

# WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

## Meeting Minutes

September 17-18, 2020: Via ZOOM due to COVID-19

### Agenda:

#### **Thursday, September 17, 2020**

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- New Business
- Ongoing Business
- Committee Reports and Committee Work Sessions

#### **Friday, September 18, 2020**

- DFS Update/Report
- Community Participation
- Announcements
- Adjournment

#### **Present:**

Abbey Kercher  
Adrienne Freng  
Dakota Jackson  
Damon DeBernardi  
Erica Wood  
Jennifer Palser  
Melinda Cox  
Narina Nunez  
Nicole Hauser  
Stacy Nelson

#### **Ex-Officio Present:**

Christina McCabe  
Ashley Gregorio  
Jen Davis  
Jo Ann Numoto

#### **Via Proxy:**

#### **Others Present:**

Brandon Schimelpfenig  
Craig Fiskus  
Nikki Sweets  
Tennessee Watson  
Lindsey Schilling  
Jen Neely  
Cristal Ramirez

#### **Absent:**

Chris Jones  
Clarence Thomas  
Gary Gilmore  
Justice Orum-Eikanger  
Shad Bates  
Steffany Stephenson  
Thomas Rose

### **Call to Order**

#### **I. Call to Order: Thursday, September 17, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.**

- a) Roll Call/Introductions
- b) Declaration of Quorum; a quorum was established with ten (10) members present.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes:**

June 18-19, 2020 meeting via Zoom; Narina Nunez motioned to approve the Minutes; Melinda Cox seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

#### **III. New Business:**

- a) Annual Report Recommendations  
Nicole Hauser discussed the 2020 Annual Report and requested ideas from the SACJJ to include in the Report. She also discussed the themes and recommendations from the 2019 Annual Report. Adrienne Freng suggested to include the loss of funding for the CJSBs around the state and also to see if the Family First funding be used to mitigate those losses; i.e. sustainable funding opportunities.

b) Open Topic Discussion from Members  
No topics brought forth by members.

c) Public Comment Period  
Nicole stated that she would like add a public comment period to each SACJJ meeting for input from the public.

#### **IV. On-Going Business – Updates From:**

a) Governor's Office –

Jen Davis stated that there have been some applications received by the Governor's Office. She also spoke on the recent budget cuts and COVID-19 efforts by the Governor's Office.

b) Council Membership –

Brandon Schimelpfenig stated he has received notification that the Governor's Office has received applications for the SACJJ. He stated that he has not received notification on who has re-applied other than Adrienne Freng. He also stated that most of the SACJJ members' terms are set to expire in August 2021.

c) Budget Report/Grant Update –

Brandon informed the SACJJ that Title II 2018 has \$448.55 remaining. Brandon stated this was due to taking the excess that was previously put in Title II 2019 and putting it back into 2018. Title II 2019 has a full \$20,000.00 remaining. Title II 2020 has been submitted to OJJDP and DFS is awaiting an award letter.

d) Non-Participating State Grant (VOA) –

Craig Fiskus stated juvenile detention centers around the state have not changed their admittance procedures. He also stated that he has suspended his compliance monitoring visits until January 2021. VOA is still waiting on notification if Wyoming will be receiving the 2019 Non-Participating State Grant funding from OJJDP.

e) 2021-2023 SACJJ Strategic Plan – Review, Edit, Approve – Adrienne Freng

Adrienne Freng presented the 2021-2023 Strategic Plan final draft to the SACJJ. She suggested revising certain items in the data section due to the recent budget reductions from the State of Wyoming. Adrienne then reviewed the Strategic Plan with the SACJJ.

Adrienne Freng also brought up the SACJJ, CJSB, and VOA Juvenile Justice Summit series of trainings to be held in October and subsequent months. There was then a motion to approve a flyer to be sent out to the CJSBs detailing the schedule of events for the series by Damon DeBernardi; Stacy Nelson seconded the motion; all in favor; motion approved. The first training will be held on October 1, 2020 from 1:00p to 3:00p.

#### **V. Committee Reports and Committee Work Sessions**

a) Executive Committee – Nicole Hauser

Nicole stated that they met and approved the draft of the new SACJJ Strategic Plan as well as wanting the Juvenile Justice Summit to be brought before the whole SACJJ for final approval.

b) Grants Committee – Nicole Hauser

Nicole stated there were no updates.

c) Best Practices – Thomas Rose

Thomas was not present for an update however Erica Wood volunteered for the committee. Stacy Nelson also volunteered for the committee.

- d) Outreach Committee – Dakota Jackson  
Erica Wood and Stacy Nelson volunteered for the committee.
- e) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng  
Erica Wood and Melinda Cox volunteered for the committee. Adrienne stated that she will reach out Jeff Lamm with Dept. of Family Services concerning questions on ROM.
- f) Legislative Committee – Damon DeBernardi  
Melinda Cox volunteered for the committee. Damon stated that the committee would be looking at the SACJJ's by-laws and new strategic plan goals pertaining to the Legislative committee. No updates regarding upcoming legislation.
- g) Youth Member Committee – Dakota Jackson  
No updates.
- h) Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ) – Brandon Schimelpfenig  
The new U.N.I.T.Y case management system that is going to be replacing J.I.D.S. will be going live in February 2021 as opposed to the previous date of December 2020.

### **Friday, September 18, 2020**

#### **VI. DFS Update/Report – Lindsey Schilling**

Lindsey Schilling, Senior Administrator for the Social Services Division with DFS, was present via Zoom to discuss questions presented by the SACJJ. Lindsey shared details on the budget reductions by DFS in their Phase 2 reductions. Details can be found on the agency's website<sup>1</sup>. Damon DeBernardi asked Lindsey a question regarding if the Legislature un-allocated the CJSB funding elsewhere since the CJSB funding was eliminated for the second half of the 2020-2022 biennium. Lindsey responded by stating that DFS has submitted Title 14 Chapter 9 statute changes to the CJSB statute<sup>2</sup> to reflect that should funding not be available that DFS would not be held to those statutory obligations. Adrienne Freng asked Lindsey what would happen should the statute changes not pass. Lindsey replied that should the changes not pass then the Legislature would need to re-appropriate the CJSB amount that was cut from the funding or provide guidance on how to move forward with a zero dollar funding amount for the CJSBs.

#### **VII. Community Participation**

- a) Fremont County CJSB  
Melinda Cox shared what sorts of services the Fremont County CJSB provides. She highlighted services with the Fremont County Day Reporting Center as well as treatment courts in Fremont County. She also spoke on the consequences of the budget reductions from the state to juvenile services in the Fremont County area.
- b) Lander DFS  
Jen Neely, District Manager for the Lander area and Tribal Liaison for the E. Shoshone and N. Arapaho DFS offices, shared trends on juvenile probation and child protection

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<sup>1</sup> <https://dfs.wyo.gov/about/dfs-step-2-budget-reductions/>

<sup>2</sup> [14 Wyo. § 9.101-9.108 \(2019\)](#)

services in the Lander area. She stated that sexual abuse allegation and educational neglect cases are seeing an uptick in the area. She also shared child protection and juvenile probation trends for the N. Arapaho, E. Shoshone, and Riverton DFS offices.

c) Guardian Ad Litem's (GAL) Office

Cristal Ramirez from the GAL's office in Lander was present to highlight some of the work that they are doing in the area.

**VIII. Announcements**

The next SACJJ meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 19-20 in Douglas, WY. Brandon stated that the application for Title II 2020 has been approved by OJJDP and he will now go through the acceptance process to accept the award in the amount of \$20,000.00. He stated that the 2020 ICJ Annual Report has been sent out to the SACJJ. He also stated that the 2020 SRAD National Training Conference will be online this year and all SACJJ members are invited to attend. Nicole Hauser stated she would be contacting the Governor's Office and talk about member appointments. Nicole also stated that she would be contacting Thomas Rose concerning his intention on staying on as chair of the Best Practices committee.

Adrienne Freng presented the revised Strategic Plan. Stacy Nelson motioned to approve the revised SACJJ Strategic Plan 2021-2023; Damon seconded the motion; all in favor; motion approved.

**IX. Adjournment**

Melinda Cox motioned to adjourn the meeting; Jennifer Palser seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. Meeting was adjourned at 11:08 a.m.