



**JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
Friday, October 2, 2020
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
Zoom**

Members in Attendance:

Bob Nelson for **Adam, Peter**, 4th District Supervisor
Cash, Michael, Guadalupe Police Chief
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
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)
Parker, Darrel, Court Executive Officer
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)
Starr, Billi Jo, Freedom for Youth

Members Absent/Unrepresented:

Brown, William, Sheriff-Coroner
Hansen, Phil, Chief, Santa Maria Police Department (SMPD)
Macuga, Tracy, Public Defender (PD)
Palera, Dominick, Chair, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission (JJDP)
Stoney, Todd, Captain, Santa Barbara Police Department (SBPD)
Wallace, Kathrine, Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD)
Zimmerman, Brian, Santa Maria Bonita School District (SMBSD)

Staff Present:

Benton, Holly, Probation Department
Bertrand, Ethan, 2nd District Office
Burns, Shana, Behavioral Wellness
Fletcher, Damon, Probation Department
Gonzalez, Christina
Grossi, Dana, Probation Department
Miller, Seth, CAC
Milligan, Karyn, Probation Department
Novatt, Maria, County Counsel
Small, Shawn, Probation Department
Swanson, Brian, Probation Department
Wales, Alison, Rape Crisis Center

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

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

Present

Ethan Bertrand
Michael Cash
Alice Gleghorn
Matt Hamlin
Dominick Palera
Michelle Kerwood (9:04)
Amy Krueger
Bernard Melekian
Bob Nelson
Mag Nicola
Darrel Parker
Saul Serrano
Jill Sharkey
Billi Jo Starr
Rene Wheeler

Absent

Alex Altavilla
William Brown
Phil Hansen
Tracy Macuga
Tanja Heitman
Kathy Wallace
Brian Zimmerman

2. Approval of Minutes from October 2, 2020 – All

- A motion was made by Bernard Melekian, and seconded by Mag Nicola, to approve the October 2, 2020 meeting minutes as submitted.
 - A roll call vote was taken of the JJCC members present.
 - Ayes: 14
(Bob Nelson, Alice Gleghorn, Darrel Parker, Ethan Bertrand, Tanja Heitman, Bernard Melekian, Amy Krueger, Mag Nicola, Rene Wheeler, Michael Cash, Matt Hamlin, Saul Serrano, Jill Sharkey, Billi Jo Starr)
 - Nayes: 0
 - Abstention: 0

3. Public Comment

- None

4. Comments for Council Members not on Agenda

- None

5. Chief Probation Officer Comments – Chief Heitman

- The Probation Department has joined the Pink Patch Project and Department patches are being sold for \$10, with proceeds going to a local organization. The flyer was uploaded into the chat for those interested in purchasing a patch.
- Legislation to eliminate juvenile fines and fees was passed a few years ago, but it did not address the old debit. There is a new bill that writes off the old debit. On June 16, 2020 the Probation Department received approval from the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to write off the old debit.

6. Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Realignment – Holly Benton

- A PowerPoint presentation was provided to the group regarding the Department of Juvenile Justice Realignment and associated timelines.
- Ethan Bertrand asked that if most youth ages 18-21 will now stay in the Juvenile Justice System. Chief Heitman advised that this legislation will only affect the youth that are currently in the Juvenile Justice System; no changes have currently been made to ages of jurisdiction, other than those youth who will be part of the realigned DJJ population.
- Chief Heitman stated those individuals that began proceedings in juvenile court and were transitioned to adult court will remain housed in juvenile hall until they are sentenced.
- The group asked questions to clarify the information provided in the presentation.
- Dr. Gleghorn asked if the Camp an option for these youth instead of Santa Maria Juvenile Hall. Chief Heitman stated that the Camp will be used when appropriate. The Camp is not appropriate for youth returning from DJJ as it is a non-secure facility. Some youth receiving DJJ commitments have already served commitments at Camp and failed, and they were sentenced to DJJ due to very serious crimes, including sex offenses.
- Chief Heitman stated there will be a limited amount of implementation funding available through a grant process. Counties are discussing utilizing some of this grant funding to develop a sex offender program, as that is a program that was very successful at DJJ and will be a needed service for all counties. Santa Barbara County does not have the ability to successfully serve sex offenders at this time.
- Holly Benton stated generally speaking, we do not commit a large number of youth annually, making the number manageable for housing at the juvenile hall.
- Saul Serrano asked if the funding was set. Chief Heitman indicated that the first three years of funding is set, however, there will likely be a review of it prior to the fourth year. The legislature believed counties could better serve youth locally; however, smaller counties many not be able to and youth will be sent to other counties for services.
- Chief Heitman stated the legislation includes the development of a JJCC Subcommittee which has similar required members as the JJCC. Locally the plan is to have these meetings run simultaneously. However, it requires three community members and the JJCC members do not include community members per say. County Counsel is reviewing the requirements and this change will include an update to the JJCC Bylaws.
 - Bernard Melekian stated it would be good to have the community member representatives be as diverse as the county population.
 - Ethan Bertrand stated it would be important to have an individual representing youth either formerly system-involved, or informed about the justice system.
- A proposal will be provided at the December meeting to modify the JJCC Bylaws to include the JJCC Subcommittee.

7. Racial and Ethnic Equity and Inclusion (REEEI) Data – Karyn Milligan

- A PowerPoint presentation was provided to the group regarding the Department of Juvenile Justice Realignment and associated timelines.
- The group thanked Karyn for the informative presentation.

- Bernard Melekian appreciated this view of the data and felt it provided a more complete picture than the way the data has historically been presented.
- Chief Heitman stated she felt this view of the data helped illustrate how decision points earlier in the process flowed through and affected areas later on in the system. Also, it demonstrates how the utilization of science based assessment tools help to reduce disparities.
- Dr. Sharkey stated that the information parallels the review that was done with the Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparity (RED) Committee review with the disparities being evident prior to the juvenile justice system. It is important to address disparities in systems such as education and child welfare, as they affect outcomes for those that enter the juvenile justice system.
- Ethan Bertrand stated the disparities that start on the juvenile justice side transfer to the adult system and affect public safety and justice involvement for communities of color.

8. Consider the Adoption of the 2021 Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council (JJCC) Meeting Dates – Tanja Heitman

- A motion was made by Mag Nicola, and seconded by Bernard Melekian, to adopt the 2021 JJCC meeting dates of February 5th, April 2nd, June 4th, August 13th, October 1st, and December 3rd, 2021.

A roll call vote was taken of the JJCC members present.

Ayes: 13

(Alice Gleghorn, Ethan Bertrand, Tanja Heitman, Bernard Melekian, Amy Krueger, Mag Nicola, Rene Wheeler, Michael Cash, Matt Hamlin, Michelle Kerwood, Saul Serrano, Jill Sharkey, Billi Jo Starr)

Nays: 0

Abstention: 0

Respectfully submitted by Melanie Davis, Executive Secretary

Next Meeting: December 4, 2020