

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

Director's Office

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John M. Martin, Director
Patrick Schreiber, Assistant Director

Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2014 - 12:30 pm

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

Present:

Commissioner Susan Brager
Commissioner Lawrence Weekly
Judge William Voy

Clark County Management

Jeff Wells, Assistant County Manager
Catherine Jorgenson, Deputy District Attorney
Brigid Duffy, Deputy District Attorney

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John M. Martin, Director
Patrick Schreiber, Assistant Director
Carol McWaters, Executive Assistant

Department of Family Services

Lisa Ruiz-Lee, Director
Paula Hammock, Assistant Director
Mari D. Parlade, Esq. DFS

Guests:

Yesenia Amaro, LVRJ Reporter

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Commissioner Brager with a quorum present.

I. Review & Approve the minutes of the August 7, 2014 meeting.

The minutes were approved as written.

II. Approve the Agenda

The Agenda was approved as written.

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

III. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

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

Mr. Martin discussed the upcoming Peace Officer Standards Training (POST) Academy that will graduate eleven (11) Juvenile Probation Officers and four (4) Nevada Youth Parole Counselors on December 19th.

The Targeted Case Medicaid Fund reimbursement for DJJS will be approximately \$886,366 from the audit of FY 2013 and is funding thirteen (13) positions.

Mr. Martin reported that the City of Las Vegas is one of six (6) cities to be selected to receive technical assistance from the National League of Cities (NLC) to reduce racial and ethnic disparities related to youth. As part of this 15 month project, Mr. Martin will be traveling to Washington DC with Lisa Morris-Hibbler from the City of Las Vegas to discuss the project timeline and framing the case study with the NLC project representative.

The Department is collaborating with Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department by obtaining access to LVMPD's computer program On Base. Having access to this system will allow Records staff to obtain citations and subsequent police reports in a more timely manner for the purpose of shortening the time span between when a citation is issued and the hearing date by the current time of 6 weeks, to 3 weeks. This will bring the juveniles into court to answer to their charges in a shorter span of time.

Spring Mountain Youth Camp (SMYC) football team rated second in the State. Basketball and Wrestling are now going full swing. The Department has designated two Clinicians to work with the youth at Camp. They have expanded their services to individual and group therapy.

DJJS has applied for and received a \$2.3 million dollar grant to build a new Spring Mountain Residential center behind the existing center. More information should be provided within the next coming month. Management did an excellent job preparing the grant as well as two presentations. Judge Voy suggested after the new building is completed, to discuss fixing the original building and use for girls programming.

V. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Family Services (DFS) and Direct Staff Accordingly

Director Lisa Ruiz-Less discussed how the department has advocated for the State to consider applying for a Title IV-E waiver as available under section 1130 of the Social Security Act. On September 30, 2014, DFS was approved for the waiver based on its submitted proposal which incorporates a renewed focus on the implementation of community based safety supports and services to further prevent and/or reduce initial child removals. The terms provided an annual 5% growth rate in our federal funding over the next 4.5 years. These funds will be utilized for preventive services as opposed

to only utilizing the funding for foster care services. Implementation will begin hopefully in April 2015.

In September, the department hosted its inaugural Step Up for Kids Foster Friends Conference where more than 100 leaders in the business, faith-based and child welfare community committed to supporting our foster children and their caregivers through the Foster Friends Program. The conference was sponsored by the Wynn Las Vegas.

DFS has worked closely with the City of Las Vegas, through the Mayor's Faith Initiative. They have been asked to speak once again at the upcoming January 2015 Unity Celebration, which is anticipated to have in excess of 500 members and faith-based leaders. The focus of this celebration will be on serving our children through DFS as either a foster parent or a Foster friend.

Commissioner Susan Brager inquired as to whether or not the Commissioners are invited to this type of function. The Board of County Commissioners are concerned about the youth and would like more hands on time.

Director Ruiz-Lee showed a short video on the Foster Friends that will be circulated to community.

Mr. John Martin attended the Adoption Day in the gym and said it was a wonderful day. The entire day was designed for kids. Commissioner Weekly was in attendance. The Department has completed 560 adoptions this past year. Congratulations!

Commissioner Brager thanked everyone for their hard work this past year.

Judge Voy announced the hiring of a new Hearing Master, Soonhee Baily.

VI. Public Comments

No comments.

VII. Schedule next meeting

The next meeting will be held February 5, 2015 at 12:30 PM in the Joshua Conference Room.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.