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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
MINUTES
August 20-21, 2014**

August 20th, 2014 Call to Order

This meeting was called to order on August 20th, 2014 at 1:35 p.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess.

Roll Call – Pauline Salla

Members Present: Kirby Burgess, Dan Coppa, John Hambrick, Lisa Morris Hibbler, Dawn Lozano, John Martin, Steve McBride, Ivet Santiago, Scott Shick, Paula Smith, Honorable Kimberly Wanker, Lonnie Wright.

Members Present by Phone: Amber Howell, David Humke, David LaBay, M.J. Taibo-Vega

Members Excused: Niah Anson, Michael Beam, Danny Gonzales, Noah Jennings, Raymond McKay, Miguel Rodriguez, Fernando Serrano, Honorable Egan Walker,

Members who arrived late: Frank Cervantes, Elizabeth Florez

Staff Present: Pauline Salla, Alice Mueller

Public Present: Joel Bridegum, Steve Calabrese, Pam Coppa, John Ellison, Richard Gloeckner, Deisy Hernandez, Russell Klein, Aaron Patridge, Vanessa Spinazola, Greg Thornton,

Public Present by Phone: Ali Banister, Ben Bianchi

Public Comment and Discussion

None

Presentation by NYTC and Independence High School – Richard Gloeckner, Joel Bridegum, Greg Thornton and Russell Klein

Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) Superintendent Richard Gloeckner welcomed the Commission and introduced Joel Bridegum the Head Group Supervisor, Greg Thornton the Mental Health Counselor and Russell Klein, Principal of Independence High School. He explained that it was established in 1913, but was not completed until 1915. While currently funded for 60, its original capacity was 160 youth. Their mission is to offer an environment that

promotes positive self-growth, creates change in behavior, attitude, values and thinking by participating in programs of educational, vocational and therapeutic treatment.

Joel Bridegum was the first to speak about the home life side of NYTC. He said that they try to provide a safe and secure group environment which while structured, still had easiness to it. They treat the youth with dignity and respect and expect the same in return. The youth are not viewed as prisoners, rather as young men who have made mistakes.

Reception and Classification (R & C) is where the youth spend their first two weeks. They are tested and assessed to determine their educational and mental health needs. Once completed, they move onto the regular dorms. There are three dorms, two with open bays, and each with dorm counselors who are their primary contact and who fill out reports on the youth's progress. There is a point system which determines their eligibility for freedom of movement. They can also earn the opportunity to leave the program up to a month early. Most stays are six months but may extend up to nine months.

An average day is waking at 7:00 am with clean up and breakfast followed by school. They are in school from 8:30 am until 3:35 pm and in counseling from 4:00 pm until 5:00 pm. Dinner is at 6:00 pm and then to bed by 9:00 pm. There is one hour of large muscle exercise daily during the week and two hours on weekends. Other activities include occasional movies in town, hikes and they are encouraged to do community service.

Most of the community service has been helping at the trash dumps or shoveling walks. In the past there was a very active fire crew, which was unfortunately ended when the National Forestry Division reviewed policies involving youth under 18. In the future, the youth will be starting native plants and reseeding burned over areas.

Greg Thornton spoke next on the assessments and treatment plans available. In addition to educational assessments, each youth is screened for substance abuse, dependence disorders and social skills. Historically, 80% have substance abuse issues, 30% are on psychotropic medications and 40% have educational deficits. Individualized treatment plans are created and regularly reviewed to assure they are still appropriate. There are about five individual sessions and three group sessions per week. Emphasis is on Life skills, Community Service and Nutrition. A contract physician comes in twice a week and a contract psychiatrist once a month.

The Forward Thinking interactive journal program was discussed. It is a wonderful program that includes writing, speaking, and role playing in addition to working through the journals alone and in groups. They do the first two journals, What Got Me Here and Responsible Behaviors, during R & C. The other seven journals are covered during the fourth hour of school. These journals include Relationships and Communications, Handling Difficult Feelings, Substance Abuse, Family Counseling and Re-Entry. When a youth writes things down or says something staff may not agree with, the youth is allowed to work through their choices. If done in front of a group, things are just set in motion with the other kids doing the work, asking if they really want the consequences of their choices. The program takes about four months so if the youth is there six months there is an opportunity to go through it partially again. Usually enough growth has occurred that they can see a change in their work the second time through.

Questions were asked about the Elko location of NYTC and how that works with family interactions. As long as the family is supportive and willing to work with the youth, interaction is encouraged. Not all families are supportive and not all youth are returned to their families after completing their programs. In those cases the youth is sent to an independent living center. Otherwise it's good to have the parents, grandparents and even children see the youth more

often. Once a month would be ideal because then their progress could be viewed as it occurs. There has been talk about using a van for transportation and even providing meals for visiting families. One of the things currently being done is videoconferencing through the parole administration offices as is occurring in both Reno and Las Vegas. Sometimes the parents can become more engaged by taking part in a parenting class such as one being piloted by the Children's Cabinet in Washoe County. NYTC is willing to look at many options to keep parents involved with the youth.

Russell Klein was then given an opportunity to speak about what academics could be accomplished at Independence High School. In the average juvenile correctional facility, education is not necessarily a strong point. 53% of youth generally do not earn any high school credits. Since it is difficult to determine where the students are academically, a Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test is administered along with an assessment of current credits completed. A very precise measure of what they need is determined and a program tailored specific to their needs.

Independence High School is a fully accredited school offering all levels of core requirements in addition to Career and Technical Education (CTE). Since music and academics are highly correlated, a music program is also offered. Youth can even earn the right to participate in intermural sports activities. If a student is on the deficiency list, they are in school during sports time. An employability skills program is offered, and although the state allows testing only once a year for that program, Independence High has been granted the ability to test four times a year. Currently, 2/3rd of the class passes. Even youth who are still in R & C have an hour of academics daily. Two types of grades are given every week. One is their behavior grade, the other their academic grade.

In addition to credits, several types of degrees are available. The Standard Diploma requires 23 credits and passing the state proficiency tests. Youth who have an Independent Learning Program (IEP) can earn an Adjusted Diploma with 23 credits alone. If the General Educational Development (GED) test is passed, portions of it can be used to increase earned credits, which in turn could allow for an Adult Diploma. In addition to these a Food Nutrition Degree is now possible, with youth being able to receive their Food Handler's Permit and Managerial Service Aid Certificate. When the youth leave, they are given an awards assembly. Any academic recognition they have earned, diploma, GED or vocational certificates are awarded. In this way, they have a positive ending to their time at NYTC.

As part of the after-care program, an Exit Report is given to the applicable probation department. This includes information such as how many credits they are from graduating and what classes they still may require. If a GED was earned, there might be something specifying that with one or two more credits, they could earn their Adult Diploma. In addition to this, there is information on vocational classes, proficiency tests, community service hours and perhaps drug and alcohol counselling they have passed. There will also be comments from teachers, both positive and cautionary. The courts like to review these reports and have learned to request them.

In the future, NYTC would like to be able to offer college credits. They are looking into Federal Grants and have contacted Great Basin Community College. This could mean that if a youth arrives who has a GED or diploma; they could now work towards a college degree. As Principal Klein pointed out, education is the single greatest correlator to future success and lack of criminal activity.

Superintendent Gloeckner finished up by discussing the recent implementation of Performance based Standards. The first data pull was in April 2014, with a second anticipated in October. There are 106 outcomes which are compared with national standards. The areas compared are in family, health, justice, order, programing, re-integration, safety and security. Sometimes all that is needed is a minor correction such as documenting the actual time of intake. They are beginning to work more closely with parole in order to meet more of the standards.

Approval of Minutes from May 22, 2014 Meeting

Commissioner Shick made a motion to approve the minutes from May 22, 2014 with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Report from Policy/Legislation Committee – Scott Shick

This report was moved forward to accommodate Commissioner Shick who needed to return to Gardnerville. He provided a number of significant handouts and stressed that the Supreme Court Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform continues to operate in good faith and with considerable stakeholder participation. He acknowledged that good data is required to make good decisions and pointed out the recent trip to evaluate the data system at the Arizona Department of Youth and Corrections. There has been ongoing work designing it over a number of years, and there is hope that a similar system will be set up in Nevada.

Work has also been done with the school attendance and disturbance subcommittee. They are attempting to temper school language in regards to disturbances so that youth can remain in school. Work is being done with the school resource officer to get everyone at the table so as to improve school attendance and increase youth buy in with their schools.

A number of proposed bill drafts were briefly discussed. These ranged from the sex offender registration to competency determinations and the use of various screening tools. Basically, what they are looking at are juggling school resources, school safety and truancy. Commissioner Shick agreed that education is the solution to future delinquency and there is a need to preserve youth in the school system.

In discussing the Regional Facilities and Planning Subcommittee, everyone agreed that NYTC was a different place than three years ago. When Summit View closed, many deep end youth were sent to NYTC, which caused some difficulties. With Red Rock Academy opening, NYTC has been able to return to its original design and is even becoming more of a mid-range facility. With a well-established high school and vocational opportunities, it has impressed both the visiting judges and the Juvenile Justice Commission. It would appear that this could continue to be the regional facility for the rural counties. Work needs to be done with bringing parents in and of course updating the infrastructure. Improvements also are needed at Spring Mountain, Aurora Pines and China Springs in both infrastructure and PREA standards. Ultimately what is needed are programs which are diversified, flexible and individualized. It's not necessarily new buildings but people's attitudes which help youth.

There was assurance that the several committees working on these topics are not duplicating work. They all report back to the Supreme Court Commission on Juvenile Justice. Specialist Salla keeps track of the bills during the session and makes sure that all the commissioners are kept informed. She also brought to the Commissioners attention that the Juvenile Justice Data Dictionary was now available upon request, and sent a copy around for them to review.

Commissioner Hambrick made a motion to accept the Policy and Legislature report with a second from Commissioner Wright. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Treasurer's Report – Dawn Lozano and Pauline Salla

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 has been closed out and FFY 2013 should be closed out after the current Quarterly Full Juvenile Justice Commission meeting is completed. That still leaves the \$20,000.00 from FFY 2014 which has been untouched. The new federal year runs from October 1st to September 30th but the award letters have not yet arrived.

The FFY 2011 Formula Grant sub-grantees have been paid and a Department of Justice (DOJ) audit performed through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). When completed, it will be closed out and placed in the archives. Some of the \$18,000.00 which was reserved from this grant for Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) activities was permitted to be used for the Phoenix, Arizona data subcommittee travel in addition to identifying a business plan. It was determined that data collection will affect DMC in the big picture. The FFY 2012 Formula Grant sub-grantees have also been paid, however some of the administration money is still being utilized. Of the FFY 2013 Formula Grant, all the sub-grantees, including Washoe County have received payments. This grant is right on track and there are no issues or concerns.

For the Category 20, referred to as the Medicaid Room and Board funding, State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2014 was closed out on June 30th. All the money has been released to the jurisdictions with program summaries submitted where needed to explain use for any carry-over amounts. Funds are reported on under the year they are awarded, so sometimes there may be multiple Medicaid Room and Board reports covering different years. The SFY 2015 award letters were sent out late, however the amount remains fairly consistent. Jurisdictions are given funds based on student populations so differences are usually no more than \$10 or \$15 dollars. They may request their funds as needed either in total, half or quarter amounts.

Commissioner Florez made a motion to accept the Treasurers report with a second from Commissioner Morris-Hibbler. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Staff Report – Pauline Salla

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) continues to be a big concern. Specialist Salla invited interested commissioners to attend available training in the north and assured those from the south that they would be notified when training becomes available down there.

With assistance from Commissioners Martin and Morris-Hibbler, Specialist Salla has submitted a technical assistance request with the Civics First organization through OJJDP. This would provide statewide training on effective police interactions with youth and include train the trainers. DMC is most noticeable at the point of arrest, so work with law enforcement is needed. Those asked to attend will include law enforcement, commissioners and chiefs.

Work continues to go forward on getting technical assistance from Joseph Tomassone on Alternatives to Room Confinement. Representatives from local facilities will be welcome, but first he wishes to visit the state facilities and review policies and procedures especially those from the detention centers. In this way, he will be able to tailor the training and technical assistance to the specific needs of Nevada.

There will be a statewide train the trainer for the Forward Thinking program at the Change Company in Carson City in September, 2014. The counties, in addition to staff from Caliente (CYC), NYTC and Red Rock will be included as space is available. The commission members requested an opportunity to review the manuals and journals used in this program. Arrangements were made to have some brought in.

Specialist Salla has also been working with two other specialists on a National Juvenile Justice Specialist Manual. Although noted as being long winded and very thorough, it is almost near completion and will be available for review by the Commission in the near future. The Staff Report was placed on file by Chairman Burgess.

DCFS Update – Steve McBride

A brief statewide census was given, with a total of 207 youth at CYC, NYTC and Red Rock. One additional youth is at the Garza County Regional Juvenile Center in Post, Texas. The state contract there, for three beds, has been renewed and extended. Although originally contracted during the Summit View closure, it is now viewed as an alternative not only for secure female placement but also for youth who may need to be separated after disruptive episodes.

The recent removal of Clark County youth from NYTC was referred to. It was noted that with state correctional facilities, all allegations of abuse or neglect are appropriately and swiftly referred to the Child Protective Services for assessment. Pending litigation, no more could be discussed on this subject.

NYTC and CYC have recently had staff trained on Performance based Standards (PbS) with Red Rock scheduled to start in 2015. The first data pull at NYTC was this spring and has resulted in an improved facility plan which has reduced down time and the use of room confinement. Although a lot of work is involved, the staff is excited about the upcoming October data pull.

The Forward Thinking series, originally piloted at NYTC has been expanded to CYC. This is not a replacement for Thinking for a Change; rather it is an additional way to reach out to youth in a different manner. The program has exceeded expectations and is expected to be shared with the other jurisdictions.

Caliente is currently involved in a pilot program, a collaboration between youth parole and Desert Psychological. This is a transitional program designed to provide a continuum of assistance between youth paroled out of CYC and mental health, juvenile justice, community based organizations and the youth's families. It starts while the youth is at CYC and helps to bridge the transition gap. In this, it is very similar to the Children's Cabinet transitioning program with youth at NYTC. Both programs are showing a lot of success with the biggest emphasis being on managing the flow so that as many as possible can be served.

The second housing unit at Red Rock Academy has just been completed, which adds another 24 beds to that facility. Currently it is contracted for 50 out of 96 beds. At present there are 48 youth with the last two beds remaining unassigned, as that would necessitate the opening of the second unit. There has been continuous contact with Rite of Passage over the best way to move youth into this unit.

Red Rock staff have recently received training in the Unity system and a parent support group class has also begun at the facility. Six students have successfully passed their certification and graduated from Hospitality International training. Treatment groups being offered are; the Parenting Group, Seeking Safety, Thinking for a Change, Independent Living Skills, Aggression Replacement Training, Substance Abuse, Positive Skills Development and Sex Offender therapy.

In Youth Parole, successful recruitment for youth parole counselors is getting better and quicker. Caseloads are becoming more manageable with community caseloads statewide

are under 300. Parole officers have the ability for more individualized case management, with youth able to transition more quickly and appropriately. Numbers are being further reduced by the use of Civil Confessions of Judgments for those who owe restitution as part of their parole requirements. There are 175 active parole cases out of Las Vegas, 61 out of Reno and 58 from the other rural communities.

Chair Report – Kirby Burgess

Commission Chairman Burgess has been attending in person and by phone many of the Juvenile Justice Sub-committee meetings. He is very pleased with the progress being made in them. In addition to these he has also been attending many of the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiatives (JDAI) meetings in Clark County where he has been able to distribute the DMC brochures. Efforts will be made to get to the Washoe County JDAI meetings in the near future as well as having a sit down discussion with Governor Sandoval during his visit to Las Vegas. Commissioner Hambrick will be joining the two of them in reviewing the role of the Juvenile Justice Commission in assisting the youth of Nevada.

Adjourn

Commissioner Coppa moved that the Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission meeting be adjourned, to be reconvened on Thursday September 21, 2014 at 9:00 am. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lozano. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

August 21st, 2014 Call to Order

This meeting was called to order on August 21st, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess

Roll Call – Pauline Salla

Members Present: Kirby Burgess, Frank Cervantes, Dan Coppa, Elizabeth Florez, John Hambrick, Lisa Morris Hibbler, Dawn Lozano, John Martin, Steve McBride, Ivet Santiago, Paula Smith, Honorable Kimberly Wanker, Lonnie Wright

Members Present by Phone: Danny Gonzales, David Humke, David LaBay, M.J. Taibo-Vega

Members Excused: Niah Anson, Michael Beam, Amber Howell, Noah Jennings, Raymond McKay, Miguel Rodriguez, Fernando Serrano, Scott Shick, Honorable Egan Walker

Staff Present: Pauline Salla, Alice Mueller

Public Present: Steve Calabrese, Pam Coppa, James L. Dold, Richard Gloeckner, Deisy Hernandez, Alina Kilpatrick, Russell Klein, Vanessa Spinazola, Greg Thornton

Public Present by Phone: Ali Banister, Ben Bianchi

Presentation from James L. Dold, J.D. – Advocacy Director – Campaign for the Fair Sentencing of Youth

James Dold previously worked on the Polaris project and then for the National Organization for the Fair Sentencing of Youth. He is a University of Nevada at Las Vegas (UNLV) graduate and earned his Law Degree at the University of Maryland. Commissioner Hambrick invited him to come and speak with the Commission about ending juvenile life without parole sentences. This might be more appropriately titled, the support of age appropriate sentencing for youth. Their premise is that our society treats youth differently in every aspect; criminal law should be no different.

He began by pointing out that although other countries may have life sentences for youth on their books, the United States is the only one that actually carries out these sentences. Article 37 in the Convention on the Rights of the Child, specifically prohibits the use of the death penalty and life without the possibility of parole sentences for children. Only three countries,

Somalia, South Sudan and the United States have yet to ratify this. There are currently 2,500 juveniles serving life without parole in the United States. Over 400 of these individuals were convicted before reaching the age of 15. Only 25% are serving for felony murder, with many of them actually being first time offenders. African American youth make up 60% of those serving life without parole. They are sentenced at a rate 10 times that of white youths.

He pointed out many problems with this situation. One of these is costs, which is estimated at about 2.5 million per youth over the course of their life. It may take up to 6.2 billion dollars to house these youth with costs increasing as they age. Costs aside, these sentences are affecting the most vulnerable in society. Most of them have been involved or viewed domestic and neighborhood violence with 50% having been physically abused themselves. Many of them are in public housing, between homes, or homeless. Case histories of youth were discussed along with the concept that youth are in fact fundamentally different mentally. Brain studies were brought up illustrating diminished culpability for those under the age of 25.

Important court decisions were discussed including *Roper v. Simmons* (2005) where the U.S. Supreme Court found the juvenile death penalty unconstitutional and *Graham v. Florida* (2010) where they found it unconstitutional to sentence youth to life without parole for non-homicide crimes. Several other state cases were also considered. Many states are now modifying their statutes to include opportunities to obtain parole hearings after set periods of time. In *Miller v. Alabama* the Supreme Court determined that it was unconstitutional to mandatorily sentence youth to life without parole for homicide crimes. Many states now require the sentencer to make note that they have taken into account how children are different when pronouncing the sentences. The question now would appear to be is if *Miller* applies retroactively. The courts who have adopted some of these changes stress that just because the youth have a parole hearing does not mean they will automatically be released.

Nevada does have life without parole on the books and there are currently 15 individuals serving life without parole in the state. The oldest juvenile serving life without parole is in Pennsylvania. He committed his crime when he was 16 and is currently in his 80s. Generally it is believed that youth sentenced under the age of 18 have a good chance of being rehabilitated. Commissioner Lozano mentioned that older youth who may be a bit immature could be certified down at their hearings. Both Commissioners Wanker and Lozano felt that attorneys should be required to be certified if they were going to defend juveniles. Commissioner Coppa agreed and added that certification should also apply to the prosecution as well.

Aside from the brain development matters, other important issues were also brought up. A study in which 15 year old black youth were compared to 21 year old white youth found that the black youth was perceived as being older. This perception of greater maturity was noted 9 out of 10 times. The impact on judges by secondary trauma from hearing terrible cases over and over again also has bearing on their impartiality. Finally, Commissioner Martin brought up the profitability of continuing ways of viewing predatory youth, which can keep budgets up. Concepts such as super-predators and once a criminal always a criminal, need to be addressed, both with the public and in the legislature.

Presentation and Approval of Federal Fiscal Year 2014 OJJDP Title II Formula Grant Sub-Grantee Awards – Dawn Lozano

Specialist Salla reviewed some changes which have occurred with the new 2014 Formula Grant. Although the \$400,000.00 base amount had been applied for, the award letter has yet to be received, so this amount could still change. From this base, \$20,000.00 is set aside for the Commission's use, leaving \$380,000.00. This amount was further reduced by 5% due to the governor submitting an assurance for PREA compliance. This reduction of \$6,333.00 is added

to a bonus award of \$1,531.00, resulting in a total of \$7,864.00 to be used in helping Nevada become PREA compliant. A new application detailing how it was to be utilized was required. Since there are 194 standards with their associated subsets, obtaining compliance may take a while.

In addition to these changes, it was also noted that Chairman Burgess and Specialist Salla had discussed a new Grant Review Committee Chairman, prior to the Grant Review Committee. Commissioner Dawn Lozano, who had worked extensively with the previous Chairman, Leon Franklin, was chosen for the chair position. She was notified of this appointment at the Grant Review meeting on July 3, 2014. The award letters sent out to the jurisdictions will also reflect the recent grant name change in honor of past Chairman Leon Franklin.

Chairman Dawn Lozano then went through the grant submissions explaining that there was a \$57,190.00 shortfall and all submitting jurisdictions had been asked to trim back on their requests. The FFY 14 Formula Grant Application table shows the original requests and the final amounts agreed upon by the Grant Review Committee. Before putting this to the vote, each of the six sub-grantees were discussed briefly by Chairman Lozano. She also explained the procedure for voting on grants, where members of the commission may have to abstain on record for particular sub-grantee applications. Each applicant would be voted on separately with abstentions noted at the time of the vote. Douglas County Juvenile Probation's application was also discussed. It was explained that their application was not in compliance with the mandates from OJJDP. Therefore it was found to be not allowed under the guidelines and so was not considered.

Carson City Juvenile Probation Department with the Forward Thinking Interactive Journaling Series had requested \$17,600.00 but been recommended for \$12,600.00. Commissioner Lozano moved to approve with a second from Commissioner Cervantes. There were no abstentions. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Clark County Department of Juvenile Justice both the Motivational Enhancement Therapy/ Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Five (MET/CBT5), requested \$68,588.27, and was recommended for \$66,000.00 and the Substance Abuse Assessment and Referral Program, requested \$92,411.73, and recommended for \$82,412.00 were voted on together. Commissioner Lozano moved to approve with a second by Commissioner Santiago. The motion was passed by the Commission with Commissioner Martin abstaining.

The Fifth Judicial District Girls Group had requested an amount of \$5,402.00 and was recommended for the amount of \$3,042.00. Commissioner Lozano moved to approve with a second by Commissioner Wright. The motion was passed by the Commission with Commissioner Wanker abstaining.

The Sixth Judicial District Youth and Family Services, Evening Reporting Center had requested \$9,600.00 and been recommended for \$7,358.00. Commissioner Lozano moved to approve with a second by Commissioner Hibbler. The motion was passed by the Commission.

The Washoe County Department of Juvenile Services, Mental Health Services Coordination Program had requested \$68,588.00 and was recommended for \$58,588.00. Commissioner Lozano moved to approve with a second from Commissioner Hambrick. Both Commissioners Cervantes and Florez abstained. Commissioner Coppa made a disclosure that he presently serves on this Juvenile Services Committee but does not receive any direct or indirect benefit through that service. He voted on this motion.

Planning and Development Committee – Dan Coppa

Three brief items were mentioned before getting down to weightier matters. The first was the review, approval and submission to OJJDP of the FFY 2014 Three Year Plan, on time and prior to the deadline on June 2, 2014. Next the newest SB107 form was discussed. There has been a decrease in youth room confinement from June to July, perhaps due to the form bringing attention to the practice. It was mentioned that perhaps in the future, analysis would be done and the data used to determine policies within a facility. In reviewing the two Medicaid Room and Board summaries, it was pointed out that as long as money was carried forward, the appropriate yearly summaries would continue to be compiled. The summaries for a particular year will cease when all the money has been allocated and expended.

While in Washington D.C. this summer, Commissioner Coppa attended the Compliance Monitor Conference and became acquainted with an item that had been wrestled with involving the Jail Removal and Separation portion of the Core Requirements. This question was originally looked at by the United States Supreme Court in the 1980s, who examined what it means to be detained. While easily determined for an adult, a youth's state of mind of whether they consider themselves free to leave from a non-secure environment is another matter entirely. Administrator Listenbee will be setting up conference calls and discussing the implications with Specialist Salla and those commissioners who choose to call in. Questions were solicited on this topic, to be sent to either Commissioner Coppa or Chairman Burgess.

Specialist Salla then spoke on the concerns that the other specialists had about this new interpretation. There has been considerable work done with law enforcement to ensure that youth are now being held in non-secure areas that keep them from being placed in adult lockups or jails. Different areas have been created and technical assistance training given that may soon be void. There is a real possibility that the amount of compliance monitoring will double along with reports, data collection and travel. Law enforcement agencies which had not been reporting, because they were non-secure, will now have to do monthly reports. The specialists came up with a 26 page summary of questions concerning this topic. The members of the commission will be notified when the conference call will be and were requested to present a united front.

Report from Minority/Gender Committee – Jack Martin and Dr. Lisa Morris Hibbler

Changes made to this committee's meeting time has helped to increase attendance and allowed them to achieve quorum more often. This is very important as the law enforcement in Nevada is still far from being a color blind system. There is disparate treatment at 8 out of 9 points of contact with the system. For every white child arrested, there are 5.36 black children arrested. When detention centers and lock-ups are examined, there are still too many children of color in them. The Clark County School district has also been providing data and a similar disproportionality exists in youth who are expelled, suspended or experience other forms of formal discipline.

One of the things that has been suggested, and worked towards is an Assessment Center for Clark County. This would be a center where law enforcement, parents, teachers and community advocates could drop off or bring youth and their families to be immediately referred to services. An attempt would be made to shorten the gap between initial law enforcement contact and receiving meaningful services. Part of this would also be by educating the metropolitan police department on strategies in working with youth who are not exactly criminals, but not exactly not criminals. Usually, there are significant resource issues in their homes. Another possibility would be reengagement centers located at the schools. These would specialize in credit retrieval and providing resources for the youth through the school districts.

In referencing research similar to that spoken of by Mr. Dold. Howard Gardner, professor of Education and Psychology from Harvard had research which was discussed. One of his studies showed youth of different ethnicities with their possible ages noted by the viewers. African American youth were perceived as six years older than they actually were. When confronted by law enforcement, officers need to ask the individual's age. Their response can then be age appropriate to the youth. In another study youth were compared with animals. Feelings about the animals were then determined and possible innate fears transferred to similar youth, considered. This is one of the ways of helping people see the need for cultural sensitivity training and illustrating implicit prejudice.

In summary, the way in which each person and each facility contributes to the overall disproportionate minority contact in the system needs to be studied. Whether it's the school district's zero tolerance policies or law enforcement and the courts, efforts must be made to educate so that the numbers will begin to go down.

Update on Nevada Supreme Court Commission on Juvenile Justice Reform – Scott Shick, John Hambrick, Frank Cervantes, John Martin, Steve McBride

Commissioner Shick had to return to Gardnerville and so the other members familiar with this update were requested to give feedback. Commissioner Martin began the discussion by requesting to know if the commissioners should be returning to their various venues with information about what had transpired at the Quarterly Full Juvenile Justice Commission meetings. Specifically, he noted that Chairman Burgess as co-chair of the regionalization subcommittee should perhaps be bringing information from this committee, back to that subcommittee. Is there in fact expectation that there would be crossover between the various committees the commissioners are members of?

The Juvenile Justice Commission is an advisory committee and as such they may write a position paper or provide opinions on recommendations. What the commissioners cannot do is lobby because the federal funding prohibits such activities. There is a clear line between providing fact, data and evidence which illustrates best practices and lobbying. Lobbying often involves meeting separately with a senator or assemblyman and working for support of a bill or legislation. If addressing the legislature, they must be very clear when they are speaking as individuals as opposed to members of the Commission. This should ideally be stated for the record before and after the presentation.

Commissioner Martin then clarified that he was hoping that what was gained at the Juvenile Justice Commission meetings might be used to aid the commissioners other committees or subcommittees. Specialist Salla assured him that was appropriate. Chairman Burgess reiterated that he and Commissioner Hambrick would be meeting with the governor. He requested that if the commissioners had things they would like to have discussed, to forward those on to the two of them.

An organization chart was discussed which could show the various committees that deal with juvenile justice concerns. Many of the commissioners are on multiple committees and such a chart could assist with communications. There was concern that bills move so quickly, they need to be accurately tracked. Specialist Salla had just completed such a chart and offered it to the Commission. Once distributed, any corrections would be appreciated and updates made. There is also a summary from the last session detailing what passed or died that would also be available. Once the legislative session begins, commissioners will receive weekly updates on bills or bill draft requests (BDR) that may affect youth within the system. Commissioner Morris Hibbler pointed out that by the time a BDR comes out, the discussion has already happened. She wanted to make sure that resources were not wasted and that everyone is moving in the same direction.

Referencing Commissioner Martin's question, Commissioner Cervantes mentioned there were several different groups and committees focusing on the same topics and same Nevada regulations. He had sent a definition of this committee's role and purpose to the court clerk of the Supreme Court. Specialist Salla stated that this commission had the ability to take their decisions and recommendations out to anybody, because it is a state advisory group.

During the session, there will be many impromptu meetings to discuss bills in various stages. Emails will be sent out sometimes days, other times only hours before these meetings. Minor changes which occur in one meeting can change the whole outcome of a proposed bill. The commissioners must become involved, take positions, share with other groups and try to make sure that things are aligned to their positions. To speak, telephone and distribute information while eliminating redundancy would be most helpful.

Assembly Woman Irene Bustamante has been tasked with making recommendations to the Assembly on which commissions were viable and which perhaps were not. She would be a good resource in determining what committees exist and their purposes. Specialist Salla suggested putting together a list of the groups along with their focuses, which would also note any overlaps. That way everyone could be aware of all the groups and task forces along with many of the people who are on the committees.

Chairman Burgess recommended that once the Commission's direction has been determined, they can join many of the other groups and give testimony. He suggested an agenized conference call before the November meeting. It is important to talk about issues and where emphasis should be place. He recalled his stint with the Nevada Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators (NAJJA) which at the time had been fragmented. Once they came together, they were able to obtain funding and programs for youth. More important than that, they began to be perceived as resident experts by the Nevada Legislature.

New Business – Chairman Kirby Burgess

At the next Quarterly Full Juvenile Justice Commission Meeting, the Nevada Youth Parole Bureau will submit a mini grant request for a tattoo removal program for the youth parole kids who have made a commitment to leave their gangs. Commissioner Lozano praised such action as helping these youth to succeed in obtaining employment and continuing in school.

Commissioner Hambrick suggested a motion to purchase 20, \$7.95 thermometers for those youth graduating and becoming certified in the food science programs. As new business was not listed as being possible for action, the motion could not be made. Commissioner Lozano volunteered her law firm to purchase the thermometers. Her offer was graciously accepted by Chairman Burgess.

Comments from the Public-

Alina Kilpatrick the Deputy Public Defender from Elko County Public Defender's Office requested to speak. She thanked everyone for coming to Elko for this meeting and was sorry not to see more Elko citizens here. It was noted that the opinions she expressed are not those of the Elko County Public Defenders. She wished to have the Commission consider three issues. The first one was with girls in the juvenile justice system. Although there are many programs available for boys, there is only one for girls. She felt that girls needed something more than the one size fits all program that was available for them. The second was she wished to know statistically how long youth wait for placement once they have been adjudicated. She said that in her experience some waited months and months, which she felt was a bit extreme. The third item involved the definition of room confinement. She had reviewed the SB107 sheets and felt that they did not accurately reflect the various 24 hour lock

downs that she was familiar with in Elko. This includes time for youth sanctioned to drug court and time spent in room confinement after booking, including the booking process. She felt that the report did not accurately reflect these confinement periods.

Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting: TBA

The next meeting will be held in Las Vegas on Thursday November 13th, 2014.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Humke. The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.