

# Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training and Rehabilitation District Emergency Board Minutes March 31, 2022

The Board of the Northwest Ohio Juvenile Detention, Training and Rehabilitation District met on this day at 11:00 a.m. in the Administration offices of the Detention Center and via GoToMeeting.

## Defiance County

Dana Phipps  
Robert Morton

## Fulton County

Joe Friess  
Judge Bumb  
Bill Rufenacht  
Roy Miller  
Joe Short

## Henry County

Tom Mack  
Elissa Carrizales  
Jeff Mires  
Judge McColley

## Williams County

Michael Polley  
Terry Rummel  
Judge Gallagher  
Nick Woodall

Others present: Melissa Garza Superintendent  
Adrienne Firman Assistant Superintendent  
Kim Grime Fiscal Officer

Absent: Judge Strausbaugh-Defiance County

Chairman Tom Mack noted there was a quorum present to conduct business.

Chairman Mack updated the board on the remediation of the building. Bio One worked with the sheriff's department thru Sunday, March 27th. On Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> the Multi-Area Narcotics Unit (MAN Unit) came out and retested the facility and found no traces of any concern. Through the week different organizations were contacted to have the facility tested to get clearance that it was safe to return. They were the MAN Unit, the Department of Youth Services, and the Ohio Department of Health. None of them could give clearance to return to the building. On Wednesday, March 30<sup>th</sup> Judge Gallagher spoke with the Ohio Department of Health, she was informed that the 52<sup>nd</sup> Division of the Ohio National Guard has the equipment and the expertise to test the facility. This division checks for all kinds of substances. There was a conference call with Bio One, the State and local Health Departments, NWOJDC, and the Lieutenant Colonel of the 52<sup>nd</sup> Guard Unit. Bio One explained the process used to clean the building. The Man Unit was called and asked about the type of machines used for testing and how many swipes were done. The 52<sup>nd</sup> Division was very professional and wanted to know what NWOJDC wanted from them. Judge Gallagher explained that NWOJDC is wanting a second opinion that the building was clean and no detection of any substances. The 52<sup>nd</sup> Guard Unit agreed to come to the facility that same evening. The 52<sup>nd</sup> Guard Unit sent a three-person team and they reviewed documents regarding the cleaning that had been done on the way to the facility. The 52<sup>nd</sup> was at the facility 2 ½ hours testing and found no positives for any drug residue.

Chairman Mack spoke with NWOJDC's legal counsel and was told that we did everything we could to open up the facility again. Chairman Mack asked the board to approve returning the detainees back to the facility and told members that staff is ready with equipment, beds(mattresses) and clothing items. Transportation has already been set up.

Judge Gallagher stated that this has been a total team effort and that it was amazing to get the guard unit to help within two hours. Judge Gallagher stated that NWOJDC is ready to move forward and get back to normal and thanked Chairman Mack for his leadership.

Terry Rummel stated that the Emergency Management Agency (EMA) would write some documentation on this incident for protocol going forward. Rummel also thanked Judge Gallagher and Jim Watkins-Williams County Health Commissioner for their help in getting to that level.

Judge Bumb informed members that he spoke with Jodi Slagle-Department of Youth Services and they are giving NWOJDC a grant of \$60,000 to aid in the cost of the cleanup.

Robert Morton asked if this was a potential insurance claim. Chairman Mack informed him it is an allowable claim through CORSA and that the maximum claim is \$35,000. Mack added that with the grant and insurance it will almost

cover the cost of the cleanup. The final invoice from Bio One was \$101,500. Mack also stated that there will be a cost to replace mattresses, bedding, towels, and clothing. Grime told members that the cost to replace those items will be about \$17,000.

Elissa Carrizales asked if the personal property for the detainees had to be destroyed. Chairman Mack told Carrizales that originally that was the case, but personal property is available to go back to all the youth.

Roy Miller asked about holding board members liable and wanted to be sure there was an Indemnification Policy for Board Members. It was unsure at the meeting but administration would double check NWOJDC's CORSA policy.

Judge Gallagher reminded members that the William's County Sheriff's Department is still investigating.

Carrizales asked how intakes would be handled. Adrienne Firman asked that staff gets a day to get organized before the counties start returning kids and if they could call first.

Joe Short would like all the detainees clothing washed before they are released. Terry Rummel told members that the air filters for the furnace were checked before the cleanup started and they tested negative. Superintendent Garza informed members that the ventilation system was tested and no traces of any substance were found. Firman stated that as a precaution Bio One ran the decontaminant through the ventilation system for over two hours.

Judge Gallagher asked about the status of the Life Without Drugs Program. She has some kids that were furloughed and wants to return them. Will there be a delay or will it be up and running? Firman stated that she needs to contact Ruth Peck to let her know we are ready and she will make that call today to get everything in place. Firman stated that Donna Robinson contacted her today and is ready to come back.

Jeff Mires left the meeting.


Joe Friess motioned to start the process to move the detainees back to the facility. Joe Short seconded the motion. Discussion: Morton asked if everyone is comfortable in coming back and being in full operation. Superintendent Garza told him that yes, the staff is absolutely ready to come back to the facility. Chairman Mack asked for a role call vote. It is as follows; Robert Morton-yes Dana Phipps-yes, Joe Short-yes, Joe Friess-yes, Roy Miller-yes, Bill Rufenacht-yes, Tom Mack-yes, Elissa Carrizales-yes, Terry Rummel-yes, Michael Polley-yes, and Nick Woodall-yes. Motion carried.

Chairman Mack thanked everyone for that.

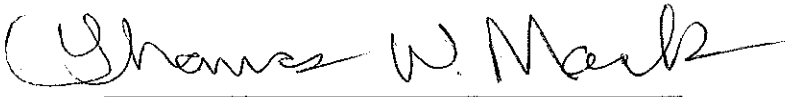
Judge Gallagher stated that she issued an order from Williams County requiring that during the term of the emergency the Corrections Center of Northwest Ohio was ordered to house the detainees and requested a motion stating that the emergency is over and is no longer in place so that she can vacate the order.

Terry Rummel motion to suspend the emergency situation at NWOJDC because the cleanup has been completed. Dana Phipps seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Vote all Ayes – no Nays. Motion carried.

Terry Rummel motioned to adjourn the meeting. Robert Morton seconded the motion. Discussion: None. Vote all Ayes – no Nays. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:28 a.m.

  
Respectively Submitted

5/10/2022  
Date

  
Board Chairman

5-10-22  
Date