

CLARK COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES

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Timothy Burch, Administrator of Human Services

Abigail Frierson, Assistant Director • Margaret LeBlanc, Assistant Director
Jill Marano, Assistant Director • Judy Tudor, Assistant Director

Clark County Family and Juvenile Justice Services Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board Minutes Thursday, May 19, 2022 @ 12:30 p.m.

- I. Call to order at 12:53pm
- II. Public Comments – None
- III. Approval of February 17, 2022, meeting minutes- approved
- IV. Election of New Officers.
 - a. Commissioner Jones shared with the board members that Commissioner McCurdy is interested in being the new chair. Judge Voy made a motion to appoint Commissioner McCurdy as Chair and Commissioner Jones second the motion.
 - b. Judge Voy nominated Judge Burton as Vice Chair. Judge accepted the nomination provided that the election of Vice Chair be added to the next meeting's agenda for reconsideration. Commissioner Jones seconds the motion to appoint Judge Burton as Vice Chair.
- V. Receive report from County Management regarding the DFS/DJJS budgets for Fiscal 2022-2023
 - a. Jeff Wells shared that both DFS and DJJS are receiving supplemental positions; however, it first needs to be finalized as a recommendation to the Board of Commissioners as well as approve it as a future agenda item.
 - b. Judge Voy asked if the approved budget included all filled and vacant positions? Jeff Wells shared the budget does include vacant and filled positions but does not include supplementals. Supplemental positions are newly created positions in addition to the filled and vacant positions.
- VI. Discuss dual jurisdiction calendar/cases
 - a. Judge Voy shared the State has about 110 kids in three separate facilities on the Juvenile Justice side due to staff shortages. The number of children with mental health is increasing and will continue to rise throughout the years.
- VII. Receive the Director's Report on the activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS).
John M Martin, Director
 - a. Ebony Washington, Assistant Director at DJJS is stepping in for Jack Martin and reporting on his behalf.
 - b. Ebony Washington shared that DJJS graduated 13 new Probation Officers from the Academy. The new Probation Officers are filling in positions in Detention and Spring Mountain Youth Camp. DJJS completed its first round of testing for the next group and a second group will be testing in the following week.
 - c. DJJS is continuing to work with the George Town University Program for reducing racial and ethnic disparity.
 - d. DJJS held their first annual women's conference in March at the UNLV Thomas and Mack Center. Details of the conference can be found on the report.
 - e. DJJS and the City of Las Vegas are waiting for the official award letter for the Culinary Training program through the US Economic Development Administration. DJJS is hoping to start the program in the next couple of months.
 - f. A small group of youth from Spring Mountain Youth Camp participated at Commissioner Kirkpatrick's Cinco De May Resource Fair. The youth cooked and served food to the community.

- g. DJJS's youth track team have made it to the State Championships.
 - h. Ebony Washington shared that the population of youth in Detention has remained steady at or around one-hundred youths. All restraint chairs have been fully removed from DJJS and replaced with the wrap system. In addition, DJJS is working with RPM to install padding in three cells within Detention. The padding will help youths who have uncontrolled mental health needs to appropriately serve them better.
 - i. Training was held for the Probation Unit for Growth Focused Case Management.
 - j. John Toole with the Robert F Kennedy foundation was on-site at DJJS to facilitate some meeting for the cross-over project with DFS and the DA's office.
 - k. The Harbor and DFS are working together to implement a pilot program for youth who are struggling to manage their behavior at Child Haven.
 - l. DJJS and the Truancy Prevention Outreach Program (TPOP) are working on providing targeting outreach service for communities with high truancy programs. DJJS is working with CCSD to shift TPOP services and programs to respond to the increased social and emotional challenges that contribute to truancy. DJJS is still struggling to hire and retain qualified staff for TPOP.
 - m. Judge Voy asked for DJJS's current vacancy rate or number, not including TPOP. Ebony Washington did not have the number of vacancies; however, they are working with HR on recruitment. Jeff Wells shared that there are 55 full time vacancies that have been approved to be filled.
 - n. Judge Voy asked for an update on the mental health staff at Detention and SMYC. Ebony Washington shared that they have partnered with Aspire Counseling, a community provider that provide mental health services for the youth.
- VIII. Receive DJJS Citizens Advisory Report. *David Doyle, Chair*
- a. The committee is excited about the further expansion of The Harbor. Families who live in the remote regions of Clark County will now have services readily available.
 - b. David Doyle shared the DJJS, and the courts are working together to launch a Domestic Violence (DV) Program. The program will respond to low-level cases by working with the family to prevent removal.
 - c. In May of 2022, the CAC decided to launch a youth summit to discuss how to improve the system. The summit will involve about 10 of system impacted youth, Director Jack Martin, and Assistant Director Cheryl Wright.
 - d. The CAC is hopeful that the girls residential will be launching soon. A service provider has been identified.
 - e. Judge Voy asked if a date has been identified for the opening of a girls' residential facility. Ebony Washington shared that there is no official date. Mike Whelihan, Assistant Director DJJS, shared that he met with the vendor and walked the property. They are waiting for a lease agreement to be created and signed by the BCC.
- IX. Receive Administrators Reports on the activities of the Department of Family Services (DFS). *Tim Burch, Administrator of Human Services*
- a. Tim Burch shared that the Department of Family Services currently has 56 vacancies with 14 of them being Academy. The newest academy started in May. All 56 vacancies are in active recruitment.
 - b. DFS is continuing to work with the State on the Oasis campus. The contract and insurance have officially been signed off on for the ICF. DFS anticipates opening around May for the children with IDD (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities.) Mr. Burch thanks the Interim Finance Committee for the 1.9 million dollars received through ARPA funds.
 - c. DFS is continuing its work with Department of Social Service to provide housing for families and prevent removals due to homelessness. As of May 9th, they have housed 82 families consisting of 208 children. This breaks down to roughly 70 families who have been kept together and prevented 168 children from being removed.

- d. DFS is working on streamlining and realign staff, streamline the adoption process, and drop the case loads. DFS and the Assistant Directors are working with the staff and a consultant.
 - e. DFS continues to need foster parents. As a part of the recruiting efforts, DFS has recruited an artist to create a piece of art called “Unseen and Unheard.” May 20th the project will be unveiled in downtown Summerlin.
 - f. Mr. Burch shared that the County continues to struggle with the State despite their efforts. The County has managed to procure two buildings and a vendor on the States property. The State has decided to discontinue the Collaborative Pathway Program. The program is meant to support children who were voluntarily surrendered by their parents due to lack of community mental health resources.
 - g. Judge Voy asked how, if any, the lack of effort from the State will affect the opening of the Oasis facility?
 - i. Tim Burch shared that it will not affect the opening. The vendor Silver State Pediatrics is fully bonded and ready to go.
- X. Receive the DFS Citizens Advisory Report. *DaShun Jackson, Chair*
 - a. No report given
 - XI. Identify emerging issues for the next meeting
 - a. Update on the 2022-2023 budget
 - b. Updates on placement, reimbursement rates and Oasis.
 - XII. Announcements
 - a. Judge Burton announced that there is a National CASA awards ceremony with a 40-year CASA veteran receiving an award for her years of service.
 - b. Judge Burton announced that the Judicial Court is receiving a \$20,000.00 grant for the professional development of all staff and volunteers.
 - XIII. Public Comment
 - a. Michael Whelihan congratulated Judge Voy on his retirement and thanked him for all his years of service.
 - b. Jeff Wells thanked Judge Voy for his dedication to both DJJS and DFS.
 - XIV. Next Meeting scheduled for August 11, 2022, at 12:30PM via WebEx.
 - XV. Meeting adjourned at 1:40pm