



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 February 5, 2015 - 12:30 pm

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

Present:

Commissioner Susan Brager
Commissioner Lawrence Weekly
Judge William Voy
Judge Robert Teuton

Clark County Management

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

Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John M. Martin, Director
Carol McWaters, Executive Assistant

Department of Family Services

Paula Hammock, Assistant Director
Michael Knight, Assistant Director

Guests:

Yesenia Amaro, LVRJ Reporter
Susan Enney, Sr. Business Systems Analyst

Call to Order

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

I. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

II. Review & Approve the minutes of the December 18, 2014 meeting.

The minutes were approved as written.

III. 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

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 begin March 16th and graduate on May 8th. At present, 500 people have filled out applications and will report for the physical testing prior to the Academy start. The Department estimates there will be eleven (11) vacancies to be filled before the Academy is completed. Two seasoned veterans are retiring from Spring Mountain Youth Camp, Supervisor Joseph Sadovich and Officer Ed Cheltenham. Mr. Martin expressed his appreciation of the Proclamations that were prepared and presented to them at the last BCC meeting. This makes room, along with other vacancies, for the latest promotion of Officers Katherine Huncovsky, Queenie Robertson & Jeff Jones to the Supervisor positions.

Mr. Martin is meeting with representatives from the College of Southern Nevada to connect youth with the certified programs that will assist youth transitioning to adulthood. The goal is to provide programs to our youth that will prepare them for post-secondary education or the workforce.

The Department is beta testing a screening tool for the Intake Unit to better assist the Officers in determining appropriate services for low level offenses and to identify signs of high risk behavior. This is a three prong approach to become more color blind, provide intervention in the very beginning before a youth goes further into the justice system, and connect the youth and family with appropriate prevention tools. Mr. Martin discussed the community involvement and partnerships that are needed for an assessment center. Research indicates that connecting youth and families to meaningful services early on can deter further involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The Evening Reporting Center (ERC) is becoming a reality. During the months of May/June the Southwest Probation Center will be moving to a new location. The new location will have room for the ERC and the Intensive Supervision Program (ISP). Commissioner Brager inquired as to the possibility of owning the location instead of renting it. Mr. Wells, will report back on this possibility. Ms. Brager also stated that the department will have a hard time filling the shoes of the experienced men that recently retired.

Mr. Martin pointed out the individual reports by the Divisions of DJJS for everyone's review.

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

Michael Knight, Assistant Director of DFS, received notification from the Administration for Child and Families (ACF) that the Development Cost Plan associated with the Title IV-E Waiver which has been approved.

The Department hosted a symposium for more than 120 DFS staff and partners at which Dr. Charles Zeanah, a national expert in the area of interventions for young children who have experienced maltreatment presented on the topic of Understanding the Stages of Development. Dr. Zeanah and Carol Shauffer from the Youth Law Center facilitated a discussion regarding the next steps to promote the well-being of children utilizing the lessons learned.

In May DFS is planning a "Passport for Parenting" meeting in which all partners in child welfare will have a chance to come together to discuss partnerships with each other. From this the "Partnership Agreement" that has been developed through the Child Welfare Subcommittee of the Quality Parenting Initiative will be introduced. Mr. Knight discussed the new Foster Parent ID badges that are being designed. These are helpful for foster parents when out in the community. It was discussed whether foster parents that have never had a child should get additional training when they are approved as new foster parents?

VI. Discuss Legislative Issues

The following bills were also mentioned as important to the two departments.

SB 49 SUMMARY: "Revises provisions relating to emergency shelters for children."
(BDR 38-498)

SB 99 SUMMARY: "Repeals provisions governing sex offenders which were originally enacted for purposes of the federal Adam Walsh Act" BDR 14-134)

AB 124 SUMMARY: "Revises provisions governing juvenile justice."

SB 58 SUMMARY: "Revise provisions governing the release of information relating to children within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and children in protective custody."
(BDR 5-490)

VII. Identify Emerging Issues to be addressed by the staff or the Board at future meetings.

Commissioner Brager discussed the caseload figures for DJJS. Mr. Martin supplied the following information:

	Current	*Best Practice
Intensive Supervision Caseload:	1 to 26	1 to 16
Field Officers (previous 1 – 62)	1 to 44	1 to 28
SMYC	1 to 10	1 to 8

*Best Practice according to the American Correctional Association

Mr. Martin discussed visiting a continuation school with a Probation Officer who is trying to create a presence there. He is trying to integrate into the school, be available to youth and faculty. Comment was made that it would be good to bring a positive outcome to the attention of the Commissioners. Meeting and presenting a Proclamation to the two staff that recently retired was a positive action. The work that Michael Knight mentioned with the Foster Parents was a positive report. More information of this sort is appreciated.

VIII. Announcements

It was decided that prior to the next meeting, April 2nd, the Directors will have sent to the Commissioners the Legislative Bills that they are tracking and any statistics or costs associated with them.

IX. Schedule next meeting

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

X. Public Comments

No comments.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned.