



Tyren Frazier, Chair
Robert Vilchez, Vice Chair
Dana G. Schrad, Secretary
David R. Hines
Scott Kizner
Robyn D. McDougale
Quwanisha H. Roman
Gregory D. Underwood

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

Board of Juvenile Justice

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DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

March 11, 2021 ☞ Virtual Meeting

Pursuant to amendments to the Budget Bill approved on April 24, 2020, and set forth in Item 4.0-0.1, and in light of the Governor's declaration of a state emergency to curb the spread of COVID-19, the Board of Juvenile Justice met by videoconference at its March 11, 2021, meeting. The Board considered a virtual meeting necessary due to concerns that the nature and continuing spread of the virus throughout the Commonwealth rendered meeting at a single location unsafe for Board members, Department of Juvenile Justice personnel, and members of the public.

Board Members Present: Tyren Frazier, David Hines, Scott Kizner, Robyn McDougale, Anita James Price, Dana Schrad, and Robert Vilchez

Board Members Absent: Quwanisha Roman and Gregory Underwood

Department of Juvenile Justice (Department) Staff Present: Valerie Boykin, Mike Favale, Wendy Hoffman, Joyce Holmon, Linda McWilliams, Julie Norris, Margaret O'Shea (Attorney General's Office), Jamie Patten, and James Towey

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Tyren Frazier called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Frazier welcomed those present and asked for introductions. Anita James Price, newly appointed Board member, introduced herself as a retired educator from Roanoke City schools and a recently retired member of the Roanoke City Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSIDERATION ON THE SALE OF NATURAL BRIDGE

James Towey, Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Manager, Department

On March 11, 2020, the Board approved the sale of the Natural Bridge Juvenile Correctional Center (Natural Bridge); however, the sale failed. The Board has convened for a special meeting to consider a new sales agreement with a closing date by March 15, 2021, and to sign the required resolution on the current sales agreement.

Pursuant to Virginia law, the Department of Juvenile Justice (Department) notified the Department of General Services (DGS) in 2013 that the property is surplus property given the needs of the Department and directs the property be sold. DGS has marketed the property and anticipates selling the property to Thunder Bridge Campground, LLC, pursuant to a sales agreement dated February 8, 2021. Virginia law requires the departments of the Commonwealth shall only sell surplus real property under certain circumstances and that the cognizant board or governing body of the agency or institution holding title or otherwise controlling the state-owned property shall approve, in writing, the proposed conveyance of the property. The Board is requested to adopt the resolution, and (i) approve that the property is surplus to the needs of the Department; (ii) approve the conveyance of the property to the purchaser; and (iii) approve and ratify the sale agreement and authorize the Director of the Department to execute such further documentation, including contracts and a deed, as may be necessary to complete the sale of the property to the purchaser.

The Board received a copy of the resolution and have a motion for consideration.

Board Member Dana Schrad assumed the property is sitting empty and asked what the property has been used for to date.

Department Deputy Director for Administration and Finance Jamie Patten responded the Natural Bridge property has been sitting vacant but maintained by the Department.

Board Member Schrad is not sure exactly where the property is located, and asked if there is any opposition from adjacent landowners opposed to the sale. Board Member Schrad wanted to ensure the Board consider negative comments.

Ms. Patten responded that the agency is not aware of any negative comments. The purchasers are a local family that have property a short distance from the Natural Bridge property. The community seems to be supportive of the purchase.

Department Director Valerie Boykin said the site is close to the actual Natural Bridge, and the agency has not operated the facility since 2009. Natural Bridge was also used as a wilderness camp for young people and staff. Director Boykin noted that the purchasers seem to be preserving the camping site.

Board Member Robert Vilchez recalled visiting Natural Bridge as a probation/parole officer for Arlington County and remarked that he never knew the land was over 90 acres. Mr. Towey said the exact acreage of the property is 99.08 acres.

Board Member Vilchez asked if Natural Bridge is the largest Department facility in the state.

Ms. Patten responded that the Bon Air complex is between 300 and 400 acres. Director Boykin said Natural Bridge is hard to note the size because the property is hilly and mountainous. The actual property utilized is much smaller, but sizable in nature.

Board Member Vilchez asked what will be done with the money from the sale. Mr. Towey said according to Virginia law, the money will be directed back into the general fund. Board Member Vilchez followed up asking if that includes funding for youth, resources, and services. Ms. Patten responded the sale of Department property goes back to the state, and the funds are not redirected specifically for the Department.

Board Member Anita James Prices asked about the Natural Bridge sale price. Ms. Patten answered that the sale price is approximately \$525,000. Closing has not occurred, so the sale of Natural Bridge is not a done deal.

On motion by Dana Schrad and seconded by Robyn McDougle, the Board of Juvenile Justice (i) approved that the property commonly known as the Virginia Natural Bridge Juvenile Correctional Center is surplus to the needs of the Department; (ii) approved the conveyance of the property to the purchaser, Thunder Bridge Campground, LLC; and (iii) ratified the Sale Agreement and authorized the Director of the Department to execute such further documentation, including contracts and a deed, as may be necessary to complete the sale of the property to the purchaser. Roll Call: Tyren Frazier – Aye, Dave Hines – Aye, Scott Kizner – Aye, Robyn McDougle – Aye, Anita James Price – Aye, Dana Schrad – Aye, and Robert Vilchez – Aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Towey asked Chairperson Frazier to return a signed copy of the resolution.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Boykin thanked the Board for attending the meeting virtually and said she looks forward to seeing the Board in April.

NEXT MEETING DATE

April 7, 2021, at 9:30 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.