

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

Director's Office

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John M. Martin, Director
Michael Whelihan, Assistant Director

Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board

February 22, 2018 - 12:30 pm

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

Chair: Judge William Voy
Vice Chair: Commissioner Susan Brager

Present

Commissioner Susan Brager
Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani
Judge William Voy
Judge Bryce Duckworth

Clark County Management

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

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John Martin, Director
Michael Whelihan, Assistant Director
Dean Steiner, Interim Manager
Satonya Patton, Executive Assistant (*prepared minutes*)
David Doyle, Eagle Quest Director / CAC Vice Chair

Department of Family Services

Paula Hammack, Interim Director
Jill Marano, Assistant Director
Ebony Washington, Assistant Director
Mari Parlade, Manager
Deshaun Jackson, CAC Chair

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Judge William Voy with a quorum present.

II. Public Comments

None at this time.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

STEVE SISOLAK, Chairman • CHRIS GIUNCHIGLIANI, Vice Chair
SUSAN BRAGER • LARRY BROWN • JAMES B. GIBSON • MARILYN KIRKPATRICK • LAWRENCE WEEKLY
YOLANDA T. KING, County Manager

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III. Approval of the November 9, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The minutes are approved as written.

IV. Approval of the February 22, 2018 Agenda

The agenda is approved as written.

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

Manager Positions – Mr. Martin stated that The Department currently has three Manager Positions open (Spring Mountain Youth Camp, Detention, and Probation Field Services). With these openings the Department in collaboration with Human Resources is working to align all of the positions within the job series to ensure that the requirements for each progression are appropriate, attainable, reasonable and allow for the best candidates to be selected. The Manager positions were posted nationwide; interviews are scheduled for the third week of March 2018.

P.O.S.T. Academy – The Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) will have the next Juvenile Probation Officer (JPO) Academy in April 2018. Currently there is ten JPO vacancies with several retirements and promotions scheduled in the near future spring P.O.S.T. Academy starting in February 2018.

Probation System Review – The Probation Division began working with the Robert F. Kennedy Foundation on reviewing the probation department and juvenile justice system performance in Clark County in May of 2017. Efforts focused on review and assessment of probation practices to enhance youth outcomes and system performance by ensuring that policies and procedures, corresponding training, departmental management, and supervision of probationers all reflect best practices. The Robert F. Kennedy Foundation is currently formulating a final report that will make recommendations on feasible, practical and fiscally responsible system changes. The report will also include positive frameworks, programs and best practices currently being accomplished by the Department. Executive Director, John Tuell will return to DJJS on April 5, 2018 to finalize the implementation proposal.

MBK Eliminating School Pathways to the Juvenile Justice System Conference – This conference was held on February 1, 2018. Mr. Martin thanked the Managers; Supervisors; and Probation Officers for attending. The conference's focused on youth of color who are overrepresented in the juvenile justice system and have the highest rate of suspensions, expulsions, high school dropout rates, and arrests. The conference presentations included implicit bias awareness practices, strategies, and interventions to reduce the number of youth who unnecessarily come in contact with the juvenile justice system. There were dynamic speakers at the conference. Mr. Whelihan stated that the conference was fun and interactive.

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Basketball – Mr. Martin stated that the Golden Eagle Basketball Team placed first in their conference and will be in the Regional Tournament that begins on Friday.

Assistant Director – Mr. Martin introduced the new Juvenile Justice Services Assistant Director, Michael Whelihan.

VI. Receive the DJJS Citizens Advisory Committee Report. David Doyle, Vice Chair on behalf of Dr. Tiffany Tyler, Chair

The Harbor – The Harbor has moved to 861 N. Mojave. This is a twenty-four hour facility. Clinical Services Manager, Cheryl Wright, is working on a public service announcement for The Harbor. The second Harbor location will be located in the Charleston Boulevard and Jones area. May 1, 2018 is the anticipated opening date.

Strategic Plan – Mr. Doyle stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee Members are focused on a few items from their strategic plan. The first item is opening the second Harbor as stated previously; and secondly, the school justice partnerships. In working with the school justice partnerships, the initiative is to keep every youth in school so that the goal of graduation is accomplished.

Judge Voy

Truancy Diversion Program – Judge Voy briefly discussed the Truancy Diversion Program. It cost approximately four thousand dollars to fund this program. Judge Voy stated that there are some challenges getting funding. If funding is not cannot get funding in the near future this program will not be in existence.

Youth Placement Issues – There has been several challenges with the placement of dual crossover youth and girls. Judge Voy stated that this is a problem without resolution; and there may be potential lawsuits if the correct placement for youth and girls.

St. Jude's Ranch Campus Tour – Judge Voy stated there will be a St. Jude's Ranch Boulder City Campus Tour with Christina Vela and others on March 16, 2018. They will be discussing a new start up program for youth.

VII. Receive the Director's Report on the Activities of the Department of Family Services (DFS) and Direct Staff Accordingly *Interim Director Paula Hammack*

Systemic Improvements – Ms. Hammack stated that recommendations have been given to the DFS executive management team. The team will be laying out a strategic plan to identify and prepare for implementation.

OnStrategy – DFS has been working with the consultant agency OnStrategy to assist in developing a multi-year strategic plan. Ms. Hammack is grateful to have an opportunity to work in a partnership with them to assist in developing a roadmap for several years to come.

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Child Haven – Reliance on congregate care for children six and under has been reduced. Ms. Hammack stated that staff has been successful in securing family based placements. During the past month less than eight children under the age of six have been admitted to DFS this has been reduced by forty percent.

Federal Legislation – Ms. Hammack stated that there will be family based foster homes under the new *Family First Prevention Services Act* on February 9, 2018.

Assembly Bill 99 – Assistant Director, Jill Marano stated that DFS employees have teamed up with UNLV to ensure they are properly trained in the area of working with the lesbian; gay; bisexual; transgender; and questioning children. UNLV is training twenty to thirty employees at a time. AB 99 requires that establish protocols to follow or factors to consider before placing a child in certain placements; and establishing a process for filing and resolving certain grievances. Foster children need to be notified of their rights. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani asked are the foster parents getting trained? What is the child’s grievance process? Ms. Marano answered the questions to best of her ability by stating that the agency is diligently working to ensure that everyone is trained properly. David Doyle, Eagle Quest Director stated that there is a grievance box at his facility that the youth can utilize. If there are any grievances he passes them to DFS to perform a formal investigation.

VIII. Receive the DFS Citizens Advisory Committee Report. Interim Director Paula Hammack on behalf of Deshaun Jackson, Chair

Mr. Jackson stated that the DFS Citizens Advisory Committee Board has a few new members that has joined their Board. Members are creating a workforce development plan. This plan will involve stake holders. Commissioner Chris Giunchigliani suggested that Board members team up with Director, Jaime Cruz from Workforce Connections. Mr. Cruz maybe able to assist in finding the proper people with the needed skill set that the Board is looking for.

IX. Schedule Next Meeting – May 24, 2018 in the Joshua Conference Room Joshua Conference Room – 6th Floor, Government Center at 12:30 pm.

X. Public Comments
None at this time.

XI. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned.