



**JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, June 5, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Zoom**

Members in Attendance:

Bob Nelson for **Adam, Peter**, 4th District Supervisor
Sol Linver for **Brown, William**, Sheriff-Coroner
Shana Burns for **Gleghorn, Alice** Ph.D., Director, Behavior Wellness
Hamlin, Matt, Coast Valley Substance Abuse Treatment Center
Hart, Gregg, 2nd District Supervisor
Heitman, Tanja, Chief Probation Officer
Kerwood, Michelle, Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (CADA)
Macuga, Tracy, Public Defender (PD)
Bernard Melekian for **Miyasato, Mona**, County Executive Officer (CEO)
Nicola, Mag, District Attorney's Office (DA)
Amy Krueger for **Nielson, Daniel**, Director, Department of Social Services (DSS)
Rene Wheeler for **Salcido, Susan** Ed.D., Superintendent, Santa Barbara County Education Office (SBCEO)
Serrano, Saul, Community Action Commission (CAC)
Sharkey, Jill, Ph.D., Associate Dean for Research and Outreach, University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB)
Alex Altavilla for **Stoney, Todd**, Captain, Santa Barbara Police Department (SBPD)
Zimmerman, Brian, Santa Maria Bonita School District (SMBSD)

Members Absent/Unrepresented:

Cash, Michael, Guadalupe Police Chief
Hansen, Phil, Chief, Santa Maria Police Department (SMPD)
Palera, Dominick, Chair, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJRPC)
Parker, Darrel, Court Executive Officer
Wallace, Kathrine, Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD)

Staff Present:

Benton, Holly, Probation Department
Bertrand, Ethan, 2nd District Office
Brumbaugh, Kristina, Probation Department
Cardenas, Alejandro, CADA
Hon. Dandona, Jean, Santa Barbara Superior Court
Esparza, April, CADA
Miller, Seth, CAC
Novatt, Maria, County Counsel
Pinto, Alexis, CADA
Roberts, Bill, Probation Department
Small, Shawn, Probation Department
Stanley, Britt, CADA

Swanson, Brian, Probation Department

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

1. Roll Call of the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) Members

Present

Alex Altavilla
Shana Burns
Matt Hamlin
Gregg Hart
Tanja Heitman
Michelle Kerwood
Amy Krueger
Sol Linver
Tracy Macuga
Bernard Melekian
Bob Nelson
Mag Nicola
Saul Serrano
Jill Sharkey
Billi Jo Starr (9:10am – 9:26 am)
Rene Wheeler
Brian Zimmerman

Absent

Michael Cash
Phil Hansen
Dominick Palera
Darrel Parker
Katy Wallace

2. Approval of Minutes from May 1, 2020 – All

- A motion was made by Supervisor Hart, and seconded by Bernard Melekian, to approve the May 1, 2020, meeting minutes as submitted.
 - A roll call vote was taken of the JJCC members present.
 - Ayes: 14
(Bob Nelson, Sol Linver, Shana Burns, Gregg Hart, Tanja Heitman, Tracy Macuga, Bernard Melekian, Amy Krueger, Mag Nicola, Rene Wheeler, Matt Hamlin, Michelle Kerwood, Jill Sharkey, Alex Altavilla)
 - Nayes: 0
 - Abstention: 2
(Saul Serrano, Brian Zimmerman)

3. Public Comment

- None

4. Comments for Council Members not on Agenda

- None

5. Chief Probation Officer Comments – Chief Heitman

- Chief Heitman shared with the group that the report by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee (JLAC) regarding the Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) has been published. The report is available to the public and can be obtained on the JLAC website. There are two recommendations for Santa Barbara County by

the Board of State and Community Corrections, one of which is that the county provide additional information in the annual report that is due October 1st.

- The Elevate Justice Initiative has been put on hold due to the COVID crisis as the number of bills being passed through this legislative cycle is being limited.
- The Governor's proposed budget includes a realignment of Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) functions to the counties. If this passes as proposed, as of January 1st counties will no longer be able to send juveniles to DJJ. Counties could establish programs and receive funding for sex offenders or high needs mentally ill youth and other counties could potentially send youth to those programs. It is unknown at this time if the Governor's approved budget will include this change.
 - For Santa Barbara County there are currently six youth in DJJ and five youth pending transportation to DJJ. DJJ jurisdiction goes to the age of 25, which is not a population we are currently providing in-custody services to in our local juvenile detention facilities.
- Senate Bill (SB) 1111 provides that when a youth is undergoing court proceedings in the juvenile court system, even if they are later moved to the adult system, they will not be transferred to county jail when they turn 18. If this passes it will enable these individuals to remain in juvenile hall until they are 21.

6. Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-21 Funding Review – Damon Fletcher

- The Governor has released the May revise to his budget. The budget now has significant FY 2020-21 revenue reductions in many programs.
- JJCPA is funded by Vehicle License Fees (VLF) and the base amount is guaranteed. VLF revenue is not being reduced as dramatically as sales tax due to COVID.
- It appears that the JJCPA budget for FY 2020-21 will not be impacted and that there will still be some FY2019-20 growth.

7. Youth Empowerment Services (YES) program – Michelle Kerwood, Britt Stanley and Brian Swanson

- The Youth Reinvestment Grant funding is provided for programs focused on diverting low-level offenders from initial contact with the juvenile justice system using approaches that are evidence-based, culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and developmentally appropriate. Santa Barbara County Probation Department, in partnership with CADA applied for and received funding to provide diversion services to youth countywide, including academic and vocational education, and behavioral health services.
- A presentation was provided to the group regarding the YES program.

8. Juvenile Hall Trust Unit – Shawn Small and Bill Roberts

- A pilot behavior modification program involving positive incentives, Probation designed and implemented a Trust Unit for youth detained in Santa Maria Juvenile Hall (SMJH). Youth who demonstrate ongoing positive behavior can apply to live in the Trust Unit, which has extra comforts, privileges and a less restrictive environment than a standard detention unit. It is believed the opportunity to be in the Trust Unit will improve overall behavior of youth in the units as they strive to be eligible for the unit, thus decreasing behavior issues and room confinement, and increasing safety for youth and staff alike.

- A presentation was provided to the group regarding the Juvenile Hall Trust Unit.
- Chief Heitman shared that she visited with the youth that reside in the Trust Unit and asked them what they like the most about the unit. They stated that the best thing about the Trust Unit was their movements are not as restricted as in the other units.
- There are challenges in gathering data related to success, as there is a small number of youth in the unit and success will look different for each youth, and the unit has not been open long. A couple of the youth in the Trust Unit have been ordered to DJJ so success for them is not the same a success for a youth that is being released to the community.
- As of today there are no females in SMJH. The facility does have a Girls Groovy Room that is available for specialized female programming. There can be challenges in providing programs specifically for female youth, due to the small number in custody at any given time.
- Since opening the Trust Unit there have been 19 youth that have been accepted into the unit, with two removed for not following the rules, and there are currently five in the unit. Youth can reside in the unit for short or longer-term housing.
- Dr. Sharkey suggested having youth in the facility journal and perhaps compare Trust Unit youth journaling to non-Trust Unit Youth to see if the Trust Unit youth disposition is more optimistic.

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Davis, Executive Secretary

Next Meeting: August 14, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. – Zoom