last month. Three art therapists are back from GW. There were two incidents for the month. The staffing analysis is almost complete with the City of Alexandria.

School Report: Dr. Oliver reported that the weekly meetings with staff and detention have helped identify students with additional needs. A meet-and-greet was discussed with Ms. McNair in conjunction with visitation. Last week, parent-teacher meetings were held, and the students felt like they were in a safe space, and goal setting was achieved.

Neil Title: Mr. Title confirmed the federal money was secured and the money had arrived.

CSU (Court Services Unit) Directors Reports:

Alexandria: Mr. Mackey noted he had come to a scheduled meeting with a potential issue to discuss. He wasn't sure he would even raise it, but Ms. McNair offered a solution without even speaking about it. Mr. Mackey wanted to express his gratitude.

Arlington: No report.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

The Executive Session was certified by Commissioners Conklin, Lambert, Brown, Lawrence, and Gooden that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified by the motion by which the executive session was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the meeting of the executive session which concluded at 7:59 p.m.

The regular session resumed at 8:00 p.m. Mr. Conklin stated his intention to resign the chairmanship effective immediately. There was a motion nominating Mr. Lawrence as the new chairman (motion by Ms. Gooden seconded by Ms. Brown). There was discussion about timing and the commission agreed that the new chairman should serve through the rest of 2024 and then for a full term through 2025 and 2026. A vote was taken and was unanimous in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.