

RESOLUTION

Board of Hennepin County Commissioners

RESOLUTION: 24-0467

At a meeting of the Board of Hennepin County Commissioners on 10/29/2024, a motion was made by Jeff Lunde, seconded by Irene Fernando, that this Resolution be adopted. The motion passed.

WHEREAS, Catherine “CJ” Johnson came to Hennepin County in 2017, after a long and decorated career in law enforcement to her new role as the Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation (DOCCR) Director. CJ brought knowledge of our community and issues facing public safety agencies; and

WHEREAS, CJ built on DOCCR’s rich history of diversity and inclusion, implementing programming and hiring decisions reflecting a strong commitment to representation and disparity reduction principles; and

WHEREAS, CJ holds herself and staff to high ethical standards and genuinely cares about employees and staff morale. During her tenure, CJ worked to reduce caseloads and create opportunities for others in DOCCR to have a voice in shaping the department, resulting in spaces like the Equity Strategy Team and Policy Team; and

WHEREAS, CJ demonstrated her commitment to public engagement by creating the Community Corrections Coalition - a group of community members who meet regularly to provide input and direction on DOCCR’s policies and procedures; and

WHEREAS, CJ is a forward-thinking leader, balancing disparity reduction, system improvements, client outcomes and community needs. She thoughtfully questions current processes to ensure they contribute to organizational progress; and

WHEREAS, CJ effectively guided the department through the COVID-19 pandemic, protecting staff, clients and facility residents under their care; and

WHEREAS, under CJ’s direction, the department implemented several programs, including: continued investment in community-based services and treatment options for young people, expanded employment and education pathways for clients, deployment of staff body cameras at the Adult Corrections Facility and Juvenile Detention Center, a grant-funded family visitation project at the Adult Corrections Facility, and a sweat lodge for indigenous residents of the Adult Corrections Facility; and

WHEREAS, CJ served as President of the Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties. Her work on updating the state’s funding formula for community corrections agencies resulted in additional funding for agencies across Minnesota, including an extra \$7 million for Hennepin County.

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners acknowledges Catherine Johnson's many accomplishments, thanks her for her years of dedicated service to the county, and wishes her well in her new endeavors.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED ON 10/29/2024

The question was on the adoption of the resolution with the votes as follows:

Aye: 6 Commissioner Fernando, Commissioner Goettel, Commissioner Lunde, Commissioner Conley, Commissioner Edelson, and Commissioner Anderson

Absent: 1 Commissioner Greene

Maria Rose 

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