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STATE OF NEVADA

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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 19, 20, 2015**

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August 19th, 2015 Call to Order

This meeting was called to order on August 19th, 2015 at 1:40 p.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess.

Roll Call – Alice Mueller

Members Present: Kirby Burgess, Dan Coppa, Lisa Morris Hibbler, Honorable David Humke, Dawn Lozano, Fernando Serrano, Paula Smith, Honorable Egan Walker, Honorable Kimberly Wanker, Joe Lee Wickes

Members Present by Phone: Michael Beam, Frank Cervantes, Scott Davis, Elizabeth Florez, Danny Gonzales, David LaBay, John Martin, Steve McBride, MariaJose Taibo-Vega, Lonnie Wright

Members Excused: Niah Anson, John Hambrick, Amber Howell, Noah Jennings, Raymond McKay, Miguel Rodriguez, Ivet Santiago

Staff Present: Ross Armstrong (Deputy Attorney General), Alice Mueller

Public Present: Pam Coppa, James Eason, Joni Eastley, Tom Metscher

Public Present by Phone: Ali Banister, Ben Bianchi, Tami Richardson

Public Comment and Discussion

Chairman Burgess thanked Assistant County Manager Joni Eastley and Judge Wanker for inviting the Juvenile Justice Commission to Tonopah, Nevada. He noted that it was nice to get outside of Clark and Washoe Counties to visit the rest of Nevada. James Eason, Town Manager for Tonopah was then invited to make a presentation.

Silver Rim Elementary School– James Eason

James Eason had agreed to speak to the Juvenile Justice Commission about Silver Rim Elementary School but on the day of the meeting another event had occurred which was more

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pressing on his mind. Since December of 2013, the Community Hospital had been going through bankruptcy. Although the county had been very supportive in formulating a plan to deal with this, just that morning it had been announced that the hospital was going to close, effective Friday. This would affect emergency, inpatient, cardiology, lab and out-patient services. On September 4th, the clinic was scheduled to close.

Mr. Eason introduced himself as a fourth generation native of Tonopah and a fifth generation Nevadan. He is proud of his community and honored to speak to the Juvenile Justice Commission about a way to help Tonopah grow and provide services to Nye County. Silver Rim Elementary closed about six years ago and although currently boarded up, it is a great facility with a gymnasium, cafeteria, multiple classrooms and office space. The entire area is fenced and has a play yard.

Many have thought that this would make a good juvenile justice facility. These discussions have escalated since Mineral County closed the Don Goforth Resource Center. Tom Metscher and Javier Gonzales were both trying to figure out a workable plan but with further budget cuts and Mr. Gonzales' death, things were put on hold.

The school has great potential and a centralized location. Youth from all over Nevada could come and make use of a juvenile justice facility located in Tonopah. It would also provide economic help for the local community. Things are difficult in Rural Nevada and it is wise to review any possible opportunities. He invited the Commissioners to take time and drive up to the school.

Chief Juvenile Probation Officer Tom Metscher provided some clarification on Mr. Eason's presentation. Although the school had been presented as a possible detention site, it was perhaps more appropriate for juvenile justice programming. Such programming would help alleviate gaps in services provided by other areas.

Most of the Commissioner's questions concerned the closing of the hospital. For emergencies, people could be transported either to Las Vegas or Reno. With traffic accidents, it would just be who is closer; Hawthorn, Ely or back to Tonopah for a flight out. That could involve a 2 to 3 hour transport. There is great concern about this closure.

On a happier note, Commissioner Serrano was pleased that this meeting was being held at the William P. Beko Courthouse. This facility has been around for twenty years, but it was the first time he had become aware of it. He was really pleased that his former boss had been so honored and he had fond memories of Judge Becko.

Approval of Minutes from June 18, 2015 Meeting

Clarification was requested on an item from the June 18, 2015 meeting. A program officer to assist the specialist had been projected for 2017. It was noted that this was approved for the Fiscal Year 2017 which actually starts October of 2016. Recruitment should start sometime next summer. Commissioner Walker moved to approve the minutes from June 18, 2015, with a second from Commissioner Lozano. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Treasurer's Report – Dawn Lozano and Pauline Salla

For the Federal Fiscal Year 2013 budget, extended to include Federal Fiscal Year 2014, the remaining balance is \$2,943.68. The Medicaid Room and Board – Specialized Foster Care, previously called the Community Corrections Grant, is doing well and still has \$1,860,283.21 remaining to be distributed. The last quarter reports were due by July 15, 2015 and all appear to be on track. The award letters for the State Fiscal Year 2016 went out the first part of June

2015. Commissioner Coppa moved to accept the Treasurer's report as submitted with a second from Commissioner Serrano. The report was accepted by the Commission.

Staff Report – J. Alice Mueller

With Pauline Salla gone and not yet replaced, Alice Mueller gave a brief Staff Report. She noted that the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) has a new Administrator to replace Amber Howell. Kirsten Coulombe the new Administrator has a background with the Nevada Legislative Counsel Bureau, Medicaid, child welfare and mental health. She began working for DCFS in the middle of August. The Commission accepted the staff report.

Chair Report – Kirby Burgess

Chairman Burgess has been attending many of the Juvenile Justice Commission's subcommittee meetings. He was also able to attend the Effective Police Interactions training which was held in Las Vegas, Nevada the first part of August. Although relevant, this training was perhaps a bit fundamental for Nevada. There will be planning to develop a more relevant curriculum with the Commission playing a part in that process.

Summit View Update – Steve McBride

Work has been going forward on recruitment for the Juvenile Justice Specialist position. The position closed on July 14th, 2015 and a list of candidates was recently received. Interviews have been scheduled for August 26, 2015 with hopes that the rest of the process will go rapidly and a new person can begin as soon as possible.

Pauline Salla has agreed to continue on as a resource during the transition and has been available to answer various questions. There is also work being done on finalizing a contract which will allow her to continue to serve as the Statewide PREA Coordinator. She was fundamental in setting a foundation for PREA and it will be good to be able to continue utilizing her expertise.

The Interim Finance Committee (IFC) received approval this April to fund facility readiness improvements to work towards a reopening of the Summit View Facility this fall. While many things have been accomplished it is not on schedule for the September 1st opening. Between finalizing contracts, working with vendors, and going through recruitment processes, there is a bit of catch up to be done.

Michael Fletcher has just been made the superintendent at Summit View and comes from the Department of Corrections out of Ely State Prison where he was the associate warden. He has a background not only in corrections, but also juvenile justice where he was a child abuse investigator, juvenile counselor, worked in differential response and also worked in direct care services for a couple of foster care agencies and mental health facilities. This represents a nice blend of experience. With this recruitment in place, things should begin moving more rapidly with the remaining 63 positions. Some of the specialized services, such as mental health will be contracted. Currently, there are efforts to get a contract through the Caliente Youth Center but Commissioner Martin noted that Clark County was also looking into contracts for medical services and volunteered to collaborate on this.

Chairman Burgess expressed the importance of remembering that Summit View was a treatment facility for youth, and not a prison. His concern was with the corrections background of the superintendent. All the members of the Commission must recollect that the focus is on juveniles who need treatment with mental health issues and substance abuse among other things. They should always be treated appropriately and not as inmates.

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There is the perception of what is provided and the reality of what is provided. Control only exists over the latter. The Legislature approved the hiring of one correctional lieutenant and five correctional sergeants as an aid to safety and security in the facility. The appearance then is that there is a move towards a correctional treatment program. It is a juvenile focused treatment program where youth can receive treatment and get better while in a mechanically secure facility. With deep end, a need is always present to make sure that the security aspect is met. Efforts have been made to hire and train the right people. Everybody will be watching this unfold but Nevada's investment and participation in evidence based programs such as Performance based Standards should be evident. There have been a number of programs involved which should result in a balanced program.

Chairman Burgess noted that the Commission will keep an eye on all of the changes not only at Summit View, but also in DCFS. More clarification on a mechanically secure facility was requested. They are for youth who fall into the highest level of need and risk. Balance is attempted between treatment, community involvement, reintegration and security. The Commission expressed that they hoped really good programming and aftercare would be available to the youth. Some of the Commissioners expressed a desire to visit the facility when it reopens and were assured that a future meeting will be hosted there and include a tour.

DCFS Update – Steve McBride

Both the Caliente Youth Center (CYC) and the Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) continue to operate at full capacity. There are 140 youth at CYC with 40 females and 100 males. NYTC is two over their allotment, with 62 youth which should drop to 59 following parole release. One youth is still at the Garza Regional Justice Center in Post Texas. Over the past 2 to 3 months, there have been between 5 to 10 youth waiting to be placed in these facilities. So far, the waiting list has not been growing as there have been parole releases, diversion, and mental health care placements. There are currently 309 community supervision cases with 265 males and 44 females. This is the lowest it has been for some years.

NYTC recently received their final PREA audit report. While conducted in December, there was a six month period allotted for transitioning corrective actions. The report was finalized in mid-July when they were found substantially compliant with all standards. The PREA audit report has been placed on the DCFS website, Juvenile Justice Programs Office page. The next PREA audit will take place in two years.

A Centennial celebration was originally scheduled for NYTC on September 15th, 2015. Between the number of facility and capital improvements along with contractor availability, the celebration has been postponed to 2016. It is important to mark this 100 year celebration in the right spirit, and not rush until everything is ready.

The Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) has approved them to have sports programming with the first scheduled football game on September 3rd, 2015. Since this year's schedule had already come out, NYTC needed to schedule their own games. NYTC was invited to play Spring Mountain and there was a lot of enthusiasm expressed for the two teams. There should be a full schedule next year.

CYC has been full for the last six to eight weeks with four girls on the waiting list. It looks like this is going to be a continuing situation so it was strongly felt that the contract with Cornerstone at Post, Texas be renewed. Currently there are only staff secure facilities in Nevada for females and it therefore is an option should something more be needed. CYC is scheduled for

their PREA audit at the end of September but the Commission will be posted about the actual date it will occur.

Steve McBride was thanked for all the work he has done on behalf of the commission. They wished him well on his new job assignment, but reminded him that he was still on the commission. He thanked them in turn, and stated that it had been his pleasure.

Nevada State Standards – John Martin

Commissioners Walker and Martin originally discussed having a Standards committee. Definitions and consensus are needed not only on restraints but other issues of concern. Just having standards without having them committed to the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) or the Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) was seen as perhaps a waste of time. Commissioner Coppa referenced the Commissions Bylaws and noted that there were Standing and Special committees. He thought the formation of a Special committee, which if needed could then become one of the Standard committees might be a good idea. He also noted that there were several ways to do the standards with NAC being a slightly better choice than NRS. Areas of interest such as restraints or hygiene, can be developed and shared with the detention facilities or juvenile probation departments throughout the state. These could be linked to funding as had been done in the past when dealing with the transfer/transportation of youth.

There were extensive discussions about having the counties adapt standards, communication between committees, and concern that some of the standards may already be addressed by existing committees. Commissioner Walker who is on the Supreme Court Commission, committed to present the standard recommendations to that committee. He noted that whatever barriers existed in their adaptations, the purpose of the Juvenile Justice Commission was to provide advice to the Governor about juvenile justice issues. A subcommittee could be active both with the Governor's Office and through the Supreme Court Commission as well as assisting with legislative changes and administrative code changes. He agreed with Commissioner Coppa on linking it to funding. Commissioner Lozano added that if members of the counties were invited to the subcommittee, they would be more likely to adapt the resulting standards. Ross Armstrong cautioned that only members of the Juvenile Justice Commission could be actual members on the subcommittee.

Chairman Burgess agreed with the discussion and appointed a special ad hoc committee to study the issue and bring a progress report to the Quarterly Full Juvenile Justice Commission meeting in November. Commissioner Martin was willing to be the chair of the Special committee providing that Commissioner Walker help out and attend some of the meetings. Commissioner Walker agreed to help and to do some of the footwork. He reiterated the need to develop standards across the state. A number of commissioners agreed to assist with this committee; Dawn Lozano, Michael Beam, Lonnie Wright, David Humke, Lisa Morris Hibbler, and Elizabeth Florez. Ms. Florez will not only serve as a member of the committee but also be a special liaison between it and the Planning and Development committee.

Appointment to the Policy/Legislation Committee – Kirby Burgess

Commissioner Scott Shick had been the chair of the Policy/Legislation committee but his appointment was not renewed by the Governor's Office. Several people had been contacted about serving in this position with Commissioner Walker being requested to take the position. While a co-chair was suggested, he thought a different couple of co-chairs would be more appropriate. He mentioned that a really aggressive team would be best for the next legislative session. After much discussion, Chairman Burgess formally appointed Frank Cervantes and Jo Lee Wickes as the co-chairs for the Policy/Legislation committee. It is understood that there may be occasions where Commissioner Wickes may have a conflict of interest between this

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committee and her primary employment. In that situation, Commissioner Cervantes or Commissioner Lozano can step in.

Comments from the Public-

There were no statements from the public. Chairman Burgess thanked Commissioner Wanker for the chocolate gavels which had been provided to the Commissioners.

The new commissioners, Jo Lee Wickes and Scott Davis were welcomed to the Juvenile Justice Commission. It was noted, that although they had been warned not to leave the room during a meeting, sometimes staying in the room was not enough to keep one from being volunteered.

Commissioner Wanker thanked those of the Commission who had come down to Tonopah. She spoke about some of the activities that had been arranged including a tour of the Belmont Court House. This was the first courthouse for Nye County and had been in use from 1876 to 1905. It has recently undergone some amazing restoration including the replacement of 29 windows and exterior doors. John Campbell would be giving a tour of the Kelly Building, an old foundry in Tonopah.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm.

August 20th, 2015 Call to Order

This meeting was called to order on August 20th, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess.

Roll Call – Alice Mueller

Members Present: Kirby Burgess, Dan Coppa, Lisa Morris Hibbler, Dawn Lozano, Fernando Serrano, Paula Smith, Honorable Egan Walker, Honorable Kimberly Wanker, Joe Lee Wickes

Members Present by Phone: Frank Cervantes, Elizabeth Florez, Danny Gonzales, John Martin, Steve McBride, Lonnie Wright

Members Excused: Niah Anson, Michael Beam, Scott Davis, John Hambrick, Amber Howell, Honorable David Humke, Noah Jennings, David LaBay, Raymond McKay, Miguel Rodriguez, Ivet Santiago, MariaJose Taibo-Vega,

Staff Present: Ross Armstrong (Deputy Attorney General), Alice Mueller

Public Present: Lindsay Christensen, Pam Coppa, Allen Metscher, Tom Metscher, Olivia Vasquez,

Presentation and Approval of Federal Fiscal Year 2015 OJJDP Title II Formula Grants – Dawn Lozano

Several of the Commissioners would be attending a memorial service later on, with their absence perhaps affecting quorum. It was decided to take this agenda item and move it forward to take advantage of the existing quorum at the beginning of the meeting.

At this time, the award letter had not yet been received from OJJDP but an estimate amount for distribution had been provided by Pauline Salla. The amount suggested was \$191,000.00. The requested amounts were \$60,000.00 for the Clark County MET/CBT5 program, \$107,554.00 for the Clark County Substance Abuse Assessment and Referral Program, \$8,934.00 for 5th Judicial District, Girls Group program and \$14,274.00 for the 6th Judicial District, Evening Reporting Center. It was noted that resumes and job descriptions had been requested and provided by the applicants. Before voting, disclosures were requested. Commissioner Wanker abstained from the voting on 5th Judicial District. Commissioner Serrano moved to accept the grant award report with a second from Commissioner Walker. The Commission voted to accept

the report. Chairman Lozano thanked the members of her committee for their work in getting a lot accomplished in a very short period of time.

Public Comment and Discussion

There were no comments from the public at this time, but the members of the public who were present were asked to introduce themselves.

Tonopah in Nevada History – Allen Metscher

Allen Metscher is Tom Metscher's father and co-founder of the Central Valley Historical Society and Central Nevada Museum. Chairman Burgess stated that he felt it was important to understand the history of Nevada and its impact and influence upon people today. Mr. Metscher gave a brief history of himself and his family indicating their ties to mining. This ultimately resulted in a lifelong love of history and encouraged his family to begin restoration projects such as the old miner's cemetery and the formation of the Central Nevada Historical Society. Eventually with a grant from the Fleishman Foundation, they were able to get the museum up and running. He recommended visiting the museum fairly soon, as county budget cuts may result in its closure.

Tonopah was originally called Sawtooth Ridge because of the local mountain's appearances. Although gold was the main mineral in Goldfield, silver was the main mineral located in Tonopah. Jim Butler is credited with the first finds, but the Shoshone/Paiute Indians were perhaps already aware of its occurrence, and the actual area may have been previously staked, although perhaps had not had the claims recorded. Along with the claims came stamp mills with railroads soon following after. Central Nevada became a hub of transportation with a trip from Tonopah to San Francisco costing a mere twenty dollars. With silver then valued at a little less than a dollar, Tonopah produced approximately 130 million dollars of recorded ore. Goldfield, 26 miles south produced 92 million dollars of gold when gold was \$20.67 an ounce. It is suspected that much more of that was unaccounted for due to the practice of highgrading, that is, it was smuggled out by the miners. Both towns were incredibly rich with hotels and five story buildings. When things slowed down in Belmont, it was natural to move the county seat and courthouse to Tonopah. The peak populations for the towns were about 11,000 for Tonopah and 20,000 for Goldfield. There were also colorful characters such as Wyatt Earp who made their homes here. By 1910 to 1930 the mining boom was over.

With the start of World War II, thanks to Pat McCarran, the army aircorp was located in Tonopah. As the ore shipments had phased out, the trains began hauling troops, construction materials and fuel for the airplanes. Over 6,000 men and women were stationed here. The base had P-39 Airacobras and later B-34 Liberators. One of the projects from the museum was to locate the names of 130 flyers who were killed during training exercises and have a monument constructed in their honor. Many families still travel to see this and to review the documents and archives on display. After World War II ended, the 866 radar squadron was located in Tonopah with about 200 servicemen. As with many other companies, they came, brought boom times for a while and then left. Howard Hughes, Barbara Graham, and Chuck Yeager are among many other notables who can be traced to Tonopah. Many achieved great success in both politics and business once they left.

Chairman Burgess thanked Mr. Metscher for his condensed history of Tonopah. He noted that it was obvious where his son Tom had gotten his gift for serving others. At this time those who were to attend the memorial services left and it was pointed out that Commissioner Martin had joined the meeting by phone. The succeeding reports were to be accepted as there would be no voting required.

Planning and Development Committee – Dan Coppa

At the June 18, 2015 Quarterly Full Juvenile Justice Commission meeting, MariaJose Tiabo-Vega was appointed to the Planning and Development Committee. Commissioner Coppa thanked Chairman Burgess for the appointment.

The Three Year Plan along with the Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) portion of the plan, was approved by the Planning and Development committee and submitted on time to OJJDP. There has yet to be word on its acceptance.

A programmatic audit of the Formula II grant and the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant (JABG) was conducted on selected facilities. Carson City Juvenile Probation and Douglas County Juvenile Probation were reviewed for the formula portion while Churchill County Juvenile Probation and Washoe County Juvenile Probation were reviewed for both Formula II and JABG. The Juvenile Programs Office was also audited. OJJDP disclosed that there were no findings from these audits. Those involved should be commended for their efforts.

President elect of the Nevada State Bar, Larry Digesti, has been contacted and provided with material regarding legal education and training on juvenile justice matters. This has resulted in a lot of interest being generated about the endeavor. Both Commissioner Smith and Alice Mueller were thanked for their contributions to providing a descriptive packet on the topic. This included a brief history of the commission, executive orders, resolution, letter to the Supreme Court, along with a detailed appendix. Some of the subjects covered generally are legal education such as the history of juveniles in the U.S., rehabilitation, punishment, and youth due process. Then there are subjects focused around Nevada Law. Finally there are topics on Tribal Law. Enough interest has been generated that a meeting has been set with the Governor's board for April 13, 2016. The important thing to remember is that juveniles are not mini adults. The main concern with training barristers on juvenile concerns is with the rural counties. While Clark and Washoe Counties may have a budget for training, the rural counties often do not. Continuing Legal Education (CLE) on juvenile topics should not just be available out of state.

Commissioners Lozano, Wickes, Wanker and Walker were asked to answer the question, why is there a need. Anything from a thought to a brief email would be welcome. He even offered to sit down and chat over coffee about this topic.

A copy of the 2014 Governor's report should be ready for the Commission's review and approval at the November meeting. The reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act continues. It has passed the committee and is now going to the floor of the Senate. The act has not been reauthorized since 2002, and it has just been a continued resolution since then.

The Medicaid Room and Board for fiscal years 2013-2014 and 2014-2015 continue to disperse funds as directed by the Nevada State Legislature. These funds fluctuate in relation to the number of students being served. In the past two fiscal years, over 1200 youth have received these services. Of these, 898 were males and 330 were females. There has been continuing work with providing these youth with mental health and substance abuse services.

Things also fluctuate with the SB107 room confinement. At times, the numbers are reduced, at other times, they increase. As the number of youth in custody varies from month to month, so does those available for room confinement. Sometimes the number of youth who are at high risk for confinement also increases as is the percentage of such youth in certain facilities as opposed to other facilities. So high numbers in room confinement does say something about

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the youth being held, but perhaps not so much about the kind of programming done by the facility. What has been important, is that since the law has been enacted, there has been an increased awareness about this topic. It needs to be judiciously and wisely used, and not necessarily as a means of punishment.

Questions were asked about the legal education proposal. Copies of the packet submitted to the Bar Association were to be sent to the Commissioners by email. Once more, the need for such training was emphasized and Commissioner Coppa requested overviews of situations where the training would have made a difference in an outcome for a youth in court. Chairman Burgess accepted the Planning and Development Committee's report.

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

The Effective Police Interactions with Youth technical assistance training was in August at Zenoff Hall in Las Vegas, Nevada. Commissioners Martin, Burgess and Hibbler were able to attend this training and although good, it was not as advanced a look at this topic as had been anticipated. It was decided not to go forward with the three day train the trainers program. The general consensus was that the seven various groups present could create something more appropriate for Nevada. It was vital in getting those interested in the topic together to learn, talk and discuss this and related juvenile issues.

Work continues on developing agreements and processes for transferring data between systems. SB58 was recently passes and deals with this information sharing. The law is being tested with Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) being drafted which explain to the departments of Clark County Juvenile Services and the Clark County School District how to work with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) to reduce the barriers to effective communication in regards to children. There have been real conversations about what this data is and what can be done with this information to benefit all involved. This is all coming together with the assessment center.

There is a continued push for the assessment center which will be able to treat and assess a child prior to them becoming involved with the juvenile justice system. If the child can be diverted towards a department and receive family services then results will eventually be seen throughout the system in terms of a decrease in youth being sent to state institutions, and county camps. There is continued improvement in participation as people begin to understand the challenges posed by minority and gender. How it can translate into a life of incarceration if not addressed early enough.

The National League of Cities is also offering assistance. An expert will be working with the communities. Barriers still exist, however planning for the assessment center has allowed conversations with law enforcement about training on how to engage youth. Chairman Burgess accepted the Minority and Gender Committee's report.

New Business – Kirby Burgess

There was no new business at this time. Commissioner Hibbler expressed her hopes for a more dynamic Policy/Legislation committee. The past session was very involved, and there is real need to be sure that things are in order when the next session begins. There is a need to be able to convey many things that are important to this commission. She also stressed that the Minority and Gender committee was looking forward to doing more work with the rural communities. Being able to actually visit in these communities has been important for the Juvenile Justice Commission. Things are very different from how they are in the more urban

counties. There is a real need to have more interaction with the rural communities.

Commissioner Wanker detailed some of the difficulties that Nye County currently has. In the past two years, the Nye County Board of County Commissioners has cut the budget for juvenile probation by \$400,000.00. She has been working almost daily trying to get that restored, and has even gone so far as to issue a memorandum to the Board of County Commissioners explaining the inherent powers of the court. In it was explained that it was becoming impossible to operate the juvenile probation department with the amount that was provided.

Commissioner Walker invited Commissioner Wanker to attend a meeting of the Supreme Court Commission as a guest. He noted that if a child in Nye County fails in placement or programming, it is a loss to everyone on the Commission. The needs of all the children in the state must be considered, not just those in Clark or Washoe Counties. Justice Hardesty has been advised that more front end programming dollars are needed, especially in the rural counties. If the youth in Nye County are not being served, that is not O.K. with anyone on the Commission.

Commissioner Wanker thanked him and further pointed out that the sole juvenile probation officer in Tonopah had been cut. The previous officer had passed away, rather than fill that position, Tom Metscher who covers from Pahrump to Gabbs, to Current, is now also covering Tonopah. At this time, there is not even an administrative head, everything is run out of Pahrump. Everyone in the community is telling her that there is a problem. There are no youth on probation, because there is no one to really cover that. Petitions are not being filed, nothing is happening with the youth who need assistance.

Both Clark and Washoe Counties have a wealth of resources and there was encouragement for them to be contacted. They cannot send out probation officers, but there are other ways they could offer assistance in perhaps identifying the needs of the youth in Nye County. Through the Nye Community Coalition, a grant for a school resource officer has been agreed to. They will be working out of the courthouse but that is not the same as a probation officer. Although an officer could SKYPE or teleconference from another location, their actual presence in the community would be missing. The last officer was very active, and known by many of the youth as he coached for both girls volley ball and boys baseball. Such involvement makes a big difference in how the youth interact with the officer.

Several of the members of the Commission agreed to contact the Nye County Commission through video link at their upcoming meetings. They could speak on the benefit of using front end dollars on youth rather than an increased amount of funds on the back end of the problem. This was indicated as perhaps being very helpful as the feeling with the board is that currently, the probation officers case load is not large enough. They would like to see those caseloads double or triple. Other resources would be the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) which is helpfully located in Washoe County. They could provide experts to give opinions on caseloads among other things. Commissioner Wanker agreed this would be very helpful and would be giving advance notice of these meetings and get something on their agenda. Unfortunately what is often happening now is that the youth are not being worked with at 17 and then they cross over to the District Court at 18. It was agreed that members of the Commission would offer Judge Wanker as much help as possible.

Comments from the Public-

There were no statements from the public.

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Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada on Thursday November 19, 2015 at 9:00 am. Commissioner Smith will speak with Chief Belcher and the Tribal Council about the possibility of having the next meeting at the Paiute Reservation or on one of their tribal lands. The Snow Mountain Paiute Golf Course was also mentioned as a possible location to have the meeting. Although Spring Mountain Youth Camp was also mentioned, concern was expressed over the amount of time this would entail since Spring Mountain is about a two hour drive both ways.

Adjourn

Commissioner Walker moved to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.