

DELAWARE COUNTY JUVENILE DETENTION BOARD OF MANAGERS
TUESDAY JANUARY 20TH, 2026
4:30PM
HYBRID: DELAWARE COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING ROOM AND VIRTUAL

Board Members Present:

Dr. Monica Taylor, Council Member	Matthew Bilker, Esq.
Elaine Schaefer, Council Member	Chekemma Fulmore Townsend
Louis Rosenthal, Controller	Chris Eiserman
Nathaniel Nichols, Vice Chair	

Call Meeting to Order: Councilwoman Schaefer called the meeting to order at 4:33PM.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Welcoming of New Appointments: Councilwoman Schaefer acknowledged changes to the Board Membership and welcomed Board Members Bilker and Rosenthal and acknowledged that this would be Board Member Eiserman's final meeting.

Public Comment (Agenda Items Only): Mary Austin, Upper Providence Township- Ms. Austin stated that she was concerned about the lack of a quorum during the December Board of Manager Meeting. Ms. Austin additionally stated that there were discrepancies in the meeting times listed on the JDBOM website and YouTube, and that she had been unable to reach the Board of Managers via email.

Chair and Vice Chair Nominations: Councilwoman Schaefer nominated Reverend Turner as the new chair for the Board of Managers. There were no other nominations. Board Member Eiserman motioned for approval and Board Member Bilker seconded the motion. Reverend Turner was appointed as the new Chair in absentia.

Councilwoman Schaefer nominated the Judge Nichols as the Vice Chair for the Board of Managers. There were no other nominations. Board Member Eiserman motioned for approval and Board Member Bilker seconded the motion. Judge Nichols was appointed as the new Vice Chair in absentia.

Approval of Minutes: Board Member Eiserman motioned to approve the November 18th meeting minutes. Board Member Bilker seconded the motion. Board Member Rosenthal abstained as he was not on the Board for that meeting. The November 18th meeting minutes were approved.

Reports:

- A. Monthly Detained Youth Report, Danielle DiMatteo- There are currently twelve (12) youths in detention. Four (4) males are being housed at George Junior Republic (Grove City, Pa) with three (3) of them being direct file cases. There are two (2) males that are being housed at Bucks County Youth Center (Doylestown, Pa), and one (1) male at Adelphoi Village (Latrobe, Pa). There is one (1) female currently being housed at Jefferson County Juvenile Detention Center (Steubenville, Ohio). The remaining four (4) youths are male direct file cases with two (2) being housed at Abraxas Academy (Morgantown, Pa) and two (2) males being housed at Delaware County Prison (Thornton, Pa).

Councilwoman Schaefer proposed that the courts set up a meeting with the Juvenile Courts DA and Public Defender to see if they can have a meeting to brief new Board members on court terminology and process.

- B. Interim Director of Juvenile Justice Services, Nelson Walker- Mr. Walker stated that next partnering programs with YAP are continuing to operate well and continue to report positive results and youth feedback. Mr. Walker stated that his department continues to seek collaborations within Delaware County that serve young people.

Mr. Walker additionally stated that work is continuing with Clocktower for shelter services and that he continues to work with the Solicitor and an architect to create and prepare the space for the county's use. Mr. Walker also stated that he would provide a clearer timeline at a future date.

Councilwoman Schaefer asked about the upcoming Assessment Center Convening scheduled for January 26th.

Mr. Walker stated that a memo would be coming out to reschedule the convening due to forecasted inclement weather.

Board Member Townsend asked when the contract with Clocktower would be ready and if he could provide numbers on the students in YAP.

Mr. Walker stated that negotiations are taking place between the Solicitor and Clocktower and that he is hoping the contract would be ready by February or March. Mr. Walker additionally stated that he would provide the numbers for YAP via email.

Board Member Townsend additionally asked about the program referrals.

Mr. Walker clarified that the TIPS program is school referral based, Delco Rising is CYS and JPO referrals and that the NRC program is a drop-in program.

Old Business: No old business.

New Business: Approval of Montgomery County Detention Center Contract- Mr. Walker stated that the contract is proposing a prepaid three (3) bed agreement with Montgomery County available for youth who may need detention.

Councilwoman Schaefer asked when the contractual agreement starts.

Mr. Walker stated that once the contract goes before council for approval, it would go into immediate effect.

Councilwoman Schaefer asked if the Board needs to recommend or approve that the contract move before Council.

Mr. Walker responded affirmatively.

Ms. DiMatteo additionally stated that the contract is mostly finalized, and that the Solicitor is reviewing the contract.

Board Member Rosenthal asked if there was a copy of the contract available.

Mr. Walker stated that he had a draft of the contract and that he would send it to the Board.

Ms. DiMatteo additionally stated that previous agreements have been made with Montgomery County and that this is modelled after previous contracts with an amendment to isolate three beds for Delaware County's youth without the screening for admission.

Judge Nichols motioned for a recommendation to Council to approve the contract with Montgomery County for 3 prepaid, permanent beds with terms to be defined by the Solicitor.

Board Member Eiserman seconded the motion.

Board Member Rosenthal asked if there have ever been situations where they were unable to approve a bed and if there is a financial benefit to having those beds available.

Dr. Taylor responded that there have been instances when beds were not available and that youth, such as currently, have had to go as far as Ohio to be placed and that the benefit of the contract is that there will be three beds that are reserved for Delaware County that will always be available and that Montgomery County cannot refuse them.

Ms. DiMatteo additionally stated that the contract limits their opportunity to ask for removal or deny services such as medical care. Ms. DiMatteo additionally stated that attempts for similar contracts were made to Bucks and Chester Counties and that several months ago, Montgomery County initiated the contract with enthusiasm.

Board Member Townsend asked Ms. DiMatteo that if the agreement goes well, would it be possible to expand to five or six beds.

Ms. DiMatteo stated that if all goes well that could be discussed at contract renewal with the benefit of youth being much closer to home and keeping youth in juvenile facilities rather than George Hill Prison.

Councilwoman Schaefer called for the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Board Member Comment: Judge Nichols thanked and recognized Ms. DiMatteo for hard work and dedication to the youth of Delaware County.

Adjourn: Judge Nichols moved to adjourn. Board Member Eiserman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.