

APPROVED
7/29/2024

MINUTES
Friday, July 19, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) met at the hour of 8:30 a.m., with the following members present: Chief Deputy Darren Gantz, representing Commissioner Kelly Dunkerley, Commissioner Karen Keith and Commissioner Stan Sallee. Others present: County Clerk Michael Willis.

Stan Sallee, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m., and the following business was transacted:

II. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Executive Session: (Requested by Commissioner Sallee) - Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(1) to possibly interview and discuss terms and conditions and the possibility of hiring David B. Parker for the position of Manager of the Tulsa County Juvenile Detention Home

Motion made by Karen Keith, seconded by Darren Gantz, to go into Executive Session. Upon roll call, Yes - Darren Gantz, Karen Keith, Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None. Motion Carried.

Executive Session commenced at 8:31 a.m.

Motion made by Darren Gantz, seconded by Karen Keith, to reconvene the regular meeting at 9:23 a.m. Upon roll call, Yes - Darren Gantz, Karen Keith, Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None. Motion carried.

- B. Discussion and/or possible action: Board of County Commissioners - concerning Board of County Comm'rs creation of the position of Manager of the Tulsa County Juvenile Detention Home, hiring of David B. Parker to fill that position, and any relevant conditions

Motion made by Karen Keith, seconded by Darren Gantz, pursuant to the authority granted the Board by Title 10A, Oklahoma Statutes, Section 2-3-103(C)(3)(b), to create the position of Manager of the Tulsa County Juvenile Detention Home. This position is to report directly to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC). Upon roll call, Yes - Darren Gantz, Karen Keith, Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None. Motion carried.

Motion made by Darren Gantz, seconded by Karen Keith, that the Board of County Commissioners of Tulsa County hire David B. Parker to serve as the County's Manager of the Juvenile Detention Home from this day forward, and that the Juvenile Bureau be relieved of its Detention Home responsibilities as soon as practicable. (Clerk's Misc. File No. 20241386)

Commissioner Keith made the following statement: I am agreeing to this temporary transition in an effort to keep the majority of our justice involved youth safe and closer to their homes. Without corrective action, OJA will shut the facility down at the end of the month. I am grateful and encouraged that OJA is sending some of their best to work alongside our transition team. In addition, former Juvenile Judge Doris Francine, (and thank you for being here Judge Francine), has been exploring some assistance from a national organization which will include grant funds to assist our team. Youth Services has also reached out to assist. These are additional resources we can employ. In addition, we will be forming a citizen advisory committee. As far as I know, in nineteen months, the presiding Juvenile Judge has failed to call this committee together as required by Statute. We have been forced into this position by a total lack of leadership by the presiding judge of the Juvenile Division.

Upon roll call, Yes - Darren Gantz, Karen Keith, Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None. Motion carried.

Commissioner Sallee made the following statement: We have made this extraordinary, unprecedented move today to shift the responsibility after more than 50 years with the Juvenile Detention Home being operated and managed by the Tulsa Juvenile Bureau of the District Court, under the supervision of the Chief Judge of the Juvenile Division. Last week, OJA said it was prepared to close the Detention Home on July 31, absent significant operational improvements.

OJA representatives met with County Officials on Monday, July 15th, and suggested immediate management changes. Discussion centered on the immediate takeover of management of the Detention Home by the BOCC.

Although the Juvenile Bureau has managed the Juvenile Detention Home effectively for more than five decades, it has deteriorated under the recent administration. OJA has been engaged with the Juvenile Bureau for more than two years to improve operations of the home, but the level of improvement has not been adequate. The Board of County Commissioners has accepted the challenge to take over management of the Juvenile Detention Home.

At the July 15 meeting with the OJA, several individuals were identified who could possibly assist with the day-to-day management and improvements needed at the Juvenile Detention Home. David Parker was one of those individuals identified. Parker was previously the Jail Administrator at David L. Moss for four years and has more than 30 years of experience in the detention field. David Parker expressed an interest in assisting Tulsa County with the management of the Juvenile Detention Home. The management changes will go into effect immediately following BOCC approval.

To ensure there is no disruption to the level of care provided to detainees housed at the Juvenile Detention Home, the Tulsa County Sheriff's Office is assisting by providing supplemental detention staffing as needed. A thorough review of staffing and resources is ongoing. The Commissioners, as well as Mr. Parker, will be available after this meeting for comments.

III. ADJOURN

Motion made by Karen Keith, seconded by Darren Gantz, to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call, Yes - Darren Gantz, Karen Keith, Stan Sallee. No - None. Abstain - None. Motion carried.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS


Stan Sallee, Chairman

ATTEST:


Michael Willis, Tulsa County Clerk

