

MINUTES

**Nevada Children’s Justice Act (CJA) Task Force Subcommittee
Bylaws**

March 12, 2024

11:00 AM

1. Call to Order – Salli Kerr, Chair

Meeting called to order at 11:00 AM Salli Kerr. She announced that Rachell Ekroos would be conducting the meeting.

2. Roll Call – Dylan Nall, DCFS

Dylan Nall called the roll.

Attendees:

Name	Organization
Desiree Mattice	Lieutenant – Dept. of Public Safety
Dylan Nall	Nevada DCFS
Jane Saint	Boys Town Nevada
Megan Miller	
Michelle Rodriguez	Family Court Master
Rachell Ekroos	
Salli Kerr	Western Regional CAC
Bruce Cole (recorder)	Nevada DCFS

Absent:

Name	Organization
Fran Maldonado	Nevada DCFS
Lori Jackson	Nevada DCFS

3. Initial Public Comment (Discussion only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled for action at a later meeting). To provide public comment, please unmute your microphone before speaking, or you can call into the meeting by using number, 775-321-6111, with passcode number 899206185# – Salli Kerr, Spokesperson

No comments.

4. For Possible Action: Review the Children’s Justice Act Task Force goals – Dylan Nall, DCFS

Dylan Nall went over the five goals of the CJA Task Force:

1. Provide CPS workers and stakeholders with front-end and specialty discipline specific and advanced training. Training should be prioritized but not limited to requirement of CARA and JTVA program Improvement Plans, child protective model assessments, ICWA, sexual abuse, domestic violence, forensic interviewing, trauma-informed practices, substance use and co-occurring mental health disorders and training needs identified in collaboration with Court Improvement Plan.
2. Support the implementation of the CSEC model Coordinated Response Protocol and provide training and support for the formation of the MDTs and Task Forces.
3. Support the establishment of new CACs and or other multi-disciplinary team approaches and improve the capacity of existing CACs to provided multidisciplinary response for victims of child sexual abuse and exploitation, physical abuse, and child victims with disabilities. Activities may include the development of a strategic action plan for the project implementation, identification of rural healthcare providers, investigation of funding opportunities in infrastructure and operating costs, and the use of telehealth and telemedicine statewide.
4. Fund technology requests to improve the investigation, assessment and prosecution of child abuse and neglect through use of the latest technology and to support use of new and existing training technologies.
5. Identify new or needed changes to policy, regulation and/or legislation to meet requirements of federal program improvement plans and other federal state initiatives. Support training and policy needs related to the new or revised policy regulation and legislation.

5. For Possible Action: Children’s Justice Act Task Force Bylaws – Dylan Nall, DCFS and Rachell Ekroos

Dylan Nall put up on the screen the bylaws of the CJA Task Force. Then Rachell Ekroos put up another document – the bylaws with proposed edits purely for just clarity and conciseness of language. If there was anything substantive, there could be a discussion about that. The minutes reflect discussion and decisions about substantive matters, not edits for “clarity and conciseness.”

Jane Saint commented about sections 4.34 and 4.35. She could not comprehend what was being said. Dylan Nall said the 4.34 (about “ensuring effective planning”) is about the planning process and monitoring results and recommendations – it read to her like standard CRP language. Regarding 4.35 (“monitor and strengthen programs and services”) again, Dylan read that as, for example, monitoring our NOFOs. She mentioned she had not been with FPO in 2020 when these were written. Jane Saint said she had wondered, what programs are we talking about?

Rachell Ekroos suggested that we add to the end of each one of those sections’ language something like “as indicated in section 4.4,” as 4.4 takes us right into the CRP, the Citizens Review panel. It was agreed that “identified” should be used instead of “indicated.”

Salli Kerr noted that NOFOs are not under the CRP. So the language for them could be “as identified in article V.” Desiree Mattice suggested “as detailed” in place of “as identified.” This was adopted.

Jane Saint asked if we need to put something under Duties (Section 7.2) about attending the national conference. There was nothing in the current document, so Dylan found language in last year’s Program Instruction. This was pasted in the document and modified to be section 7.2.6: “The Chair and CJA Coordinator or designees will participate in at least one Federally initiated CJA meeting each year that the grant is in effect and are authorized to use grant funds to cover travel and per diem expenses to attend the meeting when held in person.”

At the end of this review, Dylan Nall said she hoped to have these Bylaws with their recommended changes ready for the next CJA Task Force meeting on April 2, 2024.

Desiree Mattice moved that the changes to the Bylaws be accepted. Jane Saint seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

- 6. Final Public Comment: (Discussion only: Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for action at a later meeting) To provide public comment, please unmute your microphone before speaking, or you can call into the meeting by number 775-321-6111, with passcode number 899206185# – Rachell Ekroos**

Jane Saint said that since Rachell Ekroos had done such a great job with the Bylaw and become so familiar with them, she should handle the presentation at the next CJA Task Force meeting. This was agreed upon.

- 7. Adjournment – Rachell Ekroos**

Meeting adjourned at 12:25 PM.