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**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING  
NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
November 17, 2016**

**November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 Call to order**

The meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2016 was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess. The meeting was held at Nevada Youth Parole, 6171 W. Charleston Blvd., Bldg. 15, Las Vegas, Nevada.

**Roll call – Elizabeth Florez**

**Members present:** Cynthia Gustafson, Ester Brown, Patrick Irwin, Lonnie wright, Dan Coppa, Paula smith, Myra Rodrigues- Galindo, Lisa Hibbler, Frank Cervantes, Elizabeth Florez, Kallie laity, Steve McBride, Jeremy Setters, Dawn Lozano, Kirby Burges, Jo Lee Wickes, David LaBay

**Present by phone:** Ross Armstrong, Pauline Salla-Smith, John Martin, Michael Beam

**Member Excused:** John Hambrick, Honorable Egan Walker, Honorable Kimberly Wanker, Noah Jennings, MJ Tiabo

**Staff Present:** Leslie Bittleston, Jeff Majeske

**Public Present:** None

**Public comment and discussion**

Introductions and no further comments

**Review of official minutes**

Commissioner Lozano moved to approve the minutes from November 17, 2016 there was no objection to this action the motion was passed by the commission.

**Treasury report - Ms. Bittleston**

Overview of the 2015 and 2016 Formula grant. The 2015 Formula Grant 190,762 was awarded out. New balance is \$6,508. 2016 Formula Grant awarded out \$215,651 and the new balance is \$198,976.

Category 20 Community Corrections Partnership Block Grant which was previously called the Medicaid room and board with Specialized Foster Care. Fiscal year for 2017, the block amount which is split throughout Nevada counties, totaled \$2,349,807. The remaining balance on that grant is \$1,344,238. The previous 2016 fiscal year for the same grant has a remaining balance to be paid of \$13,520.

Grant totals awarded and paid totals were presented to the committee. Committee Partnership Block Grant was also presented with totals for 2017 fiscal year.

No objection to the treasury report. Motion to accept the treasury report, the motion was passed by the commission.

**Staff report – Ms. Bittleston**

Chief Bittleston addressed the moving on of Administrative Assistant Alice Muller. Chief Bittleston also introduced the new Program Officer Jeff Majeske to the Commission. The Formula Grant has been unfrozen with help from OJJDP. Chief Bittleston discussed what is allotted from the Formula Grant and the growth that the commission is experiencing. Along with formula grant, discussion of what should be allowed by the Formula grant. The formula Grant allows \$20,000 total for the commission as a whole. The commission has grown a lot in the last year. There are now 30 members as opposed to 26 in the past. Chief Bittleston is anticipating sending more funds to commission. Last year the commission spent over 26,000 to meet its fiscal needs. The extra \$6,000 came out of the administrator pocket. New ideas for meetings and conferences in regards to cost savings. Discussion of combining meetings and limiting in person meetings. Opened up to commissioners for more ideas cost saving. Commissioner Coppa asked to specify the total savings and asked for clarification with how combining meetings would work with OML (open meeting law). Chief Bittleston clarified that the Grant review committee is separate and costs 6,000 to have an in-person meeting. Overview of cost to bring commissioners together. There was also discussion about using teleconference meetings in order to stay within budget and with OML. The February meeting is in a room during legislative sessions, at the legislature building in Carson City. This meeting will be critical to have in person where further discussion about cost saving can occur. Commissioner Wickes clarified that the \$6,000 over budget was spent before adding new members. The question of when the commission needs to make a decision. Chief Bittleston plans to have updated numbers for the next meeting's discussion but wanted to ensure the commissions awareness of the issue in preparation for decisions and changes.

**PREA update- Chief Bittleston**

PREA data and reporting incidents.

PREA regulations require facilities to have multiple methods to report PREA allegations. One such method must include an outside reporting source meaning, outside of the facility and of the State. DCFS recently entered into an agreement with Nevada 211 to be the outside reporting source. Nevada 211 is a 24 hour hotline which provides crisis intervention and information on community resources. Nevada 211 has agreed to take reports and immediately forward those reports to the superintendent or assistant superintendent of the facility in question. Currently, there are several ways to report a PREA allegation to include a 1-800 number directly to the statewide PREA Coordinator, written or verbal complaints to any staff member, and now Nevada 211. There are posters inside each facility that includes the various reporting methods. The facility must implement an allow youth to make private calls to report an alleged PREA incident. Formatting of the report include many complaints are received then breakdown to provide a clearer picture of what is happening. Maybe include investigations? Clarification on investigations on sexual abuse to local law enforcement. Of the local police does investigate an incident, then the facility waits for the result of the investigations. If the police decide not to investigate, then the facility is required to do an administrative investigation. Each and every PREA incident will receive an investigation, either by law enforcement or facility staff. Commissioner Brown asked: How do we make sure the youth is safe and not being harassed? Chief Bittleston responded: The facility has the obligation to protect the youth. Separate and Segregate (IE). Policy on all of that is already in place. In addition, the facility monitors potential retaliation against any youth who make an allegation.

**Compliance – Chief Bittleston**

OJJDP has changed the annual reporting requirements for compliance. The original deadline was June 30 it has changed to January 31<sup>st</sup>. Chief Bittleston and Mr. Majeske are currently working on compliance as it relates to the juvenile justice delinquency prevention act. Juvenile Justice Staff with the help of Sheree Corniel will be reaching out to the state's facilitates for compliance monitoring. Community Correction Partnership Block Grant's policy has been written for Nevada counties. These policies are written for the counties to present uses and how to administer the money

properly.

NAJJA had all positive feedback the policy has not been finalized yet due to awaited recommendations regarding the grant. Review the use of solitary confinement and youth. Nevada does not use solitary confinement but the state does utilize room confinement in some instances. The “white paper” is to address what constitutes room confinement and how Nevada uses room confinement. Chief Bittleston plans to have more data by the next commission meeting.

Chief Bittleston introduced new SAG members to the commission. New members are Cynthia Gustafson, Esther Brown and Jeremy Setters. Chief Bittleston discussed the Governor’s interest in wanting to diversify members and involving people that represent non-profits, health clinicians and people that represent victims of sex-trafficking. The commissioners welcomed new members as each took a minute to introduce themselves and share their different backgrounds. Chief Bittleston reviewed the roles of the commission and discussed the supportive role that the SAG has for the Justice Delinquency Prevention Act.

Commissioner Burgess asked for three commission members to volunteer to be on JJ sub-committees. Commissioner Brown, Commissioner Setters and Commissioner Wright volunteered to fill these. Commissioner Burgess talked about his visit to Clark County and discussed the operations of their facilities. He also encouraged the commission members to be as active as they can.

### **Commissioner Armstrong- DCFS Update**

Breakdown of each facility in regards to total youth in facilities at any given time. Commissioner Armstrong presented the number of youth that are on medications while highlighting the importance of mental health is being addressed in facilitates. The report shows any kind of prescription drug that a youth is taking this also includes psychotropic. Commissioner Armstrong explained the data pull of performance base standards, quality assurance and program development. There is a data pull for April and October, the October data pull is finished the final number is expected to be in by November 22. NYTC and Caliente both improved in clinical performance measures. Both facilities were rated above field average in comparison with 38 states. Summit view are in their candidacy phase but should be able to see their field average after next April’s pull. Training requirement rule making the hearing has taken place and the packet has been submitted to administrator Woolridge. After the Administrator signs it goes to the legislative commission for their approval it then gets an official effective date then uploaded into the NAC and then becomes effective.

### **Report from Planning and Development – Commissioner Coppa**

Update on planning and development committee. The house of rep created their own reauthorization bill. Per the JJDP. JJDP passed unanimously in the house; total support of the bill. Nevada congressional delegation in total supported the bill. The annual 2015 report to the governor, data has been collected and presented. Summary of the data was presented to the commission. Mr. Burgess addressed the committee and was approved by the committee.

The SB107 survey presented by Commissioner Coppa. So far approximately 259 youth have been recipients of the Block Grant services. The report given shows the breakdown of the kinds of placement and along with the number of youth with substance abuse issues and mental health. The report also shows that the data stays consistent with mental health diagnosis and there have been no significant changes over the years. Commissioner Coppa also discussed the SB107 summery for the month of July, fiscal year. The next full commission meeting will have October data to present.

There has been a change in room confinement. Previously the youth could be in room confinement for 20-25 hours. These hours have dropped down to 10-15 hours. This change in hours is in Recognition of the SB107. The report also shows that the 70-72 hours numbers shows zero. There is a recognition that room confinement when used respectfully has effect. Youth detention center has shown changes in the first 3 months of the fiscal year. 5-10 hours was a usual amount of hours and has changed to 2 hours. The committee is looking at doing something with the governor executive Order that Deals with the compliance aspect of SB107. The Juvenile Justice program would like to have a statute instead of an executive order. This would affect the compliance aspect of the compliance monitoring. The Committee is working

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with the Attorney General office in making this possible. In the end it will be up to the Governor. The commission researched what other states are doing and are looking into what set of standards are needed. The commission has a framework of what they want to see in the future. Commissioner Coppa concluded his report.

Commissioner Burgess asked about the planning and development and what the committee is responsible for.

Commissioner Coppa discussed how the planning and development committee works as it relates to the Juvenile Justice department, including youth education and compliance of facilities. Commissioner Coppa also described the duty of commission members and the importance of the commission to the Juvenile Justice department.

### **New business - Commissioner Burgess**

#### **Minority and Gender Committee - Commissioner Hibbler**

Commissioner Hibbler opened the report with exciting news about the first Southern Nevada multi-agency resource center. Today marks the one month anniversary of the center. The center is designed to be a safe haven for families and a resource to help keep kids out of the system. DMC reports that the state continues to struggle with disproportionate minority contact. There is a significant disproportionate with African American youth. In response to that issue the decision was made to look at what other states are doing and what they have access to. These other states have social workers, counselors, DA's and law enforcement all on one campus. Another remarkable aspect is the formal marketing. People are being able to just walk in and receive services and not just being brought in by law enforcement. This really shows that people are reaching out for help and how little help there actually is for them without these resource centers. Officers and law enforcement is on board and has been supported. Commissioner Hibbler also clarified the roles of law enforcement, training and curriculum for police and what to look for in youth at risk of mental health crisis. Commissioner Hibbler gave a general overview of training requirements and explained what she knew about the intake process. Commissioner Hibbler explained that the centers' goals are rehabilitation and preparing youth for a successful adulthood. Future goals of the Harbor is family resources and having professionals in order to help youth get the appropriate resources.

Commissioner Burgess expresses his admiration for the sense of discipline at the Harbor and asked Commissioner Hibbler to speak to the reason behind that. Commissioner Hibbler explained that the resource center allows people to collaborate more successfully. Individual professionals can come together and work together in order to make the Harbor more successful. No further questions about the Harbor from the commission.

Commissioner Cervantes discussed Washoe County DCM reports. Developed a "starting point" that works specifically with Latino families and kids who are involved in gangs.

Commissioner Pauline Smith discussed the Native American population and their lack of resources at the reservations. Services will to the reservations and provide resources. There are weekly checkups that are made in person with families instead of just over the phone.

Commissioner Hibbler discussed the multiple facet of the data that needs to be considered and that resources are needed.

Commissioner Burgess addressed the commission with any questions or comments.

Commissioner Hibbler discussed DCM and the commission is always looking for more members and more resources. She emphasized the goal of doing the best work possible.

#### **Policy and Legislation – Commissioner Armstrong**

Commissioner Armstrong the purpose of the commission during the legislative session. The commission is federal funded so there are rules against lobbying for commissioners. All commissioners will be given the rules if any commissioner plans to testify. The policy and legislation committee will try to be an information conduit to commissions.

Commissioner Burgess asked the commission if there are any questions. No questions from the commission.

#### **Federal advisory committee on juvenile justice- Commissioner Paula Smith**

There are 4 sub committee's including; research and publication, legislation. Gave an overview

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of sex offender registration. There are some states that do not mandate juvenile sex offenders to register. The committee is also working on family engagement and collaboration. Ms. Smith discussed keeping support for the DMC and keeping compliance.

### **Grant Committee – Commissioner Lozano**

Emphasized that there is a lot of work but that it is needed. Commissioner Lozano also emphasized the importance of compliance. Chief Bittleston added an overview of the how the grant committee decided how to disperse money. She also clarified how the grant committee reviews the grantees and makes their decision.

### **Formula Block Grant- Chief Leslie Bittleston**

Chief Bittleston reviewed the formula grant and how the grant committee works. Money granted out is based on an application and how much is being requested. There were 9 applications and not all were able to be fully funded. Commissioner Burgess commented about new commissioners and if there needs to be any more added to the roster.

Commissioner Wright emphasized the importance of compliance and the impact it has on grants. He also encouraged other commissioners to join the grant commission.

The commission discussed the importance of monitoring and reporting measures as it relates to receiving grant money by grantees. Chief Bittleston clarified what is needed from the grantees in order to award any money.

### **New business – Commissioner Burgess**

The committee discussed the issue of tattoo removal for youth. There are a list of specialists who can do this service free of charge. Commissioner Brown commented that there is a referral process for tattoo removal through a surgeon Dr. Julio Garcia who was praised by the commission members. Commissioner Coppa commented that the tattoo removal was a motion proposed by the planning committee based on a request by youth parole. There was \$1,500 allocated, now there is \$180 remaining in obligation to youth parole. Commissioner Coppa asked that the commission find a way to use the money appropriately. The obligation lasts 2 years but after that 2 years or over then the commission can look for free resources. The commission agreed it would be pertinent in finding other resources and finding direct service that the \$180 can be used.

### **Public comment:**

Commissioner Paula Smith asked that the commission share June 17 2017 Fun Run event funding Stewart recreation.

Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 17, 2017. The meeting will be held at the LCB office in Carson City.

### **Agenda for next meeting –**

- Guest speaker - Naomi Smoot, Executive Director
  - Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ) by phone
  - Attachments: Appropriation Chart, Talking Points 2017 & JJDPa Sheet
- Treasurer's Report
- Staff Report
- Chair Report
- DCFS Update
- Planning and Development Report
- Minority and Gender Report
- Policy and Legislation Report
- JJDPa Final Rule Update

**Meeting adjourned**

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*Nevada Department of Health  
and Human Services Helping  
People -- It's Who We Are And  
What We Do*