

Child & Youth Services Committee Meeting
Douglas County, Nebraska
Tuesday, September 3, 2019

The meeting convened at 9:59 A.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 August 28, 2019, issue of *The Daily Record*. County Commissioner Chris Rodgers was present at the meeting. Others present included Patrick Bloomingdale, Catherine Hall, Pam Murphy, Diane Carlson and A'Jamal Byndon, Administration; Brad Alexander, Mark LeFlore, and Yosef Seigel, Youth Center (DCYC); Shawne Johnson Coonfare, Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC); Shelly Salter, Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI); Janee Pannkuk, and Karla Dush, Operation Youth Success (OYS); Larry Storer; 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 0:40) Commissioner Rodgers called the meeting to order, began introductions around the room.

1. **Brief updates:** (0:40 to 25:40)

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

Brad Alexander, DCYC: provided August numbers, otherwise nothing new from the previous presentation to County Board.

Mark LeFlore, DCYC: shared partnership plans with Charles Drew and Creighton Psychiatric Services; provided an update on an upcoming juvenile justice training event with Karla Dush, see Attachment A, "Re-imagining Juvenile Justice."

Commissioner Rodgers: shared information about an email requesting next steps needed by the Board with the mentioned partnership.

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

Shawn Johnson Coonfare, JAC: relayed she has no new information since last presentation; asked for any questions; provided an update on two current studies; provided an update on truancy specialists and caseloads, diversion process and timing.

Commissioner Rodgers: asked for an update on current studies; asked about partnership with OPS; asked about any truancy concerns, asked about the 3-month gap during Summer months.

Shelly Salter, JDAI: added to the explanation of truancy referral timing and process.

c. *Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)*

Ms. Salter: provided an overview of Attachment B, "Douglas County Juvenile Justice System – September 2018." Gave an update on last week's Statewide JDAI Collaborative and the Objective Admissions Subcommittee; also the case processing committee starting a new process, trauma services for families. She provided Attachment C which includes the Douglas County JDAI April-June 2019 Alternatives to Detention Data Update, the Q2 2019 QRS Data Memo, and the State JDAI Collaborative 2019 QRS Data Memo. They are starting to track why kids are leaving alternatives in order to better work with providers.

Mr. LeFlore: provided an update on crisis response teams to work with law enforcement in certain precincts, including co-responders with law enforcement and expanding services from Lutheran Family Services; asked about any available screening that rates alternatives to detention, any success meter or grading tools.

Commissioner Rodgers: wants to put data memo on an upcoming County Board agenda for September 17th; asked about upcoming group meetings.

d. *Operation Youth Success (OYS)*

Janee Pannkuk, OYS: provided update on training for reimagining juvenile justice, restorative justice task forces, and work groups (referred to Attachment B); an evaluation of OYS has been presented to the steering committee, it's available on their website (<https://operationyouthsuccess.org/>). She shared information on a previous meeting with Lisa Utterback (from OPS) regarding truancy, restorative practices within schools, and connecting services; the meeting was solutions-focused.

Commissioner Rodgers: suggested Mark LeFlore have a related conversation with Lutheran Family Services. Commissioner Rodgers relayed he is currently communicating with OPS Superintendent & Lisa Utterback regarding the connection between OPS and juvenile justice; wants Jenée Pannkuk & Karla Dush to work with OPS regarding truancy.

Mr. Leflore: reviewed Transition Rooms inside of schools; concerned about challenges with expelled youth.

Ms. Salter: asked for updates regarding truancy.

2. *Other Business* (25:40 to 34:44)

Commissioner Rodgers: relayed information about an upcoming meeting with Josh Henningsen on September 10th at 1pm regarding current juvenile justice issues for possible upcoming legislative sessions; asked for the committee members to send him an email of concerns to bring to that meeting. He mentioned mental health and status offenders on probation, but wants to know what else he should bring up. Commissioner Rodgers provided an update on the new Deputy County Administrator job

position; relayed the description is almost finalized, it was introduced at the OYS meeting, and he wants Patrick Bloomingdale to send it to certain groups for feedback.

Ms. Pannkuk: asked for clarity in providing feedback on the new job position description.

Patrick Bloomingdale: relayed the potential relationship between the new job position & OYS, and the description may include 'other duties as assigned.'

Larry Storer: referred to George Orwell, youth programs, having a citizen government, the new Deputy County Administrator position, concerns about progressives changing the constitution and offered ideas to change the local school systems.

The meeting adjourned at 10:34 A.M.