

PENDING APPROVAL

OKLAHOMA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AGENDA ITEM REQUEST SHEET

For the June 2, 2010 Agenda

DEPT. _____ Ray Vaughn _____ EXT. 1503

NAME OF FUNDS: _____ FUND CODES: _____

REQUISITION NO. _____ REQUISITION SHEET MUST BE ATTACHED (if applicable)

AGENDA ITEM DESCRIPTION:

R Discussion and possible action to approve a resolution designating the newly constructed Juvenile Justice Center waiting area as the **Meyers, Nicholson and Foster Lobby**. This construction was made possible by a generous grant from the Oklahoma Bar Foundation

(ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTATION MUST BE ATTACHED FOR APPROVAL)

APPROVED BY D.A.
(If Applicable)

APPROVED BY ENGINEER
(If Applicable)

APPROVED BY PURCHASING
(If Applicable)

Assistant District Attorney

County Engineer

Purchasing Agent

NOTE: A COMMISSIONER MUST APPROVE ALL EMERGENCY REQUESTS FOR ANY ITEM SUBMITTED AFTER THE DEADLINE **(THE DEADLINE IS 9:00 A.M. ONE WEEK PRIOR TO THE DATE THAT THE AGENDA IS TO BE POSTED)**

DATE OF REQUEST: _____ APPROVED BY: _____ COUNTY COMMISSIONER

Number of original documents to be returned to your department: _____

Special Instructions: _____

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RESOLUTION NO _____

A RESOLUTION establishing the newly constructed court waiting area at the Oklahoma County Juvenile Justice Center as the “Meyers, Nicholson, and Foster Lobby,” made possible by a generous grant from the Oklahoma Bar Foundation.

Whereas the Oklahoma Bar Foundation is an organization comprised of those persons duly licensed to practice law in the State of Oklahoma, which provides annual grants that advance the science of jurisprudence and promote the administration of justice throughout Oklahoma, and the stated mission of the Oklahoma Bar Foundation is “Advancing education, citizenship and justice for all;” and,

Whereas the Oklahoma Bar Foundation has provided more than nine million dollars in support of free legal services for the poor and seniors, children’s legal service and advocacy programs, law-related education programs for school children and the public, and other projects that help to promote access to the judicial system all across the state of Oklahoma.; and,

Whereas the Oklahoma Bar Foundation awarded a grant to Oklahoma County to build a new waiting area for the courts at the Juvenile Justice Center; and,

Whereas D. Kent Meyers is a director of the Crowe & Dunlevy law firm, a frequent lecturer at all Oklahoma law schools, a published scholar, and is recognized nationally as one of the best lawyers in America; and,

Whereas Mr. Meyers is the 1999 recipient of the Oklahoma Bar Association Outstanding Pro Bono Service award; and,

Whereas Don R. Nicholson II is a life-long resident of Oklahoma, an award-winning attorney, a Certified Public Accountant, and was a partner with the Oklahoma City law firm of Eagleton, Nicholson, Pordos & Pardue until retiring in 2009; and,

Whereas Mr. Nicholson is a member of the National Children’s Law Network, and in 1995, as a volunteer with CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) observed the overwhelming number of neglected and abused children within the Department of Human Services System, and witnessed that Oklahoma County’s seriously understaffed Public Defender’s Office was simply unable to provide all of the necessary services to these children; and,

Whereas in 1997, because of the overwhelming need for proper representation for children in deprived cases, Don Nicholson and Kent Myers founded Oklahoma Lawyers for Children; and,

Whereas Buddy Faye Foster was a long time child advocate in Oklahoma County, who served fifteen years as a Court Appointed Special Advocate, was a member of the Oklahoma County Post Adjudication Review Board, was recognized as a voice for children by the National Council on Children, was Appointee to the Governor’s Task Force on Foster Care, was instrumental in changing legislation affecting foster parents, and served as the Oklahoma Lawyers for Children first executive director from 1997 to 2006; and,

Whereas Ms. Foster passed away on May 12 2010, leaving behind a rich legacy of service to the children of Oklahoma County; and,

Whereas Oklahoma Lawyers for Children, as a non-profit organization, has and continues to provide pro bono legal representation as well as other services to the abused and neglected children of this county, through the service of 489 volunteer attorneys and 222 shelter and home study volunteers, who, since inception have served over 21,000 children at an estimated value of over \$3.3 million.

Now, therefore, due to a generous grant by the Oklahoma Bar Foundation, be it resolved that the Board of Oklahoma County Commissioners designates the new Juvenile Justice Center waiting area as the **Meyers, Nicholson and Foster Lobby** in recognition of the contributions, hard work and dedication of D. Kent Meyers, Don R. Nicholson, II, and Buddy Faye Foster to the abused and neglected children of this county. Through their advocacy, the lives of the children who walk through the doors of the Juvenile Justice Center have been forever changed – their world made better – by the caring and heartfelt

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contributions of time and resources made by these individuals.

Approved this _____ day of _____, 2009

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
Oklahoma County

CHAIRMAN

MEMBER

MEMBER

ATTEST:

Carolynn Caudill, County Clerk