



Department of Juvenile Justice Services Director's Office

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John M. Martin, Director



Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board Minutes

May 23, 2013

Joshua Conference Room
Sixth Floor
Government Center
Las Vegas, NV 89101

Present:

Commissioner Susan Brager
Commissioner Lawrence Weekly
Judge Frank Sullivan
Judge William Voy
Barbara Buckley, Executive Director

Clark County Management

Jeff Wells, Assistant County Manager

Department of Family Services (DFS)

Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Director
Paula Hammack, Assistant Director
Michael Knight, Assistant Director

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John "Jack" Martin, Director
Carol McWaters, Executive Assistant

Clark County District Attorney's Office

Catherine Jorgenson, Deputy District Attorney
Brigid Duffy, Deputy District Attorney, Juvenile Division

Guests

Yesenia Amaro, LVRJ Reporter

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Judge Voy with a quorum present.

II. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes.

The minutes were approved as written.

III. Approve the Agenda.

The election of Chairman and Vice Chairman is absent from the Agenda. This will be added to the August 1, 2013 Agenda.

IV. Public Comments.

There were no public comments at this time.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

STEVE SISOLAK, Chairman • LARRY BROWN, Vice Chairman
SUSAN BRAGER • TOM COLLINS • CHRIS GIUNCHIGLIANI • MARY BETH SCOW • LAWRENCE WEEKLY
DONALD G. BURNETTE, County Manager

V. Participation in funding for the UNLV School of Medicine – Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Fellowship Program.

The University of Nevada School of Medicine (UNSOM), Department of Psychiatry, anticipates a July 1, 2014 start of the Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (CAP) fellowship program in Las Vegas. The purpose of the CAP program is to create and retain child psychiatrists to serve our community and to raise our local standard of care in the field. At the present time there is one (1) child and adolescent psychiatrist for every 21,833 children, putting it at the top of the list when it comes to states that lack professionals with this specialty. In an attempt to tackle the issue, community agencies have united to start a child and adolescent psychiatric fellowship training program in Las Vegas similar to one in Reno.

In an effort to help the youth in the juvenile justice system, Judge Voy and the Family Court Judges have approved the creation of a contract with Anthony Joseph Kithas, M.D., P.C., for a full time Psychiatry Program for youth in Detention, SMYC or on Probation. The Youth will be supervised by Dr. Kithas for on-going treatment. At the present time, Dr. Kithas can only diagnose and then start the treatment program with the youth and then they have to continue treatment with a public mental health agency.

VI. Status of DJJS Budget for FY 2013-2014

Director Martin discussed the current twelve (12) vacancies in the Department. At the present time, there are six (6) cadets attending the Peace Officers Standards Training (POST) Academy. All prospective staff will have background, written and physical examinations. The newly implemented background check process, as of July 1, 2011 has dramatically affected the length of time this process takes. Consequently, the Department will not see the remaining six (6) vacancies filled until September 2013. Due to staff shortages, the overtime and compensatory time has exceeded the budget. There were 170 people that applied for these positions and will have to take the physical agility test May 28 & 29th. There will be 19 staff needed to facilitate this testing of proposed candidates.

VII. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) and Direct Staff Accordingly *John M. Martin, Director*

Mr. Martin discussed partnering with Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (LVMPD), the Southern Nevada Regional Housing Authority (SNRH A), numerous faith-based organizations and community partners at the Safe Village Initiative. This weekly Initiative works with the community to assist in decreasing criminal behavior in our most needy areas of the valley. Safe Village is located at 340 N. 11th Street, Las Vegas, NV 89101.

Recently, the department has reached out to the Latin Chamber of Commerce and the Nevada Partners Workforce Investment Board for vocational training for youth.

DJJS is expanding the Medicaid billing to the Clinical Services and Spring Mountain Residential Center. The department recently did a voluntary audit of the statistics and payments to ascertain any discrepancies in the procedures. Clark County was the first jurisdiction to self-report. The errors discovered have been corrected and the overpayment will be subtracted from the upcoming reimbursements.

DJJS is collaborating with Nevada Partners to obtain a \$75,000 stipend to pay the youth on the Forestry Program. These monies will go toward paying off restitution that is

owed the victims of Clark County. Commissioner Weekly and Brager requested DJJS contact them as soon as possible regarding the Forestry Picnic so they can be in attendance. It was noted by Mr. Martin that this is the longest running association with the Forestry Service in the Country.

(More information on the Divisions and their activities detailed in the attached DJJS Director's Report)

VIII. Receive the DJJS Citizen's Advisory Committee Report - Thomas Maroney, Member
No report at this time.

IX. Status of DFS Budget for FY 2013-2014

Director Lisa Ruiz-Lee reported that the Department of Family Services' (DFS) budget projections show that DFS is running slightly under budget and will finish the fiscal year end as such. Ongoing State funding for the coming biennium was approved by the Legislature on May 18, 2013. DFS is currently mid-recruitment to fill the remaining 13 case management vacancies. Interviews for Family Services Specialists and Sr. Family Services Specialists are in progress.

X. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Family Services (DFS) and Direct Staff Accordingly. Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Director

Ms. Ruiz-Lee discussed the Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI) that went from October 2012 to January 2013. These are sessions with foster parents, biological parents, DFS staff and foster care agencies to explore the QPI Philosophy and develop a branding statement to define the role and expectation of foster parents. One outcome from these meetings was the identification of five key workgroups that will fall under the QPI umbrella and will report up through the QPI Implementation Team.

Ms. Ruiz-Lee discussed the 24 hour training the Intake (Hotline) staff who participated in the revised Intake assessment process. Staff continue to receive on-going coaching and mentoring. CPS Supervisors also participated in sixteen (16) hours of training, which provided them an overview of the intake assessment process and how it relates to the reports and information distributed to CPS units.

Upcoming events for DFS include:

May 30: SHAKING FOR A CAUSE: HARLEM SHAKE GOES BLUE
June 20: FAMILY REUNIFICATION DINNER
August 7-8: BUILDING CONNECTIONS: A DFS APPROACH Summit
November & December: ADOPTION DAY (Actual Dates TBD)

(More information on these events available on the attached DFS Directors Report)

Judge Sullivan commented on the need to facilitate the adoption of any youth on foster care outside the state.

Mr. Michael Knight was introduced as the new Assistant Director of DFS. Welcome to Mr. Knight, good to have you at the meeting.

XI. Receive the DFS Citizen's Advisory Committee Report and Approve the Committee's Initiatives and Action Plans. Dan Hyde, Chairman

No report at this time.

Commissioner Brager discussed the upcoming “Refuge for Women – Kentucky” on June 4, 2013 at 6:30 PM at the Crossing Church – 7950 W. Windmill Lane
Las Vegas, NV 89113

This event is an effort to assist the young women in Clark County that would like to get out of their present lifestyle. Judge Voy will be speaking on this issue. The event has a variety of organizations that are sponsoring, including the Honda dealership assisting in getting jobs for the youth. The program currently works with girls 18 – 24 years old, but is trying to reach the younger girls also. The possibility of a Residential Facility for these girls, in conjunction with Montevista Hospital with 48 residential beds in four different units is being researched.

XII. Public Comments.

Ms. Barbara Buckley, Executive Director of Legal Aid Center of Southern Nevada, discussed the new headquarters. They now have a 100 seat classroom to accommodate the 10-15 free legal classes offered each week and to use to train pro bono attorneys to represent clients. There is a play area for the children to be occupied as the parents’ access free legal advice. Currently, just on the children’s programs, there are 280 pro-bono attorneys, 395 files and 780 youths being assisted.

Even with 11 staff attorneys and 280 volunteer attorneys, we are only representing over ½ of the children. Our goal is to represent every one, and we hope to be closer to that goal within a year. The court is restructuring into regions, and we hope to focus on representing children when they come into the system from day 1, instead of accepting referrals late in the case when multiple problems exist.

Upcoming training/programs – working with Boyd School of Law
Sealing of records class for adults class
Path to Citizenship class

XIII. Schedule next meeting.

August 1, 2013 - Joshua Conference Room

XIV. Adjournment