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NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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**NEVADA STATE JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

September 22, 2016

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Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Coppa at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call – Dan Coppa

Members Present: Dan Coppa, Steve McBride, Mayra Roriguez-Galindo, MariaJose Taibo-Vega

Members Present by Phone: Ross Armstrong, Michael Beam, Paula Smith

Members Excused: Lisa Morris Hibbler, Jack Martin, Elizabeth Florez, Kim Wanker

Staff Present: Chief Leslie Bittleston

Staff Present by Phone: Tirzah Fagan (Deputy Attorney General), J. Alice Mueller

Members of the Public Present by Phone: Brent Buffone

Public Comment and Discussion

There were no public comments.

Review of Official Minutes from April 14th, 18th, and June 30, 2016

The minutes for April 14th, 28th, June 30, and July 21, 2016 minutes were reviewed and adopted by consent calendar. There was no objection to this action.

Community Corrections Partnership Block Grant– Leslie Bittleston

A policy was presented to the National Association of Juvenile Justice Administrators (NAJJA) on the background and uses of the Community Partnership Block Grant (CPBG). This is no longer referred to as Medicaid Room and Board, as it does not deal with federal funds. Rather, it is a block of funds from the state general funds which is divided amongst the seventeen counties, for the purpose of providing direct services or diversion type activities to youth in the juvenile justice system.

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There has been some confusion over how to report the expenditure of these funds. A policy was formulated to help clear up any questions. The draft was presented at the August NAJJA meeting hosted by Douglas County at Lake Tahoe. Overall the policy was well received by the Administrators.

Many of the questions concerned dates of when the money could be used, including what would be done with any remaining funds. Nevada has a two year budget cycle, so any funds not used during the biennium, will be reverted back to the state general funds.

Nevada is currently in the process of undergoing a comprehensive review of its Juvenile Justice System by a Council of State Government (CSG) taskforce. They could come back with recommendations regarding these funds. For now, the policy will be put on hold until something comes back from the CSG taskforce. Once these recommendations are made, they will be verified so that any relating to the CPBG will be incorporated into the policy, then moved forward toward adoption.

Once signed by the deputy administrator and administrator of the Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) it could then be adopted as policy. At this point, it will be placed on the DCFS website where it would be available to the counties. There has been a push lately, on getting more information on the DCFS website for use by both counties and stakeholders.

A request was made to have this draft provided to both the Planning and Development committee and the Juvenile Justice Commission. This will be disseminated at the next meeting.

SB107 Room Confinement– Leslie Bittleston

This covers the July and August reports which has seen a drop in the use of room confinement in the state correctional facilities at both the Caliente Youth Center (CYC) and Summit View Youth Center (SVYC). Previously SVYC had been putting youth to bed early and counting this as room confinement. They have discontinued this practice and their numbers are now reduced. The youth detention centers remain fairly constant in the numbers reported. Charts were provided showing two full years of data for both detention and correctional facilities which showed fairly consistent trends. The first two months of this fiscal year do show a decrease, so it will be interesting to see how this trends.

2015 Annual Governor's Report– Dan Coppa

A preliminary copy of the 2015 Annual Governor's Report had been sent to members of the Committee. Appendices E and G will be available for review at the October meeting. Most of the requested changes were in clarifying terms, to make them understandable by laypersons and not just those familiar with juvenile justice. The noted Assembly and Senate bills were to be placed in numerical order for ease of reading. Where statistics were broken out by Washoe and Clark Counties, a request was made to have a better overview by using statewide data. Also requested was a brief explanation in appendix C and D on how the Title II Formula Grant of \$393,667.00 is divided up resulting in \$223,667.00 being available for sub grants. It was stressed that this is a 2015 report, and information pertaining to 2016 should be saved for the succeeding year's report.

Governor's Executive Order – Leslie Bittleston

At the July meeting, the Governor's Executive Order was discussed in relation to the authority it provided for monitoring of facilities in the compliance universe. This comprises jails, correctional facilities, camps and any location capable of holding juveniles for any length of time. The most recent executive order was from Governor Gibbons and signed December 11, 2008. Is there a need to update the executive order or is there another means of making sure that compliance monitors have the authority to enter and review facilities.

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Chief Bittleston reviewed how several other states dealt with the issue and presented findings from Georgia and Colorado. Georgia has a new House bill which became effective June 2016 and put this authority in state statute. Colorado already has many items in state statute. The question then is, does Nevada wish to have something in the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC), Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) or keep the executive order in place?

In the recent Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) training received by Chief Bittleston, it appeared that they were recommending something within state statute. Upon discussion, it was determined that not much could be done with the executive order and that OJJDP perhaps would like to see something with more authority. Chairman Coppa requested a copy of the OJJDP power point presentation where this is delineated.

Chairman Coppa and Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Tirzah Fagan will work on putting together a study on what changes to the NAC or NRS would engender. They will then discuss their findings with Mike Willden, Nevada Chief of Staff. Recommendations will be presented, but they will be sensitive to the governor's input, in case he may have another idea on how to deal with providing authority to compliance monitors.

At the next Planning and Development meeting Tirzah Fagan will give a presentation to the Planning and Development Committee about the process needed to put authorization for compliance checks into NAC and/or NRS. There is no definite timeline for getting any of this accomplished. Chief Bittleston was thanked for bringing the topic up to the Committee.

Compliance Letter to Listenbee – Leslie Bittleston

A letter from Chairman Burgess to OJJDP Administrator Listenbee had been presented to this Committee previously, but was not sent. When reviewed by the Juvenile Justice Commission at the August meeting, it elicited comments from Commissioner Walker which were viewed as being applicable to the subject matter discussed. A paragraph was created which encompassed his comments and the entire letter was reviewed by Tirzah Fagan who softened the language a bit.

Chairman Coppa suggested that a copy be sent to Commissioner Walker for his approval before sending the letter out to Administrator Listenbee. He also suggested the addition of another question into the body of the letter, which would address what training OJJDP would provide on these issues.

New Business

The Committee was brought up to date on the progress of the Supporting Youth Opportunity and Preventing Delinquency Act. This is the current name for reauthorizing the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act which has not been reauthorized for several years. The bill and several pieces of information pertaining to it, were provided to the members of the Committee.

Comments from Public

Brent Buffone from BPSD in Yerington, Nevada wished to announce that they were adopting a comprehensive bilingual education program which would include an evidence based mentoring portion. This has the support of the Child Welfare League of America, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency and the Center for Substance Abuse and Prevention. The course will be for eight weeks from October 19th to December 14th.

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Set Time, Date and Agenda for Next Meeting

The next Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 20, 2016 at 10:00 am. This will be a video and teleconference with the following items on the agenda.

Agenda:

SB107 Room Confinement

2015 Annual Governor's Report

Governor's Executive Order

Community Partnership Block Grant

Compliance

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 a.m. by Chairman Coppa.