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Geraldine Salazar
Deputy *Laura Hernandez* County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY



SFC CLERK RECORDED 11/09/2015

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM TASK FORCE

September 24, 2015

Santa Fe, New Mexico

I. This meeting of the Santa Fe County Youth Development Task Force was called to order by Chair Tommy Rodriguez at approximately 3:30 p.m. on the above-cited date at the Youth Development Facility, 4250 Airport Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

II. A quorum was achieved with the following members present:

Members Present:

- Tommy Rodriguez, CYFD Northern Region Juvenile Justice Services
- Pablo Sedillo III, County Public Safety Director
- Michelle George, Retired CYFD
- Ona Johnson, Santa Fe Community Foundation
- Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

Member(s) Excused:

- Mary Marlow Sommer, Judge
- Ben Baur
- Sara Jacobs, District Attorney's Office

Staff Present:

- Tila Rendon-Varela, Public Safety Department Administrator
- Aaron Garcia, County Youth Development Program Administrator
- Thaddeus Chapman, Maintenance Supervisor, Youth Development Facility
- Corky Ojinaga, Investigator
- Amanda Archuleta, Investigator
- Molly Archuleta, Program RN

Those present introduced themselves.

III. Approval of Agenda

Upon motion by Ms. Johnson and second by Mr. Sedillo, the agenda was unanimously approved as published.

IV. Approval of Minutes – August 27, 2015

Mr. Sedillo moved to approve the minutes. Ms. George seconded and the motion passed without opposition.

V. Discussion on Cost of New Building - Public Works Staff [Deferred]

VI. Discussion on Current Deficiencies of Facility - Maintenance Staff

Thaddeus Chapman, Maintenance Supervisor, provided an assessment of the plumbing, electrical, roof, HVAC and windows of the YDP facility. The building was erected in 1983 and he highlighted failing units, multiple layout issues, the complications that result from a suspended ceiling plumbing system and the required repairs and modifications.

Overall, the plumbing is mediocre. He estimated there has been over \$50,000 in improvements to the system over the years. Because the plumbing is through a suspended ceiling system, it is difficult to access and work on it and he estimated the repair costs at \$100,000.

Mr. Sedillo noted that the plumbing system has been modified over the years creating a spider system, further complicating the ability to identify where a problem originates

Mr. Chapman compared the electrical system to a rat’s nest making it difficult to determine which wires go where. Because of that there are numerous short circuit issues affecting doors and outlets. Cameras are down and sliders/locks are not operating properly. Engineering plans are being developed to address the electrical issues.

Mr. Sedillo said there was approximately \$250,000 allocated to improve the server system, master control system and cameras

Mr. Chapman mentioned a need to upgrade lighting, and Mr. Sedillo said the facility may not meet new ACA accreditation standards.

The roof requires an entire overhaul, stated Mr. Chapman. There are leaks throughout the building, damaged drainage/canals, ponding issues, and re-flashing is necessary. Re-roofing the facility has been estimated at \$1.2 million. In regards to the HVAC system, Mr. Chapman said four units require replacement. At the adult facility 41 HVAC units were installed costing over \$400,000.

Mr. Sedillo said an assessment to bring the facility up to “average” was \$7.1 million. He recalled that Deputy Manager Flores said it would cost \$12 million to get the facility to a “good” standard. He recommended that the maintenance to the facility also be considered in the deliberations, as well as a new design/construct facility.

Ms. Salazar asked whether there were solar or alternative energy detention facilities in the country. Mr. Sedillo said there are new facilities which include solar in the design-build. There may be restrictions to solar having to do with facility security. He offered to have staff review restriction on solar in detention facilities.

Chair Rodriguez asked whether Santa Fe County would have to expend the financial resources on the facility if the plan was to abandon its current use. Mr. Sedillo said that would depend on the new use.

Continuing with the status report, Mr. Chapman noted that the windows need to be replaced for energy saving and security purposes. There are stucco problems throughout the facility.

Mr. Sedillo confirmed that to get the building up to par for its current use is over \$10 million. The last appraisal for the current use came in at approximately \$13/sq.ft. The task force was charged to determine the community needs, the children/inmate needs and to be fiscally responsible to the County and the taxpayers. He lauded the committee's composition which reflects a strong interest in the kids, the employees of Santa Fe County and programmatic activities of the facilities.

Ms. Salazar asked whether it wasn't dumping money into a facility that will have continuing issues. A new cost effective facility may be a better idea. Mr. Garcia recalled that a new facility would cost between \$270 to \$300 sq/ft to build.

Ms. George asked whether the \$250,000 for improvements was budgeted or merely requested. Mr. Sedillo said that it has been allocated.

Ms. Salazar suggested considering the County's needs and whether the building could function as a detention center, and address other County and/or community's needs.

VII. Per Diem Rates of Juvenile Facilities Throughout New Mexico - Aaron Garcia

Mr. Garcia distributed a chart showing the rates at nine juvenile detention centers in New Mexico. Those rates ranged from the high, San Juan County, at \$231 to the low, Lea and Luna counties, at \$125. Quay and Eddy are no longer housing juveniles. Santa Fe County's rate is \$185 and there is no charge to Santa Fe County residents. Taos charges \$165. He noted that McKinley County is struggling to stay open.

The County's charge, at \$185, does not cover the actual cost. Mr. Garcia mentioned that medical needs can be very costly. Bernalillo has determined housing a child costs \$323/daily and they charge \$165.

Mr. Sedillo confirmed that a new facility with fewer beds, say 30 rather than the current 60, could address Santa Fe County's needs and take kids from other areas. He noted that yesterday there were 18 kids and 11 were from Santa Fe County, therefore, only seven were paying residents.

Chair Rodriguez said the County will likely never recoup those losses. To bring in more kids would require lowering the daily rate to compete with Luna and Lea.

Mr. Sedillo said Santa Fe County has established itself by its staff, program and facility. He said transporting kids to McKinley (Gallup) from Las Vegas does not make sense. Employees need to have a vested interest in what they do and he was confident that was reflected

in his staff. Aside from safety, Santa Fe County wants to ensure a low rate of recidivism. With the right public relations, Mr. Sedillo said they could fill 25-30 beds.

Ms. Salazar questioned whether the Santa Fe County taxpayer wants to build, staff and program a facility for out-of-county kids and lose money.

VIII. Appraisal of Property [Deferred]

IX. CYFD Rules & Regulations – Michelle George

Ms. George reported on the juvenile detention standards and said she was unaware of any revisions to the Children's Code. The standards discuss a co-located facility but only with incarcerated adults. The standards to co-locate a different type of business were vague at best and the advice she received was that the current standards must be met.

Separation of sight and sound: No one can observe the child, there must always be a visual barrier from the general public. There are however no restrictions regarding other programs on site as long as the juveniles do not participate in those programs and there is complete separation of sight and sound.

X. Suggested Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Mr. Sedillo echoed Ms. Salazar's comments regarding fiscal responsibilities to the County and its residents and emphasized that the primary focus must be "what's in the best interest of the kids." Discussions about the importance of Santa Fe County children being near their families and legal counsel occurred.

- Provide actual cost compared to daily rates
- Provide dollar estimates for the YDP building upgrades – 2014 contractor assessment to upgrade the facility was \$9.23 million
- Include appraisal –public and private rates
- Prepare comparison of figures to upgrade and maintain the facility as it is currently used, and cost to raze and rebuild the facility on the current site.
- Determine if a portion of this property could be leased/sold
- Determine zoning of the property
- Include deferred agenda items : Discussion on cost of new building (staff architect) and Appraisal of property – public and private
- List County-owned possible site(s) for detention center
- Provide population count of facility resident for the past three (or more) years: average daily population divided by Santa Fe County, District 1 kids to include Rio Arriba and Los Alamos and out of county
- Review State Statute of the Children's Code for any changes – Michelle George

Mr. Sedillo encouraged the task force to think into the future regarding correctional facilities. The educational components and programming are very important. He suggested a 30-bed facility was ideal.

Mr. Sedillo encouraged the task force to concentrate on developing visuals for presentation to the BCC – charts, pie charts, etc.

Chair Rodriguez noted that Colfax and San Miguel counties are sending their kids to Taos, and Luna and Hidalgo counties are using McKinley.

XI. Other Comments

County investigator Corky Ojinaga said he served on the task force with Judge Hall when the new judicial complex was being discussed. State Road 14 was brought up and the judges preferred that it not be located within the outskirts of the County. He mentioned that the zoning of the current site needs to be addressed because it will dictate other possible uses.

Chair Rodriguez reminded the members that Deputy Manager Flores characterized the current site as well located and a unique property.

County investigator Amanda Archuleta, who works in the facility, commented on its tremendous amount of wasted space and emptiness. Her office ranges from very cold to very hot. She served as interim director of the facility and said, during that 10 month period, there were times when there were only three kids and regardless of the number, all the programs have to be provided.

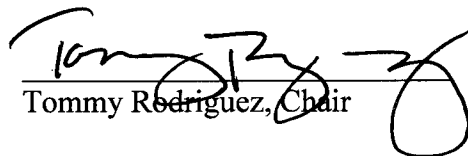
Mr. Garcia mentioned there were federal PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) compliance issues that need to be addressed in the facility.

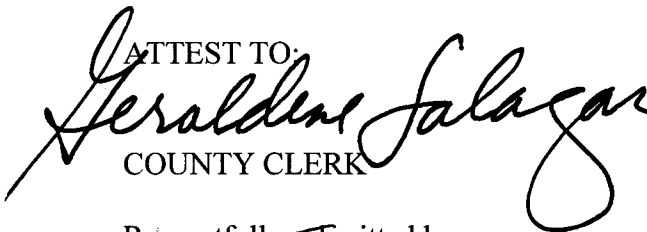
In accordance with the composition of the task force as dictated by the resolution, Ms. George recommended that staff contact Ben Baur regarding attendance and determine whether a designee or proxy should be appointed.

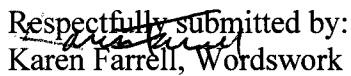
XII. Adjournment

Having completed the agenda, Chair Rodriguez declared the meeting adjourned at 4:40.

Approved by:


Tommy Rodriguez, Chair

ATTEST TO:

COUNTY CLERK

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Farrell, Wordswork

