

**JUSTICE CENTER DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2020, 10:00 a.m., Room 903, Civic Center
1819 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska**

JCDC Board members in attendance: Mary Ann Borgeson, John Christensen, Ben Gray, and Chris Rodgers. David Levy absent.

JCDC Board Administration in attendance: Joel Pedersen (Counsel), Joe Lorenz (Treasurer), Diane Carlson (Secretary).

I. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Gray to approve the 07/23/20 Meeting Minutes, second by Rodgers. Motion carried 4-0.

II. BOARD COMMENTS

None.

III. PROGRAMS STATUS UPDATE – Kim Hawekotte

Kim Hawekotte, Deputy County Administrator - Juvenile Services, presented an update on the Douglas County Juvenile Justice programs. She highlighted three areas where some progress has been made to address the number of youth and length of stay at the Douglas County Youth Center (DCYC).

Youth Charged as Adults. As reported last month, fifty to sixty percent of the current population at the DCYC are youth charged as adults. The average length of stay for youth charged as adults is approximately 175-195 days. This average length of stay is impacting the numbers at the DCYC. Ms. Hawekotte outlined several initiatives designed to study this particular population. First, Douglas County and State Probation are engaging in a joint data analysis involving youth who were charged as adults in 2019 and 2020. Second, Senator Pansing Brooks and Senator Vargas sponsored a Legislative Resolution to study what statutory initiatives may be needed to address this population. Third, the State Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) has agreed to assist in looking at this population from a statewide perspective. Fourth, the Juvenile and District Court Presiding Judges are reviewing ways to improve internal court processes to prioritize cases involving youth charged as adults in District Court.

HOME Program. The federal government has verbally approved the use of Title II grant funds for providing stability services in connection with the electronic monitoring HOME program. Community providers will provide these services through an RFP process. The goal is to have stability services in place by December 1, 2020.

Group Home Facility. The Nebraska Youth Justice Initiative, a non-profit corporation, announced it plans to operate a group home facility for youth that includes treatment services. Their goal is to be open by early 2023. The facility will provide an alternative to detention.

Board member Ben Gray asked whether we have considered looking at how many youth in the juvenile justice system have a history of elevated lead levels. Ms. Hawekotte said they have not, but that this is an important consideration along with traumatic brain injuries and dyslexia.

Commissioner Mike Boyle asked whether the non-profit group home facility will affect the number of beds at the DCYC. Ms. Hawekotte said the group home facility probably will not impact the number of pre-adjudicated youth at the DCYC. The HOME Program and new stability services will hopefully impact that population. However, the facility will be a placement option for Probation youth that are at the DCYC awaiting placement. The group home facility will have a “no reject policy” which is different from other facilities in our County.

IV. PROJECT STATUS UPDATE – Bruce Carpenter/Don Mohlman

Don Molman provided a construction status update. He reported the site clearing is taking place and the parking garage and access building are being prepared for demolition. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, there are additional construction items that were discussed. The items include upgrades to air filtration units at the 1723 Building and changes to the lobby and other areas of the buildings to enable better social distancing. A list of the items was presented and is attached hereto. The first item on the list, upgrades to the 1723 Building, is considered a priority and will be discussed at the next County Board CARES Act meeting.

Commissioner Cavanaugh asked why not use CARES Act funds for the current DCYC facility. Commissioner Boyle asked whether it would make more sense to remove the 1723 Building and replace it with a new building, rather than trying to renovate it. Commissioner Boyle inquired about the last item on the attached list; an additional floor at the Youth Center. Commissioner Boyle stated they should consider having only one entrance to the Justice Center because the cost of security is very expensive. He said that when the information is available, he would like to know the estimated operational expenses of the Justice Center buildings. He also recommended holding the JCDC meetings in the legislative chamber.

V. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Groundbreaking Ceremony.** Request for a ceremony to be held on September 10, 2020, at the 1723 Building site. Motion by Gray, second by Rodgers. Motion carried 4-0.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The following members of the public provided comments: None.

VII. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Rodgers, second by Gray. Meeting adjourned.

The Zoom video/audio of this the meeting is available for viewing at <https://www.douglascounty-ne.gov/justice-center-project/justice-center-development-corporation>

Douglas County Justice Center

Schematic Design

08.27.20

Project Budget

Construction	100,068,511
Non-Construction	18,931,489
	<u>119,000,000</u>

Inclusions:

- Site Improvements
- 8-Story Justice Tower (w/ 6 Court Rooms; plus 2 Shelled)
- Skywalk Connection to Hall of Justice
- 4-Story Youth Center (w/ 64 Beds)

COVID-19 Considerations (w/ Additional Funding)

- 1723 Bldg - Replace Mech. Units (Upsize; add UV Filtration; Distribution)
- Tower - Expanded Lobby (Social Distancing)

- Tower - Meeting Rooms (Social Distancing/Technology)
- Tower/Youth - Mech. Units (Upsize; add UV Filtration)

- Tower - Touchless Operations (Door Actuators; Elevator Controls; etc.)
- Tower/Youth - Misc. Upgrades (Hard Surfaces; Signage; etc.)

- Youth - Additional Floor (Potential add of 32 Beds)