

WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

April 18-19, 2019 • Sheridan, WY

Agenda:

Thursday, April 18, 2019

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- New Business
- On-Going Business
- Committee Reports
- 2018 Neal Madson Award Pres.

Friday, April 19, 2019

- DFS Update
- Community Participation
- Announcements
- Adjournment

Present:

Adrienne Freng
Chris Jones
Dakota Jackson
Damon DeBernardi
Jennifer Palser
Michael Sorenson
Nicole Hauser
Thomas Rose

Ex-Officio Present:

Jo Ann Numoto
Nicole Gilbert (Zoom)

Via Proxy or Zoom:

Allison Anderson (Zoom)
Gary Gilmore (Zoom)
Narina Nunez (proxy)
Rene' Kemper (proxy)

Others Present:

Brandon Schimelpfenig
Craig Fisgus
Sheridan Sturgis
Korin Schmidt (Zoom)
Dan Lindly
Jeff Bell
Suzie Arnold

Absent:

Alex Cooley
Clarence Thomas
Erin Anderson-Swilling
Justice Orum-Eikanger
Madison Bates
Shad Bates
Steffany Stephenson

Call to Order

I. Call to Order: Thursday, April 18, 2019 at 1:00 p.m.

- a) Roll Call/Introductions
- b) Declaration of Quorum, established with 12 members.

II. Approval of Minutes

January 17-18, 2019 meeting in Cheyenne, WY; Thomas Rose stated that on the last page of the Minutes there was a typo that Damon DeBernardi's name was missing the letter D on his first name; Nicole Hauser motioned to approve the Minutes with the change correcting the error; Adrienne Freng seconded the motion; all in favor; motion passes to approve the Minutes as amended.

III. New Business

a) Annual Report – Update

The 2018 Annual Report is still being compiled however Adrienne Freng has volunteered to put together the final pieces.

b) ROM MOU Language Review

Brandon Schimelpfenig with the Department of Family Services (DFS) stated that there have been no changes to the draft language of the Results Oriented Management (ROM) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between DFS and the Council. This MOU is concerning the Council's roles and responsibilities as well as the departments with the administration of the juvenile justice ROM data collection. Brandon stated that a meeting needs to be set up between DFS and the Council to discuss what the Council would like to see included in the MOU as well as reviewing any specific language the Council or DFS would like to see re-worked. Adrienne Freng stated that the Executive Committee from the Council should consult with the Council's Attorney General's representative, Christina McCabe, and go over the MOU with her first before a meeting with DFS is scheduled. Nicole Hauser stated that the Council will need to submit any edits or input regarding the MOU to the Executive Committee by May 15, 2019.

c) Contact with New Governor's Administration

Allison Anderson stated that Betsy Anderson is currently the Boards and Commissions contact for the Governor's Office but that is temporary. It is also still unknown who will be the representative assigned to the Council from the Governor's Office or even if there will be a representative assigned. Craig Figus with Volunteers of America Northern Rockies (VOA NR) stated that he recently requested permission from the Governor's Office to use Governor Gordon's name on the plaque for the 2018 Neal Madsen Excellence in Juvenile Justice Award however that was denied due to the Governor's office not being involved in the decision making process and still getting settled in. Due to this, the 2018 Neal Madsen award will not be awarded until a later date.

d) JJDPA Updates – Nicole Hauser/Brandon Schimelpfenig

Brandon stated that the biggest changes that came from the JJDPA reauthorization was concerning the Council member representation in that there needs to be a tribal representative on the roster as well as licensed staff with expertise in mental health or substance abuse relating to juvenile justice. The maximum age that youth member can apply has been raised from 23 to 28 years old. Also, in the event that the Council is unable to fill positions of individuals who are or have been under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system, the Council may appoint a parent or guardian of such an individual.

e) Open Topic Discussion from Members:

- i. Allison Anderson stated that she will be resigning from the Council in the coming weeks as her employer recently was awarded a contract to upgrade the Department of Family Services' case management system and as such stated that the project would be a conflict of interest with her remaining as Chair of the Council. Thomas Rose nominated the current Vice-Chair, Nicole Hauser, to the Chair position upon Allison's resignation. Nicole accepted Mr. Rose's nomination. Adrienne Freng moved that upon Allison's resignation that the Council elects Nicole Hauser as Chair of the Council; Thomas Rose seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. With this motion, there now is an open Vice-Chair position. No nominations were put forth for the Vice-Chair position.

- ii. Adrienne Freng brought up the topic of how juvenile citations are being handled as e-citations can't be expunged from records as the courts are not allowing e-citations to be kept confidential and deleted from the system without filing. This means that there will be a public record even if it's dismissed and taken to juvenile court. Discussion was had by the Council concerning this.
- iii. Brandon Schimelpfenig stated that two youth member's terms were expiring soon on 06/30/19; Alex Cooley (District 1) and Madison Bates (District 8). Dakota Jackson stated that she had reached out to Madison and stated that Madison plans on re-applying for another term. Communication attempts with Alex Cooley have been unsuccessful.

IV. On-Going Business – Updates from:

- a) Budget Report/Grant Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Title II 2017 has \$748.28 remaining. Title II 2018 still has a full \$20,000.00. Part 1 of Title II 2019 has been submitted to OJJDP and approved. Part 2 has been submitted and is awaiting approval from OJJDP.
- b) ROM/Data Collection Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig/Debra Hibbard
No updates that weren't already stated in ROM MOU update.
- c) Governor's Office – TBD
No updates as the Council does not currently have an ex-officio assigned from the Governor's Office.
- d) Non-Participating State Grant (VOA) – Craig Fisgus
Craig stated that he was not able to complete compliance monitoring on counties due to a recent surgery but he has now been cleared for travel. Craig stated that something he has been seeing lately regarding compliance with counties is that most counties have holding areas for adult and juvenile offenders while they are awaiting court hearings however not all of them have sight and sound separation from adult offenders. Craig also gave an update on data reporting efforts with the Juvenile Jail Roster.
- e) 2018-2020 SACJJ Strategic Plan: Review and Updates
Allison Anderson reviewed the 2018-2020 Strategic Plan with Council and outlined progress or lack thereof made on individual goals and activities.

V. Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee – Allison Anderson
Allison stated they had their call a few weeks ago and discussed the proposed agenda for this meeting as well as Allison's impending resignation.
- b) Grants Committee – Allison Anderson/Craig Fisgus
VOA Grant Review: Craig and Allison stated there were no updates regarding the Grants committee however Craig stated this is mainly due to not having received the budget for the Non-Participating State Grant Award for the current fiscal year from OJJDP yet. He stated there may come a time in the near future that he will have to send out the Request For Proposals (RFP) without having a budget set.

c) Best Practices – Nicole Hauser

Nicole stated that as she will be succeeding Allison as Chair of the Council that she would like another member on the committee to volunteer as Chair of the Best Practices committee. Thomas Rose volunteered and has been named the new chair of the committee. No other updates.

d) Outreach Committee – Thomas Rose

Thomas stated that the committee had not met and there were no other updates. He stated that they will be scheduling a meeting before the June meeting.

e) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng

Adrienne stated that the committee had not met as they were waiting on the ROM MOU with DFS. She said they will be meeting in between now and the next meeting in June 2019 in Worland to discuss the MOU. Craig Fisgus also stated that as there was previous uncertainty regarding the Juvenile Justice (JJ) ROM website and the data reporting spreadsheet currently being utilized by the Community Juvenile Services Boards (CJSB) that he and Adrienne had put talks of consolidating the data reporting sheet that counties use to submit data to VOA and the quarterly ROM reporting sheet that the CJSBs submit to Brandon with DFS on hold. As there is now going to be an MOU put into place between the Council and DFS regarding the governance of the JJ ROM he stated that he and Adrienne will resume those talks and make sure that the data reporting sheet has what VOA needs for data collection as well as what the CJSBs need to report on for DFS.

f) Legislative Committee – Damon DeBernardi

Damon stated that they did not hold a meeting between January's and this meeting but that he would set up a meeting between now and the June meeting to discuss recent statute.

g) Youth Member Committee – Dakota Jackson

Dakota stated that she has been in contact with prospective youth members.

h) Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ) – Maureen Clifton

Maureen was not present however Brandon Schimelpfenig stated that there were no updates concerning ICJ.

VI. 2018 Neal Madson Best Practice in Juvenile Justice Award Presentation

a) Executive Committee & VOA present award

As stated in the "Contact with New Governor's Administration" section, the 2018 Neal Madsen Award will be presented at a later date.

VII. DFS Update/Report – Korin Schmidt

Korin was present via Zoom video conferencing to present on DFS. Korin stated that there was one bill relating to juvenile justice that she wanted to speak about and that was HB0044: Expungement of Juvenile Records. She stated that the department is currently looking at policy and seeing what changes need to be made to come into compliance with the statute. She also stated that the department requested a 10 year grace period as the current system, WYCAPS (Wyoming Children’s Assistance and Protection System), is not only a case management system but also a financial system so the department needs to have access to these records for purposes of grant reporting and audits. Korin then spoke about budget changes and that the department is gearing up for the upcoming budget session in 2020. The department has a new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in Colleen Quinn. Previously, Craig Spradlin was the agency’s CFO on an interim status until the new administration started. Ed Heimer, who was previously performing double duties as Field Services Administrator for the State Office as well the District Manager for District 5 (Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie counties), has now committed to performing just Field Services Administration duties and will be hiring his replacement for the District 5 area soon.

VIII. Community Participation

a) Sheridan County Dept. of Family Services

Jeff Bell, District Manager for the District 4 area (Sheridan and Johnson counties), was present to discuss trends the local DFS office is seeing in the area as well as services provided. Jeff stated that he has seven caseworkers in Sheridan and three caseworkers in Buffalo. Jeff stated that the main reason children are coming into care is due to substance abuse by the parent(s) or guardian(s). The main substance that is causing the most issues is alcohol and opiates.

b) Sheridan Juvenile Justice Commission

Dan Lindly from the Sheridan Juvenile Justice Commission was present to discuss trends they are seeing in the Sheridan County area. He stated the commission was formed in the late 90’s under a joint powers board and still reports to this board. He said the program provides both juvenile and adult services. He stated that there has been a steady decrease in juvenile numbers over the past 10 years regarding juveniles receiving services by the program. Also he said that juveniles being placed in detention have been steadily decreasing as well. Dan stated that the main two funding sources for the program are from the city and county governments through the 1% optional sales tax. The main sources of referrals for the program come from municipal court and circuit court in Sheridan County. Referrals are received from juvenile court as well.

c) VOA – Northern Rockies

Suzie Arnold, Division Director of Youth and Outreach Services with Volunteers of America, was present to discuss youth services with VOA in Sheridan County. Suzie reiterated Dan’s statements that juvenile numbers in the Sheridan County area have steadily decreased. She presented information regarding the group home on the VOA campus. She also presented information on VOA’s Independent Living program.

d) Wyoming Girl’s School (followed by a tour)

Chris Jones, Superintendent of the Wyoming Girl’s School, gave a short presentation on the history of the WGS, day-to-day activities, and what types of services are provided.

IX. Announcements

a) Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on June 20-21, 2019 in Worland, WY.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn meeting by Thomas Rose; Michael Sorenson seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried; meeting adjourned at 10:35 AM.