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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
May 22, 2014**

May 22, 2014 Call to Order

This meeting was called to order on May 22, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess.

Roll Call – Pauline Salla

Members Present: Michael Beam, Kirby Burgess, Frank Cervantes, Dan Coppa, John Hambrick, David Humke, Dawn Lozano, Steve McBride, Ivet Santiago, Fernando Serrano, Scott Shick, Honorable Egan Walker, Lonnie Wright.

Members Present by Phone: Liz Florez, Danny Gonzales, Honorable Kimberly Wanker

Members Absent: Niah Anson, Amber Howell, Lisa Morris Hibbler, Noah Jennings, John Martin, Raymond McKay, Paula Smith, MariaJose Taibo,

Staff Present: Ross Armstrong (Deputy Attorney General), Pauline Salla, J. Alice Mueller

Public Present: Vanessa Spinazola - ACLU of Nevada, Ali Banister, Ben Bianchi, Steve Calebrese, Carla Salla and Regan Thomas with M + R Strategic Services.

Public Comment and Discussion

New Chairman Burgess started off by thanking the commissioners for selecting him to be the Chairman of the Juvenile Justice Commission. He thanked previous Chairman Hambrick for his guidance and leadership over the past four years and requested the commission give him a round of applause. After roll call, both Lawrence Howell and Susan Roske gave presentations.

Red Rock Academy Update – Lawrence Howell

Lawrence Howell gave a brief presentation about the Red Rock Academy at Summit View. It has a historic past and was initially opened in 2000, closed twice and then again reopening the summer of 2013. The Academy is being operated by Rite of Passage (ROP), who has over 30 years of experience working with youth in Nevada. They operate numerous facilities, from a pregnant teen center in El Centro, California to a homeless shelter for youth in Phoenix Arizona.

Both the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) and ROP are committed to Phase 1 and 2 of getting Red Rock Academy up and running. There has been extensive remodeling and upgrades on the campus. Work began July 7, 2013 with youth arriving the early part of December of that same year.

Initially there were 49 admissions, all from Nevada. Of these, there have been Thirteen exits; nine from Clark County, two from Washoe County and one from Lyon County. The reason they could exit so rapidly was because they were already in the system. This was more like a finishing period for them.

Clark County School District has become an important partner and resource. With the assistance of Dr. Robert Henry, they have provided structure, curriculum and educational staff. Hospitality International, another partner, is about to begin a summer vocational program in culinary arts. Several youth have been able to pass proficiency tests and obtain high school diplomas, although work still needs to be done on the vocational programs. Two youth have gone on job interview and both were hired.

There were 377 family members who came and visited along with 200 non-family visitors. Twenty of the non-family visitors were principals from the Clark County School District. There has been 100% parent participation either with actual visits or through video conferences. The Academy is a very busy place on Saturdays and Sundays.

Staffing ratios are about 1-5 during the day and 1-10 in the night. A competitive benefit package with health insurance and retirement is being provided so finding qualified staff has not been a problem. Even difficult to fill positions often have multiple applicants to choose from. There have only been six staff turnovers since opening, with two of these in direct care. Any who wish to work or volunteer at Red Rock Academy must pass a background check which can take several weeks. There is a state approved steering committee which met for the first time on April 29. This is a highly diverse group representing north, south and the rurals.

So far, the greatest need is for mental health services. Many local facilities are not willing to work with the youth, so more on-site mental health services are being worked on.

Following the meeting, there was a 30 minute tour of the Red Rock Academy.

Request for Funding for Public Defender Training – Susan Roske

Susan Roske is with the Clark County Defender's Office and Co-Chair of the Western Juvenile Defender Center. They have set up a curriculum called the Juvenile Training and Immersion Program which will have a conference at the Boyd School of Law in Las Vegas, Nevada. This training is to enhance effective juvenile delinquency representation. It is anticipated that participants will come from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and Nevada. Those who attend will receive 8 Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credits and 1 credit in Ethics.

What have been requested are two \$350.00 stipends (to cover \$250.00 in transportation and \$100.00 for one night in a contracted hotel nearby) for two attorneys who have expressed interest in attending. The first is from the Washoe Public Defender's Office and the other from the Washoe Alternate Public Defender's Office. They both specialize in working with juvenile delinquents.

Commissioner Walker noted that one of the most important and effective voices to hear from in court, is an advocate for children. He felt that this kind of training was critical to that process. Commissioner Coppa then pointed out that back in 2010 the commission provided for a resolution regarding the education of attorneys as well as those on the prosecution and defense

side. In quoting a portion of the preamble he stated, "The Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission recognizes competent legal representation as critical for a fair system of juvenile justice in Nevada." Commissioner Humke felt that this type of training was kind of like a diamond in the rough and a very good value for the price. He also asked if the training would be available in Northern Nevada. Ms. Roske indicated that she would love to make it available to the rural communities.

Following a brief discussion, Commissioner Coppa moved to approve two \$350.00 scholarships for a total of \$700.00 which would be made available from the Juvenile Justice Commission Funding Gratuity. One for the Washoe County Defender's Office and the other for the Washoe County Alternate Public Defenders Program, to attend the Western Juvenile Defender Center Training at the Boyd School of Law in Las Vegas, Nevada in June 2014. Commissioner Walker seconded the motion which was then passed by the Commission.

Approval of Minutes from February 20, 2014 Meeting

Commissioner Lozano made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2014 meeting, with a second from Commissioner Hambrick. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Treasurer's Report – Dawn Lozano and Pauline Salla

The Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2012 Grant has just been closed with the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) and spending has begun on the FFY 2013 Grant which ends on June 30th, 2014. There are still two years to work with the newest one, as grants run in three year cycles. The commissioner's travel for this meeting along with the \$700.00 approved for the scholarships will come from the FFY 2013 Grant.

Category 20, which was previously referred to as the Community Corrections Partnership Block Grant and now is called the Medicaid Room and Board, comes from the State General Fund and is distributed to the counties based on student population. These populations and therefore the funding amounts, usually remain the same. The counties can ask for these funds either in full at the beginning, or by halves or quarters. Most have requested their entire amount with just four wanting to receive them quarterly. The current period ends on June 30th with the new award being available on July 1st, 2014.

Commissioner Walker wished to know if these were use it or lose it funds. Specialist Salla explained that since they were from the State General Fund and not a block grant, the counties could apply for an extension of the funds. Once obligated, they are required to have a plan on how it will be spent and must continue to report on the mandatory measures. It then continues to be reported separately in the fiscal year where it originated.

The FFY 2011 Formula Grant has been spent out and has been closed. An extension had been requested last year because \$18,000.00 was set aside for Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) activities. Now that there is a technical assistance provider working with the commission on these activities, the funds are considered obligated. With the FFY 2012 Formula Grant, all the sub-grantees have been paid with only a portion of the administrative budget category left. This last amount, which covers the Juvenile Specialists travels and compliance issues, should be spent out or obligated by September 30, 2014. The current FFY 2013 Formula Grant ends this June 30, 2014 but will have until 2016 to fully spend it out.

Commissioner Shick expressed his appreciation to Specialist Salla for her diligence and making sure that each jurisdiction has the flexibility to use these funds on a jurisdictional basis for the

right kids, the right reasons and the right times. Commissioner Coppa asked for clarification on the Native American pass thru funds. It was explained that the funds are still received thru the FFY 2013 Formula Grant. The amount received and utilized was \$1,694.00 which was added to about \$14,600.00 and awarded to the Native American Coalition.

Specialist Salla then pointed out a balance of \$5,210.00 which was received after the initial \$400,000.00 award. Rather than expend extra expenses in another Grant Review meeting, it was decided to carry it over and combine it with the new award this year.

Commissioner Humke moved to accept the Treasurers Report with a second by Commissioner Shick. The Treasurer's Report was accepted by the Commission.

Staff Report – Pauline Salla

There has been focus on the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) training. The act was passed in 2003; however the standards were not disseminated until 2012 with the first audit set to occur in August of 2014. The Governor's Certification from each state was due on May 15th, to Erik Holder's office. Governor Sandoval chose to say that we were not in compliance but would take the 5% reduction and work towards compliance. The Governor certifies state facilities, than the Juvenile Justice Programs Office insures compliance with the juvenile detention facilities. There are 194 different standards for juvenile facilities. If one piece of one section of one standard is out of compliance, you are deemed not in compliance. To become fully compliant will take longer than a year.

There is a four hour training called PREA 101 & Then Some, which is done at each of the juvenile detention facilities. The employees involved include teachers, maintenance, direct care, administration, kitchen, medical and mental health workers. The PREA templates covering policies and procedures are in place and being utilized. If the facilities follow and train their staff on these policies and procedures, they will have a solid foundation upon which to become compliant.

Nearly all of the Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) staff have been trained as have Elko County Juvenile Detention and Leighton Hall staff. Red Rock Academy has had two days of training in order to cover the 24 hour nature of the facility. Caliente Youth Center (CYC) is scheduled for next month and Churchill County will receive training in August. Those who miss the training will be able to take it at a neighboring facility. Staff training is very important in that it addresses cultural change such as with the LGBTQI communities.

Commissioner Hambrick was concerned about how perpetrators would be handled. Specialist Salla explained that the law enforcement investigating a PREA allegation will have specific training. If it appears to be criminal in nature the law enforcement investigators will forward it onto the District Attorney's office for prosecution. The facility does not decide since law enforcement does the report. In this way staff perpetrators will not be able to go from facility to facility. Youth who do inappropriate behavior will get assistance from medical and mental health teams.

Commissioner Humke asked for clarification about compliance. Commissioner McBride explained that the Governor certifies all state facilities, both juvenile and adult. Specialist Salla is the statewide PREA coordinator thru OJJDP with all the counties and state facilities reporting their data to her. Any juvenile facility that receives federal and state money needs to be PREA compliant. The state cannot put a youth in a facility that is not working towards or is in compliance with PREA.

There was some discussion about the unfunded portion of PREA. The Juvenile Justice Office is assisting all they can with training, posters and printouts. The greatest expense at this point seems to be camera systems which need to be placed in PREA hotspots.

Like the federal compliance with the Core Requirements of Sight and Sound, Deinstitutionalization of Status Offenders (DSO), and Jail Removal, 100% of the facilities must be audited every three years. There are three state youth facilities, Red Rock Academy, CYC and NYTC. The first will be done by August of 2014, the second in 2015 and the third in 2016.

Lawrence Howell pointed out that with few guidelines in use nationally for juvenile facilities, many back east were looking at the PREA's standards as a way to establish a grading system. He cautioned that this wasn't what it was designed for but that at some point it may be used in this fashion. Commissioner Lozano asked if there are any clearly non-compliant areas. Specialist Salla felt that the two areas of concern were lack of cameras and education of youth.

When PREA first started, it was felt that a brochure would suffice. It now is apparent that the youth need to be educated not only when they arrive, but also after they have become more established at a facility. A grant has been applied for which would allow further education at five or six weeks. This would cover instruction about appropriate boundaries, adolescent sexual development, brain changes and how this all effects making impulse decisions. Both Commissioner Shick and Specialist Salla expressed the belief that PREA may be difficult but it is the best thing for youth.

The Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) has been eliminated. Initially it looked like there would be additional funding provided in the Formula Grant to help cover the loss of JABG along with the unfunded mandates of PREA. However, all the specialists were told to apply for the \$400,000.00 baseline amount. The elimination of JABG will injure the counties and the state. Not only Washoe and Clark Counties will be hurt, but also the rurals who move their portion of the grant between them. Funds for statewide training of probation departments, local units of government, counties and private non-profit groups came from this grant. This was how Shield of Care, a suicide prevention training was financed, along with Thinking for a Change and the Forward Thinking program.

The Formula Grant application which usually comes out March 31^s, was not received until the beginning of May and is to be submitted by June 2nd. The counties requests for proposals (RFP) will be sent out earlier so that they can start working on them. To offset some of the funds loss from JABG and to assist in covering unfunded mandates, a new PREA grant application has been tendered.

Commissioner Humke moved to accept the Staff report with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The Staff report was accepted by the Commission.

Chair Report – Kirby Burgess

New Juvenile Justice Commission Chairman Kirby Burgess thanked everyone for giving him this opportunity. He wished to continue the legacy of Commissioner Hambrick who was in a unique position to pay close attention to policy issues. These issues such as PREA and DMC will be important, as will the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI). Partnerships with the Nevada Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators (NAJJA), the District Attorney's (DA) groups and the Supreme Court will also remain. The commission will continue to take advantage of Commissioner Hambricks advocacy on the Nevada Legislature. There will be plenty of work to do, and he was grateful for the opportunity to guide it.

Commissioner Humke made a motion to accept the Chair's report with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The Commission voted to accept his report.

DCFS Update – Steve McBride

The next biennial budget is in the process of being developed so that it will be ready for the February legislative session. Among the many things discussed at the last quarterly meeting was ramping up statewide training. One of the first of these was at CYC and involved staff from NYTC, CYC and Parole who participated in Performance based Standards training. This is a continuous quality improvement program where facility improvement plans along with data collection and analysis, seek to improve outcomes. The facilitators, from South Carolina and Washington D.C, were first taken to Caliente and then by road to NYTC. In addition to training staff, they were able to assess the facilities and become familiar with the rural aspects of Nevada.

The first data pull for this program has just been accomplished with successive pulls scheduled for April and October of each year. These pulls assess different facets of the data from visitations, to youth incidents and room confinement. Once the data is analyzed, there will be feedback on custodial improvement plans which should continue to move the curve in the right direction on such topics as reducing youth confinement. This has been labor intensive, requiring a lot of staff resources. At the next quarterly meeting there will be an update on both feedbacks and the changes being implemented.

Overall the institutional census has been trending down. The total for all three facilities is 197 youth as of May 21, 2014. CYC has 107 youth with 37 females and 70 males. Although the 40 beds available for females are almost full, the male count has decreased. NYTC has 60 beds available with 56 male youth in residence. There are 34 male youth at Red Rock. A contract with the Cornerstone program in Post Texas, for three beds in correctional placement, has been renewed for an additional two years. Part of the reason for this renewal is the availability of secure female beds, since there are none in Nevada. This provides both a safety net and a potential optional placement for youth that may not fit the other three available facilities. There is currently one youth in this program.

At NYTC, vacancies are consistently running about 20-25% due to a difficult housing market in Elko. Of the 56 youth there, 19 are from Clark County, 20 from Washoe County and the remaining 17 from the rural counties. At Red Rock Academy, 33 of the 34 youth are from Clark County with the remaining youth from Washoe County. The decision on where to send a youth is based more on assessments of where they would best be served, rather than strict regionalization. In making these assessments, risks and needs, the committed offenses, area of the state where they were committed, aftercare transition plans and any special court orders are all taken into consideration. If a youth is struggling, reviews and other placement may be determined. The 19 Clark County youth who are at NYTC are there because it was determined to be the best placement for them.

Some of the preference for NYTC may be because of their well-established vocational programs. In addition to this, a music program has been started at NYTC modeled after a program called Lead Guitar. Various musical instruments including drums, electric, acoustic, and base guitars are available for groups of around 8 youth who are learning to play them. There has also been an increase to 25-33% of youth passing all their subjects.

At CYC, the vacancy rate is about 10% with issues a bit different from NYTC. Of the 70 males, 51 are from Clark County with nine from Washoe County. For the 37 females, 32 are from Clark County with three from Washoe County, one from Lyon County and one from 6th Judicial.

Commissioner Humke requested to know if there was a difference in cost per bed between CYC and NYTC. Commissioner McBride agreed that there was a difference. Both facilities are over 50 years old and have various capital improvement projects, but the main difference is in their educational programs. At CYC, C.O. Bastian High School provides the educational program whereas NYTC has Independence High School which requires additional staff. Even if the number of beds continues to be reduced, the four core subjects still need to be taught.

Commissioner Wright asked if there was a middle ground between regionalization and individual needs. Commissioner McBride in answering, paraphrased it as can we have everything for everyone under one roof. While that is a goal, there are certain aspects of the physical design that can't be met in a staff secure facility. There are also long standing and very successful vocational programs at both NYTC and CYC which are not yet available at Red Rock Academy.

Commissioner Serrano noted that Red Rock has chosen to grow incrementally into its 50 anticipated beds. Whereas they now have 34 beds when they add the final 16, it would be reasonable to assume those would be filled with youth from Clark County. Commissioner Walker concurred with this and pointed out that Judge Voy has been very vocal about keeping Clark County youth in Clark County. Lawrence Howell noted that it should be based on the youth's history. If a Northern Nevada youth has been stabilized at Red Rock, he may be able to step down to NYTC and take advantage of the vocational programs and its regional location. There should not be a one way street where if you are failing you end up in Red Rock. A youth should go where he needs to go.

Positions are getting filled in Youth Parole, which currently has a 5% vacancy rate. This has allowed progress with supervision and achieving a more timely termination. There have also been bills passed allowing those who have restitution only cases to get approved for some confessions of judgments. This means that they don't have to be retained in parole solely for the purpose of paying back restitution. As a result of these changes, total community supervision is down to 308 from a previous 400-500 youth in the past 3-5 years. Of the 308, 275 were males and 33 females. This has taken a huge chunk out of the active community supervision totals statewide and represents a fairly consistent number when compared to those entering the correctional facilities. The average caseload per parole counselor is down to 30 cases in Las Vegas, 17 in Washoe County and 9 in the rural counties. These caseloads are very manageable, which has given the parole counselors the ability for more individualized work. This in turn helps to progress kids off of parole more quickly.

Commissioner Walker asked if there was an explanation for the reduction in numbers. Commissioner McBride felt that JDAI has made a huge impact in making sure that the right kids end up in the deep end of the system. Front end services allow for youth to be deferred to different channels of the system where commitment may not be required. Sometimes services are repeated under the realization that although a child may not have been ready for them in the past, they may be ready now. The culmination of these factors is causing the reductions, which in turn result in smaller numbers of youth who require supervision in the system.

Commissioner Humke moved to accept the DCFS Update report with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The DCFS Update report was then accepted by the Commission.

Medicaid Room and Board – Pauline Salla

SFY 2014 Medicaid Room and Board is in its third quarter with reports due April 15, 2014. This report did not include Mineral County's updates, as they had not arrived by the time the commissioner's packet was sent out. The report breaks down the number of youth served by county and shows the amounts requested from their awards. This funding allows counties to provide either community based programs or to use it for per diem rates on youth who are placed in Medicaid approved programs.

The total number of youth served was 433 with 165 having prior placements and 64 re-offenses during the reporting period. Substance abuse diagnosis was 44% with 66% having a mental health diagnosis and 37% with co-occurring diagnosis. Co-occurring means they have both substance abuse and a mental health diagnosis. Specialist Salla felt that this last number should be higher than shown. Currently the counties are reporting this number in several different ways. Once there is consistency, it may actually be around 65%. She requested that the counties report all substance and mental health diagnosis and then the co-occurring information will be collected from the data. Commissioner Coppa noted a math error for correction, in the amount requested part of the table. Commissioners Shick and Walker discussed the use of these funds for mental health treatment. Using them at the front end, getting mental health intervention treatment before the youth get deeper in the system, is important and perhaps the best use of the funds. Specialist Salla recommended the rest of the report for review by the commissioners, but mentioned that the funding was being used appropriately and work is being done directly with the counties to make sure that programing is available to meet their individual needs.

Commissioner Humke moved to accept the report with a second by Commissioner Lozano. The Medicaid Room and Board report was accepted by the Commission.

Legislative Update – Scott Shick

Commissioner Shick pointed out the number of commissions and committees being followed by this committee on a monthly basis. One that he wished to draw special attention to was the Standardized Juvenile Justice Data Collection Sub Committee. Everyone has been working very hard on this, and once finalized the link will be sent out electronically. There have been multiple discussions on not only data definitions but also identifying a new statewide juvenile justice data base. The Juvenile Justice Programs Office is the hub for data from every county in addition to the state facilities. The current system developed in the 1990s by Larry Carter has crashed and the files corrupted. The counties continue to report the juvenile crime data but it is not uploaded for fear of data corruption. The National Center of Juvenile Justice, the research division of the National Council of Juvenile Family Court Judges, has been working with the current data base. When the county sends their data, it is forwarded onto them for analysis and graphs.

There have been conversations with Al Carpenter from the Arizona Department of Juvenile Services. John Young, their chief information officer, developed their statewide data base. Arizona has a bifurcated system with the counties operating probation while the state operates youth corrections. He built their system from the ground up, runs, cares for and updates it. This is similar to what Nevada is looking for in their statewide data base. He has received information on Nevada's data elements and a link to the data dictionary. Commissioner Shick will identify team members to go to Arizona to see how their data base works, ask questions

and then discuss possibly contracting Mr. Young to build Nevada's data base. Commissioner Shick stated that it was time to get this off Specialist Salla's desk and come up with the best design along with consistent funding for construction and maintenance of the data base along with creating a jurisdictional interface.

The next topic discussed was the School Attendance and Disturbance Sub Committee. Brigit Duffy has been working on school discipline policies and procedures and has found correlation between expulsions or suspensions and poor delinquency outcomes. Social/emotional cognitive programs appear to be more effective in reducing school violence issues. Zero Tolerance policies seem to actually have a counterintuitive effect, making things worse in a school district. Discretion should be allowed when dealing with school expulsions. Washoe County currently has two statutory enacted School Attendance Review Board (SARB) programs and Judge Voy has been instrumental in developing SARB programs for Clark County. Efforts are being made to modify statutory language to allow for these.

Judges and Juvenile Justice Administrators have gone back and forth on the Adam Walsh Act (AB579). One piece that Susan Roske is working on is to keep juveniles off the public web site although they may still be required to register. There are also other bill drafts vetted for the next Supreme Court Reform Committee meeting which say that a child who is not competent will not face adjudicatory proceedings until it is determined that they are able to understand the consequences of their actions.

Commissioner Humke moved to accept the Policy/Legislation Committee report with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The Policy/Legislation Committee report was accepted by the Commission.

Planning and Development Committee – Dan Coppa

A Compliance Monitor Investigator has been hired to do compliance audits in the southern part of Nevada. The contractor is Karen Williams who was formerly with the Clark County Juvenile Justice Services.

PREA posters will now be available in Spanish and English for use in juvenile facilities. A PREA training curriculum was also developed which addresses agency culture and responsiveness, in addition to medical and mental health training. The VERA Institute reviewed the PREA templates with their suggestions being incorporated by the PREA statewide task force. A Youth Education and Training Initiative (YETI) has been proposed under PREA and the U.S. Department of Justice and Juvenile Justice Programs. This would provide funding for training and education of individuals in state youth correctional facilities as well for correctional staff.

The Three Year Plan, although delayed because OJJDP sent it out late, has been progressing. There are some new requirements in it which must be addressed before it is submitted on June 2, 2014. The Formula Grant Program Areas will include mental health, aftercare and reentry, delinquency prevention, alternatives to detention and substance abuse. These groups will not be divided by percentage of funding.

The first quarter SB107 Room Confinement Report was available for review. Deputy Attorney General Ross Armstrong has assisted in refinements which have made it more accurate and representative of what is occurring across the state. Finally, in 2010 the Juvenile Justice Programs Office had a Civil Rights Audit. The last item needed to close that audit has been completed and letters received attesting to this.

Specialist Salla wished to give a further update on SB107. She is currently working with Vanessa Spinazola from the ACLU to get Joseph Tomassone to provide training on alternatives to room confinement. Dr. Tomassone is the director for the New Jersey Juvenile Services and is considered an expert in Juvenile Justice Reform for room confinement. He would visit some facilities and review our system, then begin discussions about technical assistance with statewide training on alternatives to utilizing room confinement in the facilities. This will be done in the county level and then the state level.

Commissioner Shick asked about the use of discretion in determining confinement times. Specialist Salla pointed out that since data collecting had begun, there have been decreases in the use of room confinement. This focus has allowed people to realize how much and how long it is being utilized. Rather than repeatedly pointing out what can't be done, it may be better to show what can be done as an alternative.

Commissioner Humke made a motion to accept the Planning and Development Committee report with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The report was accepted by the Commission.

Report from Minority/Gender Committee – Pauline Salla

Co-Chair's Jack Martin and Lisa Morris Hibbler were not present so Specialist Salla gave the Minority and Gender Committee report. Work is being done with the National Counsel of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) on the DMC technical assistance. They have taken part on sub-committee calls and are reviewing the 2012-2013 and 2014 Relative Rate Index data for disparate treatment. This is being studied at the county level throughout the state. There will be a three year juvenile crime data comparison which will include the DMC numbers for the new formula grant application portion of the Three Year Plan. They have been working directly with Andrea Coleman who is the DMC coordinator with OJJDP, so that it can be determined exactly what is required to remain in compliance. This will assist with both our plan and statewide assessment for the FFY 2014 Formula Grant. Specialist Salla especially wished to thank Commissioner Walker for directing her towards them.

It was noted that the Minority and Gender sub-committee and DMC statewide taskforce meeting time had been changed to 5:30 pm. This is very positive and has resulted in greater attendance. Many commissioners expressed appreciation for the change.

Finally there has been increased discussion about the School to Prison Pipeline. The timing for this couldn't be better since it is a new requirement in the Formula Three Year Plan. The Co-Chairs have reached out to the Clark County School District about potential strategies for dealing with truancy and referrals among other things. All the Juvenile Justice Commissioners were invited to attend and contribute to these meetings. Commissioner Shick noted that many school officials are very sensitive about the use of this term. They are a lot more cooperative if you avoid the phrase around them. Commissioner Coppa pointed out that Dr. Sickmund, who is helping with the technical assistance, is internationally known for her efforts in this field. She brings an amazing amount of credibility to our work here.

Commissioner Humke moved to accept the Minority and Gender committee's report with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The Minority and Gender committee report was accepted by the Commission.

Nevada Supreme Court Commission– Scott Shick, Frank Cervantes and Pauline Salla

Some of the aspects of the regionalization as opposed to co-location had been touched on

previously at this meeting. Specialist Salla explained that the term co-located as utilized in these discussions means youth who are under the age of 18 and are committed to the state for delinquency and then youth who are certified as an adult but are still under 18. Commissioner Cervantes added that it is about sharing resources such as the kitchen or gym.

While the co-location concept was first considered for Carson City, Nevada, a couple other options have been proposed which involve the China Springs Youth Camp in Minden, Nevada and Red Rock Academy in Las Vegas. Greg Cox and his group have studied the topic of locations for youthful offenders who have been certified to adult status and the delinquent youth population who go into state correctional care. They are looking at ways to move those currently in the adult prison system into a more juvenile type facility until they reach the age of majority and are moved back into the prison system.

Commissioner Shick explained that there are about 12 to 20 youth who are certified as adults in the system now. He understands the regional nature of the question and pointed out that Washoe youth need to be closer to home. He felt that the Carson City location makes a lot of sense fiscally and logistically since there are many resources close by. The Carson City School District has an on-line school and there is a nearby junior college that can provide internships. A trained workforce with development options can assist with staffing the facility.

Commissioner Beam expressed concern that this may mean the closing of NYTC. Originally there were discussions about this and using the resources to have something on the I-80 corridor for the Northern Center while the southern population would use CYC and Red Rock Academy. Commissioner Beam had worked extensively at China Springs and did not feel it was prudent to consider it for co-location. He felt it was too far on the western side of the state and he was not in favor of mixing a staff secured and a facility secured group on the same site.

Commissioner Walker advised the commission to take part in this dialogue as it will determine how youth will be treated in this state for several decades to come. He said that Judge Young shared Commissioner Beam's concerns in that he did not think that a three million dollar face lift at China Springs would be enough to make the facility work. Commissioner McBride explained the concept behind choosing China Springs. Director Willden had felt that spending 20 million on a new facility which may be underutilized was not fiscally prudent. There seems to be a lot of expansion room at Red Rock Academy, which while expensive, would still not be as much as starting from scratch. Short of building a new facility, China Springs is an option.

Commissioner Shick thought that perhaps the speed with which everything was happening had caused some alarm. He did feel that regionalization is important and pointed out the number of family members who were regularly visiting at Red Rock Academy. When parents are present it does make a difference.

Specialist Salla believed that this all became a priority because of PREA. Federal guidelines allow youth who are under 18 but certified as adults to be placed in adult facilities whereas PREA does not. With PREA, if you are under 18 you cannot be placed with anybody over 18.

Commissioner Cervantes said that it would be a crisis to get one girl certified as an adult in the state of Nevada. Commissioner Lozano added that she had represented youth who were certified and nothing was done with them but to keep them in isolation for 23 hours a day. This can be very damaging for anyone, but especially a youth. Commissioner Shick asked if it is possible for a certified youth to be in a classroom with a committed youth. That may or may not

be a good idea. Commissioner Serrano asked about a co-located facility in Washington. He was interested in the day to day operations of how it worked to have a youth who was in for 8 months along with youth who may be in for 30 years.

Commissioner Walker did not suggest that there should be back-tracking on the Missouri Model of regionalization. He did however point out that there was only one study conducted by the Casey Foundation, which supports this as the best model for youth. The committee should be committed to bringing out more research on this topic. Commissioner McBride concurred that this may sum up the general reluctance of DCFS to move forward too rapidly with regionalization. The process needs to be methodical and evaluated every step of the way. To be willing to back up or even take a different path if warranted. Since this will affect the youth of Nevada for decades to come, it should be done right. He did not know that anyone could do it correctly in a hurry. Specialist Salla suggested that the research take into account the many different compliance pieces. How things like blended sentencing, and co-location affect compliance.

Commissioner Florez mentioned for the record, that Victoria Blakeney is a representative from the Department of Education in Nevada. She is pursuing a grant to support the subcommittee's effort to create a pilot program for restorative justice in Nevada.

Commissioner Humke commented on the concentration of mental health services on the front end and felt that it was more important to provide funds for things like truancy. That is where the school to prison pipeline starts. Commissioner Shick agreed that attendance in first and second grade is important. Problems there continue into the middle school. All these, restorative justice, expulsion, and truancy involve ways to keep youth in school without compromising public safety.

Commissioner Shick moved that this report be accepted with a second from Commissioner Cervantes. The report on the Supreme Court Commission was accepted by the Commission.

New Business

Commissioner Cervantes invited everyone to the NAJJA awards dinner on June 4, 2014. This is to be a recognition dinner at 5:30 pm, at Louise Basque Corner in Reno, Nevada.

Comments from the Public-

There were no comments from the public.

Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting: TBA

The next meeting is to be announced, but will be on Wednesday August 20th and Thursday August 21st, 2014.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 p.m.