



**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
February 18, 2015**

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February 18th, 2015 Call to Order

This meeting was called to order on February 18th, 2015 at 9:15 a.m. by Chairman Kirby Burgess.

Roll Call – Alice Mueller

Members Present: Michael Beam, Kirby Burgess, Frank Cervantes, Dan Coppa, Elizabeth Florez, John Hambrick, Honorable David Humke, Noah Jennings, David LaBay, Dawn Lozano, Steve McBride, Paula Smith, MariaJose Taibo-Vega, Honorable Egan Walker, Honorable Kimberly Wanker, Jo Lee Wickes

Members Present by Phone: Scott Davis, Danny Gonzales, Otto Kelly

Members Excused: Niah Anson, Lisa Morris Hibbler, John Martin, Raymond McKay, Miguel Rodriguez, Ivet Santiago, Lonnie Wright

Staff Present: Ross Armstrong, Leslie Bittleston, J. Alice Mueller

Staff Present by Phone: Linda Anderson, Shannon Richards

Public Present: Nathaniel Blackwater, Steve Calabrese, Jane Gruner, Officer Angelo Hafalla, Chief Steve Knispel, Stacey Montooth, Holly Welborn

Public Comment and Discussion

Holly Welborn from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Nevada requested an opportunity to speak to the Commission and read from a written statement. She is the new policy director who started January 4, 2016. In that time, she has had an opportunity to attend several commission meetings, and events. While she has been impressed with most of the organizations dealt with, she express her sincere admiration for the Juvenile Justice Commission in particular, along with its subcommittees.

Responses to inquiries has been timely with information openly and thoroughly provided upon request. She was impressed by the work the Commission had laid out to improve the lives of children in the state of Nevada. The ALCU of Nevada was proud of developments in the area of solitary confinement among juveniles and the abolishment of life without parole sentences for juveniles. They are pleased with the summary documents provided, although still troubled by the number of youth subjected to corrective room restriction.

Dr. Tomassone's consultation report was referenced, with agreement on his conclusions that the use of corrective room restriction as punishment does not achieve a rehabilitative purpose. Rather, it was recommended that the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) create policy advocating the use of room restriction for safety reasons only. She offered the ACLU of Nevada as a resource for use by the Commission and noted that she looked forward to working with them in the future.

Indian Youth and Juvenile Justice – Chief Steve Knispel

Chief Steve Knispel and Nathaniel Blackwater for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), along with Officer Angelo Hafalla of the Reno Sparks Indian Colony, spoke to the Commission. Stacy Montooth also from the Reno Sparks Indian Colony was present to take photos of the presentation.

Chief Knispel explained that they are in a unique situation with the Western Nevada agency because there are no detention centers for Indian youth in the area. One was scheduled for Fallon, but the deal has fallen through. There is one adult detention center in Owyhee, Nevada and several contract facilities in Arizona, as well as other bureau facilities within a 500 mile radius. Juveniles are currently transported to the Colorado River Indian Tribes (CRIT) juvenile detention center by Parker, Arizona. He noted that one of the reasons they were speaking this morning was to explore options for the future. Their budgets are two years out, so anything decided would not come into fruition until around 2019.

The commissioners expressed felt that Arizona was far away and wondered if anything was closer. There are contracts in place with some adult jails, but they are limited to 31 beds a day. For juveniles, it's case by case. Casper, Wyoming and Towaoc, Colorado are possible now, but are converting to total adult sites. Transportation is time consuming, requiring relays that use one or two officers. Female youth are not always transported by female officers, however there are video cameras in place. There is sight and sound separation between youth and adults during transportation. Although asked, no specific time was indicated for how long a transported youth would be kept in shackles as transport time is dependent on weather. Breaks for lunch, restroom use and lodging were available.

At these locations, recidivism is being addressed with a holistic approach using an *in center* type of remediation. The chief of police at the Yuma facility has put in a video system where individuals can video conference with family members. When asked for specific numbers of youth in currently in placements, it was noted that there was one who had been transported just last week.

There were questions about the feasibility of having contracts with local facilities. There has to be a federal contract in place, and a scope of work, before contacting Chief Knispel who would assist in getting in touch with special agent Selanhongva McDonald from the Phoenix District Office. Commissioner Cervantes pointed out that for the last couple of years Steve Calabrese, Washoe County's Director of Detention has been working with the Phoenix office trying to get a contract signed. A number of beds had not been proposed, rather a rate had been suggested. What is at issue is the technicalities of the contracts.

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Commissioner Humke explained that from his experience with Tribal Court, juveniles are seldom sent out of state. Usually the tribe will work something out with the local juvenile authorities. Youth will often have a foot in both systems. That being said, working with the civil attorney's office can be difficult when a contract has to be negotiated with the BIA and not local agencies. It really is quite challenging when a call is received, especially in the field, and there is nowhere to easily take the youth.

Officer Hafalla explained that the Tribal Court works best with families. Where a youth is not a flight risk or danger to the community, they will be reunited with their relatives. Of the three to four monthly calls, only one would require further assessment, and possibly be detained. The struggle then is where to place the child as the court hearing can occur on a separate day. The youth may be held in an office overnight with officers taking shifts giving the youth breaks and providing them with food. For this reason, they look for opportunities to release the juvenile back to their parents or guardian.

The Reno Sparks Indian Colony has staff psychiatrists, psychologist and physicians. First intervention is to have the child evaluated by a physician, psychiatrist or psychologist at the facility in the tribal clinic. The child is then referred to an appropriate local facility like Stepping Stones. Sometimes out of state facilities are used such as the Chemawa Tribe Indian School in Oregon or the Sherman Indian School in Southern California.

Ideally, what happens is that within 24 hours they have a court hearing and it is determined if the child can stay local or requires transportation out of state. If the child qualifies, they are released to families on house arrest or probation with a stipulation to check in with their counselor or advocate. This works well as long as the child is cooperative. Commissioner Smith said that she had only two youth go out of state, but has been able to keep others nearby using electronic monitoring or house arrest.

The speakers were thanked by the Commission and received applause. Business cards were left and Chief Knispel requested that local facilities keep working towards obtaining a contract with the BIA.

Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2015 Meeting

Commissioner Lozano moved to approve the minutes from November 19, 2015, with a second from Commissioner Walker. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Treasurer's Report – Dawn Lozano

Commissioner Lozano reviewed the Treasurer's report for the Commission. There is still \$2,292.80 pending for Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-2014 and \$8,883.78 remaining for FY 2015 Juvenile Justice Commission. In Medicaid Room and Board, \$495,706.43 has yet to be expended for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016. There is still \$18,000.36 left in the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2013-2014 Formula Grant and \$165,513.07 remaining for FFY 2015. Quarterly reports from the sub-grantees have been received through December 2015.

Commissioner Walker moved to have the Treasurer's report accepted as submitted with a second from Commissioner Humke. The motion was passed by the Commission.

Staff Report – Leslie Bittleston

Chief Bittleston summarized her staff report covering what has been accomplished in the previous three months. The Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) recently came out with an updated version of their Compliance Manual, which led to an update of Nevada's Compliance Manual, last done in 2012. This version was presented to the Planning and Development meeting in January and is now available upon request.

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A revision of definitions and information for facilities was also completed, and will be sent out with the annual compliance surveys. This will assist them in more accurately filling out requested information. The update will be presented to the Planning and Development Committee at their March meeting.

Two part-time compliance monitors have been contracted to perform on-site visits of facilities in the compliance universe. Warren Lutzow has been recommended by Commissioner McBride to work in the north and Sheree Corniel was recommended by Chairman Burgess to work in the south. Both have extensive backgrounds in corrections at the federal and state level so they bring a lot of experience with them. Funding is for the next six months and will be paid for from the formula grant. Both have contacts with the juvenile system, where supplies can be sent. Compliance work should begin by the end of February.

OJJDP recently changed the reporting dates for compliance reporting. With the exception of one facility, the Juvenile Justice Programs office was able to obtain 100% reporting on their 2015 compliance surveys.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) education grant for \$177,174.00 was received in October, 2015. Originally this was to contract out PREA duties and obtain a vendor to train correctional staff. The scope of the grant was modified to hire a PREA coordinator. While this modification is pending approval, Lucia Turck from OJJDP has given verbal acceptance of the change. The work program change has gone to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) where it has been approved and the coordinator may be in place by July, 2016. Chief Bittleston will be supervising that position, which could be located in Reno, Carson City or Las Vegas. At this time, the position will be through September 2017. A budget concept requesting state funding is being worked on for this full time position.

Recognizing that the PREA grant requires extensive data collection, a survey is being created. This is much like the annual compliance surveys sent to jails, lock-ups and holding cells. Information will only be requested from those facilities which hold juveniles overnight. No identifying information will be collected, only that needed to establish a baseline of what is happening in the state.

As part of the PREA Zero Tolerance grant, Nevada will be able to receive free technical assistance. An individual in Maryland has been contacted and will begin assisting with the development of policies and procedures which will be followed with best practices training.

Updated PREA posters have been printed. They are now available for use by any facilities which would like to receive them. It should be noted that there are male, female and no-individual versions, to be used as appropriate for the gender makeup of the various facilities.

Medicaid Room and Board has been awarded to all 17 counties. As of January, the counties have used 61% of their funding. A quarterly update will be available at the next Full Commission meeting. There are four FFY 2015 Formula sub-grantees. Two of these are from Clark County, one from Nye County and the last from Sixth Judicial. Of those in the programs, 72% were males, 28% females and there was a 93% success rate. At this time, Sixth Judicial has yet to begin spending their funds, so they have nothing to report.

Disproportionate Minority Contact (DMC) data has been received from nearly all of the counties. A data summary of this was provided to the Commission. The brief workup shows that most DMC is occurring in Clark County with the most affected group being African Americans. It was hoped that with Commissioner Hibbler's recent appointment as Director of Youth Development

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and Social Innovation for the City of Las Vegas, she would be able to assist the Minority and Gender Committee in addressing this situation. DMC will be examined in more detail at the next quarterly meeting, when all data is available.

Questions were asked about the three most common charges. They represent the top three reasons for arrests as noted by information sent by the counties. There is a lot of difference between the rural counties and those more urban areas. Rurals show alcohol abuse and traffic violations whereas urban areas have more battery related offenses. Arrests are only one area reported on, other areas include referrals, youth placed in secure detention, secure state facility placements, certification to adult status, probation placements, misdemeanors, citations, cases petitioned or diverted, and delinquent findings. A complete DMC report will be considered at the March 9, 2016 Minority and Gender meeting.

Updated versions of several brochures including the Juvenile Justice Commission, PREA and DMC have been ordered. Commissioner Hambrick suggested that public service groups be approached to assist with printing costs for these brochures. In the past, they have aided in printing bilingual Juvenile Miranda cards.

Commissioner Smith thanked Chief Bittleston for attending the Tribal Youth Program hosted by the Washoe Tribe. She was able to view a presentation by Commissioner Smith and mingle with many of the attendees. Chief Bittleston thanked her for the invitation, and noted that Nevada's tribes were also very interested in providing services to youth.

Chair Report – Kirby Burgess

Chairman Burgess along with Commissioners Lozano and Hambrick were able to meet with Governor Sandoval in Las Vegas. It was a very productive meeting and they extended the ten minute meeting into forty minutes. With assistance beforehand from Commissioners Wanker and Coppa, the trio shared the Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission Annual report in addition to information on many other important youth issues. They brought him up to date about work with the Nevada Bar Association, and the need for more youth members on the Commission. He was very appreciative of the information and agreed to fast track any youth members who submitted their applications.

It was suggested that with the governor so attuned to juveniles, we should raise our sights in both funding and other requests. He may be able to provide guidance to funding sources the Commission is not aware of. The governor's chief of staff, Mike Willden, was previously the administrator at DCFS and is very connected with many juvenile facilities as well as being knowledgeable about juvenile concerns. There is also the governor's wife who works with the Children's Cabinet, and the speaker of the Nevada Legislature, John Hambrick who is on the Juvenile Justice Commission. The governor has requested that members of the Commission be present at the Summit View re-opening ceremony on February 26th, 2016. So the Commission does have a lot of influence in the state.

DCFS Update – Leslie Bittleston

Ross Armstrong was unable to attend and so Chief Bittleston covered his report. For the census overviews, she noted that as of February 3, 2016, the Nevada Youth Training Center (NYTC) housed 62 youth, Caliente Youth Center (CYC) had 90 males and 36 females and Summit View was at 0, with the first of six assigned youth arriving on Tuesday. There are two youth being held at Garza Regional Justice Center in Post, Texas.

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At NYTC, Greg Thornton, has been appointed as the new superintendent. He has been working there for about 24 years and is very enthusiastic. The basketball team has been working very hard and have invited the Commission to attend their games.

CYC completed their PREA audit at the end of December. The auditor has requested a chance to pursue some follow up work prior to presenting their final report. In addition to the facility audit, human resources at the central office were audited to ensure work at the administrative level is also PREA compliant. It was found that they were out of compliance on 12 standards most of which are related to hiring. Corrective action for this is now underway. The Caliente audit report has yet to be received.

Youth will begin arriving at Summit View on Tuesday February 23, 2016 with the formal opening on Friday February 26, 2016. One of the key elements of the opening involves Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). PBIS's Nevada team has been working with the Clark County School District (CCSD) on this data informed approach, which will be first implemented at Summit View. Other facilities in the United States are successfully using this program with Nevada receiving support from the National Technical Assistance Team.

In youth parole, there are 286 males and 44 females with 68% of the males from Clark County, 20% from Washoe County and the remaining 12% from the rural counties. Of the females, 82% are from Clark County, 14% from Washoe County and 4% from the rural counties.

Dr. Tomassone has submitted a report on room confinement giving his recommendations on how the state should move forward. He noted the following strengths; well developed and well executed juvenile programs, along with outstanding educational and vocational components. The staff clearly understand the mission and goals, are well trained and understand their rolls. There is a strong relationship among staff, which leads to a healthy and productive work environment. Staff appear to really support youth who in turn feel supported by staff. They felt staff really wanted to help them achieve their goals. He recommended a shift to positive reinforcement rather than room confinement as discipline. Hiring should be streamlined to avoid losing good candidates. There was also discussion on youth who have a history of trauma, with recommendations for more mental health counselors.

A clinical program manager has been added in Las Vegas, to better coordinate mental health counselor efforts. They will be doing annual quality assurance reviews at the three correctional facilities. Attention is being paid to streamlining the admissions process, making sure that youth are admitted properly.

The Supreme Court has declined to stop enforcement of the Adam Walsh act. The Division is awaiting implementation from the Department of Public Safety prior to registering youth. Agencies should consult their District Attorney and the Department of Public Safety.

During the discussion period, Commissioners requested more information about PBIS. Concern was expressed that youth were already exposed to several behavioral intervention programs and this was yet one more. Youth are managed in probation and then managed under another system in parole. The two represent different philosophies and styles. Does this fragmented approach serve the children or the system? The various sides need to talk with each other about what programs are being used. A new system is now being introduces for use at Summit View.

Commissioner McBride explained that PBIS was a response to Dr. Tomassone's first recommendation concerning positive behaviors. The support team is from the University of

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Nevada, Reno, and have a lot of research which supports very positive and productive outcomes. They have just started branching out to juvenile correctional facilities. A more detailed discussion was indicated and perhaps could be addressed at Summit View during the May quarterly meeting.

There was a brief discussion on what programs were currently in use which was then broadened to include a discussion on the bifurcated system of probation and parole with a history of the current system requested. It was agreed that both Washoe and Clark Counties pay large amounts and the question of cost effectiveness was addressed.

Commissioner Humke referenced his previous time in the legislature, and the issue of chronicity of certain youth. Once a youth becomes chronic, they are sent to a state facility and become the state's responsibility, hence the assessment. The assessment is a result of the recent economic down turn when the state needed funds and approached Washoe, Clark and to a lesser extent the other counties.

It was pointed out, that if the counties are paying an assessment, then the state is really not taking responsibility for it. Since they are paying the costs, counties should have some control over supervision. It would be appropriate if they were granted a share of responsibility in supervision or reverse the financial expectation. Basically, this is an unfunded mandate coming not from the federal government, but from the state government.

Commissioner Wickes felt that in addition to a detailed history of how the assessment was developed, it would be very helpful to follow the money. Do funds go only to parole services or do they also help correctional facilities. Perhaps a fiscal analysis from the money committee of the state legislature is in line, with justification on how it works. Commissioner Humke remembered a committee composed of legislatures, county commissioners, and state executive people. Mr. Willden devised this plan and specified how it would work. As such, he would be the proper person to provide background. It was suggested that Chairman Burgess contact him and perhaps even ask him to give a presentation to the Commission. It was recommended to make this an agenda point for perhaps the May meeting.

Commissioner Walker moved that Mr. Willden be contacted concerning the county assessment and this report be placed on the May agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Humke. The motion was passed by the Commission.

There is a good model on how to end a bifurcated system in Washoe County's child dependency pilot program, Project 1. Chronicity takes place in dependency situations where increasingly elaborate services are required for a child and family. Ending that bifurcated system provides movement of the child and family through the system. It starts with achieving a bridge between district courts and Nevada juvenile services.

Chairman Burgess was requested to make this an ongoing topic of discussion with the governor and the legislature. Let them know that a bifurcated system does not serve children.

Nevada State Standards – Elizabeth Florez

Chairman Martin was unable to attend this meeting so Commissioner Florez presented the Standards Committee report. The subcommittee on state standards has been meeting regularly since August and have been reviewing five chapters of standards from the Silver State Committee, which is an offshoot of the Nevada Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators (NAJJA). The resulting draft document was presented to the Commission for review and

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potential action. Working with the NAJJA was viewed as important since they are the ones who will actually be administering oversight on the standards.

This was accepted as a draft document that will be subject to modification. Major changes were pointed out such as those dealing with room confinement and PREA requirements. Very specific language was added prohibiting hog typing, hobbling or any sort of tethering of hands and feet behind the back. In discussing where the standards should reside, Commissioner Walker pointed out that the idea was to create swim lanes, broad enough that facilities could develop individual policies and procedures. It was thought that the lightest lift would be to have the standards incorporated into the Nevada Administrative Code rather than go through legislative committees for approval into the Nevada Revised Statutes.

The Committee was unsure what level of input the Commission desired. If a vote would be required before moving forward and making it a concrete product of the commission. Commissioner Walker moved to approve the draft standards proposed by the Standards Subcommittee. During discussion it was requested that the attorney general's office provide information about the process of changing the administrative code. Little things can make a big difference depending on the level of enforcement. There was hesitancy about approving before knowing how difficult changing the document would be.

Linda Anderson from the attorney general's office stated that the good thing about the administrative regulation route is that it is a public process. The standards will not just be submitted and approved, but will go through workshops and be discussed. This could provide additional input on the standards. Commissioner Humke agreed that this was a positive thing, and that the standards would also go out to state agencies, district court, county managers, and county commissioners in addition to the executive and legislative branches, for evaluation of among other things, cost impacts.

Commissioner Coppa suggested approving the draft and then bringing it back later as a final draft. The standards are far from final and will be changed several times as they move forward. Commissioner Walker restated his motion to have the Commission approve a draft set of standards for juvenile detention facilities as proposed by the Standards Committee, with a second by Commissioner Coppa. The motion was approved by the Commission.

Commissioner Florez was commended on all the work she did in getting the standards updated. For her part, Commissioner Florez wished to thank Commissioner Beam for his significant revisions.

Planning and Development Committee – Dan Coppa

The Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2016 passed the House and Senate, December 18, 2015. This represents the first increase in federal juvenile justice funding in nearly three years. Of the 270 million dollars for juvenile justice programs, 55.5 million dollars is for Title II, which is the Formula grant funds. Nevada's allocation will remain at \$400,000.00 minus the PREA penalty amount. An objection was raised by Senator Cotton concerning the reauthorization of the juvenile justice delinquency prevention act, involving valid court orders. So for now, everything has come to a halt.

Carson City has requested additional flexibility with their Medicaid Room and Board funds. Their proposal will be examined at the March Planning and Development committee meeting. Both SB107 and the Medicaid Room and Board summaries have made multiple paged reports very accessible.

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On November 19, 2016 Judge Wanker and Commissioner Coppa addressed the Board of Governors of the State Bar Association. This concerned an item that the Commission has been pushing for since 2010 when they approached the Supreme Court about training for attorneys involved with juvenile court. President Larry Digesti invited them to make presentations on this matter.

Members of the Board of Governors were researched to determine their specialties. Only one had practiced in the field of juvenile law. The presentation was fairly simple and borrowed information from the 2014 governor's report. It was well received and they agreed to create a task force to make recommendations for the bar to adopt standards of training for attorneys before they are allowed to work in juvenile court. This is especially needed in rural areas where most of the attorneys have from one to five years' experience practicing law and are usually contract employees. The five members include attorneys from Elko, Carson City, Las Vegas, Judge Wanker and Commissioner Coppa. They have already had one meeting and may have a spot at the State Bar Convention in Hawaii where they would have an opportunity to provide another presentation.

There are nine states that have standards for those working in juvenile court. The National Juvenile Defender Center in DC is assisting the task force in researching these state standards. The Nevada Continuing Legal Education (CLE) Board was also contacted as they do certification and accreditation. The same information was shared with them as with the Bar Association. They are looking at who would be future instructors and suggested videotaping teaching sessions for use in later days.

Two compliance monitors, one for the north and one for the south have been chosen. To help defray their expense, it was suggested that the \$18,000.00 from FY2013 Formula grant be used. Commissioner Coppa moved that the Nevada Juvenile Justice Commission approve the expenditure of up to \$18,000.00 from the remaining amount of the FY2013 Federal Formula Grant for independent contractors, Ms. Sheree Corniel and Mr. Warren Lutzow to conduct compliance monitoring of Nevada adult jails and lock-ups, youth correctional facilities, court holding facilities, administrative buildings for law enforcement, and juvenile detention facilities in accordance with the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act, as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lozano and approved by the Commission.

Chairman Burgess noted that he liked the direction this was going. There were a lot of windows of opportunity opening up. He thanked all those involved in moving forward the training of attorneys in juvenile justice.

Report from Minority/Gender Committee – Leslie Bittleston

Chairman Martin was unable to attend this meeting so Chief Bittleston gave a summary of the Minority and Gender Committee report. Their next meeting will be on March 9, 2016. They continue to work in association with the CCSD to address issues of the school to prison pipeline. Their three strategies include continuing to work with the CCSD, Clark County Social Services, and the Department of Juvenile Justice to share information across agencies. This includes having case mentoring systems communicate with each other so that data is shared across organizations. The second strategy is to expand the trial by peers program which is a referral based diversion program which mandates parent participation and dramatically reduces future criminality. The third strategy is the comprehensive assessment tool which includes attending a Denver meeting dealing with this model. More information on this should be available at the March meeting.

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This Committee is very much aware of the disproportionality in Clark County and continue to work on it. They are collaborating with Deborah Reyes from the Las Vegas Metro Police Department to develop training curriculum for both new and existing officers.

A request was made to include other counties with their DMC work. This is to facilitate the exchange of ideas on what others may be doing to lessen the impact of DMC within their communities.

Educational Credits received in the Juvenile Justice System – Lisa Morris Hibbler

Commissioner Hibbler was not present at this meeting and none were prepared to cover this topic for her. It will be added to the agenda for the May meeting.

Juvenile Justice Commission Membership – Kirby Burgess

There is an additional need for youth members in the Juvenile Justice Commission. Some of the existing youth members are not attending regularly, although overall attendance is good. The governor would like to see at least five active youth members and preferably some who have been involved with the juvenile justice system. A youth commissioner is anyone appointed to the commission prior to age 24. Once appointed they do not age out, but remain a youth commissioner. One fifth of the commission must be youth commissioners. A suggestion was made to contact various scouting organizations as well as 4H groups. Youth from rural areas would be especially appreciated and may attend by phone. It was thought that three more youth commissioners would be best. Those who have not been attending will receive a letter informing them of attendance requirements and if needed they will be released. This will make room for those who wish to participate.

Commissioner Smith was able to make contact with a Lyon County youth who was very interested in being on the commission. Alice will forward application information to both Commissioner Smith and the youth.

New Business – Kirby Burgess

The Nominations Committee notified the Commission that there was a need for a vice chair south to replace Commissioner Hibbler. In her new position, she has less time and more travel than previous. Anyone wishing to serve in that capacity should contact Frank Cervantes. The full slate and any new candidates will be considered at the May meeting.

Commissioner Hambrick requested a juvenile justice terms dictionary to be forwarded to the Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB). This could be put to statute and would ensure that those in state government use the same accepted terms, so that there would be a uniform language when talking about youth. The Orientation manual is being updated and will be distributed in August, it contains a definition/acronyms section which could be used. At this point, it was not known where this dictionary would reside in the LCB since sections may be placed in various locations. Commissioner Wickes mentioned that the Nevada Supreme Court, Juvenile Justice Reform Commission had also worked on a data dictionary. It was suggested that either Stephanie Heying or Judge Hardesty be contacted about this.

Chief Bittleston gave an outline of future meetings with Summit View planned in May, where there is to be a presentation on PBIS. NYTC will be in August and center on their 100 year anniversary. November is once more scheduled to be somewhere in Las Vegas. Next February will be in Carson City at Murphy Bernardini. There the Change Company is prepared to give a presentation on their journaling program.

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Questions were asked about the future of the Standards Committee. This is an ad hoc committee which will cease to be when the standards have been adopted. Since there is still much work to be done before they are placed in the Nevada Administrative Code, it will continue to exist as a committee. As such, they may wish to comment on any changes enacted by the legislature during the administrative process.

Commissioner LaBay wished to bring up a possible topic for placement on the May agenda. There was an ongoing problem with disparities between rural and larger municipalities involving district attorneys and the termination of parental rights which were being comingled with the child protectiveness services. There was an apparent conflict of interest with the DA's sometimes being forced to represent Child Protective Services (CPS) agents, sometimes even being asked to act as agents of the local police. He felt this was worthy of commission discussion which might lead to legislative action.

Shannon Richards discussed some of the points from the attorney general's office's perspective. Although this does sometimes involve youth under the age of 18, generally it was felt that since the Commission's funding source was the OJJDP, the Commission is bound to the act which does not have a dependency section. General consensus was that this was outside the bounds of the bylaws and also the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) act. They didn't wish to minimize the concerns, but felt it was outside the purview of the Commission to take on adoption and safe families. Both the governor and OJJDP may not have a favorable view on the Commissions involvement there. Chairman Burgess agreed to help Commissioner LaBay find a more correct venue for addressing this issue.

Comments from the Public-

There were no statements from the public.

Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Thursday May 12, 2016. This will be at the Summit View Youth Center in Las Vegas, Nevada. The meeting will start at 9:00 am.

Adjourn

Chairman Burgess moved to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 12:20 pm.