

Child & Youth Services Committee Meeting
Douglas County, Nebraska
Tuesday, April 2, 2019

The meeting convened at 1:03 P.M. in Room 903, Omaha-Douglas Civic Center, 1819 Farnam Street, Omaha, NE. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is located on the wall near the entrance of the room. A notice of the meeting was published in the March 26, 2019, issue of *The Daily Record*. County Commissioners present at the meeting were Mary Ann Borgeson, Mike Boyle, Chris Rodgers, James Cavanaugh, Clare Duda, P.J. Morgan and Marc Kraft. Others present included Catherine Hall, Pam Murphy, Patrick Bloomingdale, Diane Carlson and A'Jamal Byndon, Administration; Dan Esch, Clerk/Comptroller; Mark LeFlore, Brad Alexander, Greg Hepburn and Yosef Seigel, Youth Center; Shawne Johnson-Coonfare, Juvenile Assessment Center; Janee Pannkuk and Karla Dush, Operation Youth Success; Mary Visek, Juvenile Probation; Larry Storer, Nicole LeClerc, Norma LeClerc, Luis Jimenez, Ed Walsh; and Kim Bollow, Clerk/Comptroller's office. Commissioner Rodgers chairs the committee.

A video recording of the meeting is available on the Douglas County Website:

<http://commissioners.douglascounty-ne.gov/board-meetings/videos>.

Time markers for when each topic/item occurs during the video are in parentheses.

Introduction (0:00 to 1:00) Commissioner Rodgers called the meeting to order, began introductions around the room.

1. **Brief updates:** (1:00 to 23:26)

a. **Douglas County Youth Center (DCYC)**

Brad Alexander, Douglas County Youth Center: provided an update on the DCYC including data & programs, career fair, positive behavior incentives, parent meetings and other upcoming meetings. He explained a pilot program with the Voice Advocacy Center for Dyslexia including help from the State Department of Education.

Mark LeFlore, Douglas County Youth Center: gave an update on upcoming meetings with partnering organizations, an update from parent feedback, and an upcoming opportunity for a juvenile justice training event including the process to attend & goals from the training.

Karla Dush, Operation Youth Success: explained part of the training curriculum for herself and Mr. LeFlore.

Commissioner Rodgers: asked about issues with the visitation policy at DCYC and also asked for an explanation of upcoming staff training for Mr. LeFlore and Ms. Dush.

b. **Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC)**

Shawne Johnson-Coonfare, Juvenile Assessment Center: distributed Attachment A "Juvenile Assessment Center Snapshot." She explained some of the data and how they gather it, answered questions about

assessment & referral numbers, provided an update on staff training, and relayed information about a UNL study which will utilize data from the JAC. She discussed Youth Level of Service Risk and Needs Assessment (YLS) issues with Commissioner Rodgers and explained how the JAC helps deter youth from entering graduated levels of the justice process.

Commissioner Boyle: asked about data on Attachment A and about the JAC's role in referring youth to other agencies.

Commissioner Rodgers: asked about assessment, referral numbers and trends on the report; also about truancies and measurement timelines (school year, calendar year); inquired about Youth Level of Service Risk and Needs Assessment (YLS).

c. *Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)*

Commissioner Rodgers: relayed there is a quarterly memo.

d. *Operation Youth Success (OYS)*

Jane Pannkuk, Operation Youth Success: gave an update on the previously discussed video vignettes which was denied expected funding so they're in search of new funding. She provided multiple handouts: Attachment B, "Examining DMC / Red 101," Attachment C, "Coalition Rx," Attachment D, "2nd Annual Second Chance Reentry" and Attachment E, "The Kim Culp Juvenile Justice Forum." She explained target youth.

Commissioner Boyle asked about target youth.

2. *Update: LB670 (LB1112) Planning & Programming (Juvenile Probation)* (23:31 to 56:45)

Mary Visek, Juvenile Probation: explained goals related to this law including expanded in-home state services; discussions and upcoming new services with UNMC, DCYC, Charles Drew Youth Center, shelter providers, Uta Halee, Child Savings Institute, and Boys Town. Juvenile Probation is talking with other agencies including expanded kinship care programs, working with therapeutic and foster care providers; working with adult county attorneys & adult public defenders regarding expediting kids in the youth center who are awaiting adult court charges. She answered questions about the progression calendar, relayed goals to exceed state rules, explained a pilot program, explained how they handle negative feedback from families and next steps with them; explained funding and therapy services. She explained the process & tools to determine youth needs; provided a summary of her staff in trauma training; explained different levels of parental participation. She gave top priorities of her leadership and goals to better serve youth; correlation to family responsibilities; how other states handle similar situations; gave thoughts of our state culture and triggers. She relayed support from outside agencies and organizations to expand including law enforcement being more open to who they're bringing where; explained state funding and Sherwood funding.

Commissioner Boyle: asked about the progression calendar, asked about feedback from families & what problems are seen, asked about trauma training and what other states do; asked how Uta Halee & Omaha Home for Boys have come to help; asked who is paying for what services.

Commissioner Borgeson asked about pilot program status; explained Regions Six trauma informed training, announced upcoming opportunities for local trauma training.

Commissioner Rodgers: asked for explanation of process in juvenile court; asked for more explanation about parent involvement; asked for clarity when a youth is a ward of State or when they're with relatives. He relayed some confusion on State and local agencies paying for youth services; asked about future direction of her office; relayed judicial discussions, programming & statutory issues regarding LB1112; explained Sherwood's role in funding, along with other funding sources and issues; explained who controls which youth go into DCYC.

Commissioner Cavanaugh: asked about discussions with DCYC regarding placements and private agencies; relayed concerns between courts, legal entities, and private organizations.

Brad Alexander: relayed he is aware that DCYC is looking for increased capacity at other organizations and verified law enforcement determines who is in the care of DCYC.

Patrick Bloomingdale: explained the role of DCYC in determining which youth go there.

3. Other Business (56:55 to 57:12)

Commissioner Rodgers: be alert that May is budget cycle time.

The meeting adjourned at 2:03 P.M.