

**STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE  
(SACJJ)  
Laramie, Wyoming  
January 27-28, 2000  
Minutes**

**Council Members Present:** John Frentheway, Kathy Hutchison, Nena James, Chuck Kratz, Steve Lindly, Bob Mayor, Pat Nagel, Narina Nunez, Rick Paul, Val Seidel, Ben Silliman, Thomas Sullins

**Staff Support:** Les Pozsgi, Merit Thomas, Renee Gamino, Div. of Juvenile Services

**Others Attending:**

Dennis Adler, Albany Co. Detention Center

Lara Azar, Casper Star-Tribune

John Fanning, Albany Co. Sheriff's Office

Joe Evans, Wyoming Co. Commissioners' Association (WCCA)

Diane Galloway, Governor's Substance Abuse and Violent Crime Advisory Board

Jim Kyritsis, Laramie Police Dept.

Donna Messerli, Wyoming Co. Commissioners' Association (WCCA)

Ruthena Gibbons, UW Intern for WCCA

Charles Munier, Albany Co. Sheriff's Office

Jim Pond, Albany Co. Sheriff's Office

Dawn Phillips, DFS-Financial Services

Cal Rerucha, Albany Co. Attorney

Gary Sherman, University of Wyoming

Gwen Smith, Laramie Police Dept.

Loretta Willhard, Laramie Co. Crisis Center

**Unable To Attend:** James Boykin, Pat Crow, Carol Crump, Lynn Dickey, Tom Harrington, Mark Harris, Sharon Mann, Mike Seabeck, Doreen Thunder

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**Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review.** Bob Mayor, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m., and began the meeting with introductions. Les Pozsgi introduced Dr. Embry and shared the reasons for having Dr. Embry present to the Council. Les suggested two ideas for the Council to consider:

- Develop an Intervention and Prevention Blueprint focusing on Juvenile Justice issues of Wyoming.
- Establish formal ties with the Governor's Substance Abuse and Violent Crime Advisory Board.

**Special Presentation.** Dr. Embry is working with The Governor's Substance Abuse and Violent Crime Advisory Board. He referred to the Methamphetamine Initiative handout (**Attachment A, page 1**) that outlines Twelve Disturbing Trends about Substance Abuse in Wyoming. Dr. Embry's presentation addressed the brain development in children and the correlation to behavior problems and best practices with children established through empirical research.

**Grant Review Committee Minutes.** During lunch, the committee worked on the following topics:

- Holdover Program (**Attachment B**)

- Review FY98 Evaluation and Technical Assistance requests
- Statistical Center proposal-Narina Nunez requested adding this topic to the list
- FY99 Allocation, Application and Timeline

**Holdover Program.** After reviewing and discussing the program requirements, the committee asked Renee Gamino to schedule a conference call with Karen Dunlap, American Probation and Parole Association. The committee needs more information about the program and an opportunity to ask questions.

**FY98 Evaluation and Technical Assistance.** Val Seidel requested Narina Nunez to review the requirements used to approve requests. Copies of the requests were made, so the committee could review them. They will provide recommendations to Renee Gamino the second day of the Council meeting. The deadline to submit requests was extended to January 31, 2000.

**Statistical Center.** Narina Nunez inquired about using FY98 JAIBG state portion to fund the statistical center. Narina explained the proposal and reasons for funding the center. Bob Mayor suggested the committee consult with the financial representative to comprehend the FY98 JAIBG budget information.

**FY99 Allocation, application and timeline.** Renee Gamino briefed the committee on the distribution process and timeline.

- The committee decided to meet on February 10, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. in Douglas to review additional information on JAIBG State Plan, FY99 Application Review Process and other FY98 Evaluation Requests. Kathy Hutchinson offered to make arrangements for a meeting room and refreshments.

**WCCA Nonparticipation Grant.** Donna Messerli, Project Coordinator, presented a "Pre-Evaluation Report", dated January 15, 2000 (**refer to Attachment C**). Donna asked the Council for assistance in working with communities not receptive to the proposal and compliance requirements.

- **Juvenile Justice Team.** Joe Evans, Director, Wyoming County Commissioner's Association (WCCA), reviewed the list of individuals to serve on the Juvenile Justice team. The team would provide assistance to communities interested in the nonparticipation grant. Joe indicated the team would like Renee Gamino to serve as a Technical Advisor and a council member to participate. No action was taken.

**Statistical Center Proposal.** Gary Sherman, University of Wyoming, addressed the Council about the data collection proposal (**Attachment D**). Bob Mayor asked Mr. Sherman to keep the Council informed about other entities interested in funding the project. Mr. Sherman will contact the Council when the proposal and commitments are finalized.

**Committees meet (separately).** The Council members met within their separate committees to review, address completed projects and provide updates.

- **Juvenile Justice Committee.** The committee used their time to review the comments on the Proposed Juvenile Detention Standards. They discussed how to proceed with the summary report to the Governor. A conference call will be scheduled on February 14, 2000, at 1:00 p.m. Val Seidel will coordinate with Renee Gamino to schedule the call and prepare a draft summary for the committee.

- **Delinquency Prevention and Youth Services Committee.**

**Juvenile Service Directory.** The committee reviewed the printed copy of the statewide directory. The directory will include a form to update or add juvenile services information provided in other counties. The directory will be available on the SACJJ Internet Address:

<http://dfsweb.state.wy.us>

Hard copies will be mailed to groups such as; Council members, JAIBG project coordinators, Crisis Shelters and DFS field offices.

The committee decided to meet on February 11, 2000, at 10:00 a.m. in Douglas. Renee Gamino will finalize the details and confirm the meeting information with the committee members.

**Adjourn.** There being no further business and no objections, it was moved the Council adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m., and will reconvene at 8:30 a.m., on January 28, 2000.

**Grant Review Committee Meets.** After the Council meeting adjourned, the Grant Review committee met with Dawn Phillips, Financial Services Accountant, Les Pozsgi and Merit Thomas to review FY98 JAIBG budget report.

- The committee discussed distributing the leftover FY98 JAIBG funds. It was decided to distribute the leftover funds to JAIBG projects based on a percentage rate. Renee Gamino will develop the distribution amounts and review it with Les. The Chairperson will review the list and determine a process to announce availability of the leftover funds.

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Minutes**

**January 28, 2000, meeting** reconvened at 8:35 a.m. with a welcome and introductions. Bob Mayor reviewed the revised agenda with the Council members and guests.

**Minutes.** The minutes were reviewed. Ric Paul motioned to accept the minutes and Narina Nunez second the motion. Council approved the motion.

**Bylaws.** Bob Mayor asked Renee Gamino to read the e-mail from Lynn Dickey regarding the paragraph on how to amend bylaws. Narina Nunez motioned and Ric Paul second to add paragraph to bylaws. Motioned approved.

**Annual Report.** The Council members received copies of the SACJJ 1999 Annual report. The report was submitted to the Governor's office and copies will be provided to the Joint Judiciary Committee.

**Early Childhood Development Council.** A copy of the Council's Recommendations for 1999/ 2000 Annual report and strategic plan were provided. Renee Gamino shared about intervention and prevention programs addressing juvenile issues:

- The Council endorses the Home Visitation Program Legislation supported by Senator Scott.

- The Headstart programs participated in a training on how to identify and address “anti-social behavior” in toddlers.

If anyone would like a copy of the full report with attachments, please contact Renee Gamino.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Val Seidel reported the remaining balance for 5% SAG is \$50,949.55 and for FY98 JAIBG the balance is \$237,000. Narina Nunez reported on the Grant Review committee’s recommendation to distribute the remaining FY98 JAIBG funds to each JAIBG project. The JAIBG project coordinators would need to identify the purpose area and commit to a cash match. Narina motioned to approve, Nena James second and Council approved the recommendation.

**Workshops/Training.** Renee Gamino provided copies of training information on working with American Indian Youth (**Attachment E**). Renee indicated that Sharon Mann is interested in attending and her cost to attend is \$1200. Chuck Kratz motioned for Ms. Mann to attend the training, Ric Paul second and the Council approved.

- Kathy Hutchinson inquired about the process to approve training. Renee Gamino stated that the Executive Committee is sent an e-mail with information about the training, cost, and individual interested in attending.

**FY98 JAIBG Final Report.** Mary Byrnes was unable to attend the meeting, copies of her report were provided to the Council. (**Attachment F**)

**FY98 JAIBG Project Presentation.** Sheriff Jim Pond, Albany County, introduced Dennis Adler, Detention Center, who provided input on the proposed juvenile detention standards.

- Sheriff Adler indicated the standards are reasonable and achievable. For Albany County, they need to modify the center to address the sight and sound separation requirement, separate supervisory staff, and provide indoor and outdoor recreational for juveniles.
- Sheriff Pond has submitted a technical assistance request, through the Division of Juvenile Services, for an OJJDP consultant to visit the Detention Center and determine compliance status. Sheriff Pond introduced Jim Krystis, Laramie Police Department, to speak on his program.
- Jim Krystis indicated the police, sheriff’s office, and agencies have a great working relationship in helping juveniles. He introduced Gwen Smith, Community Resource Office, who address the Council on how the FY98 JAIBG funding is used in Laramie. Officer Smith is responsible for working with the School District (including rural schools), government entities, University of Wyoming and other agencies. Her role is to track juveniles, address truancy issues and refer juveniles to intervention programs.
- Loretta Willhard, Crisis Shelter, spoke about her program in Laramie. The program provides time-out for infants and children in family abuse situations, and evaluates needs of at-risk children. They have an educational component to address youth dropouts and/or suspensions. The program also serves as an alternative to jailing juveniles. Last year, a total of 600 youth were referred to their program with 50% referred as alternative to jail.
- Cal Rerucha, Albany Co. Attorney, asked the Council to communicate to legislators the need to provide funding to keep this program and others operating, so they can continue to help our children and juveniles.

**Grant Review Committee.** Narina Nunez reported on the FY99 JAIBG application process. The Council received copies of the manual, application and requirements. The committee's Criteria and Evaluation of Grants forms were used to develop the FY99 JAIBG application and requirements. Applications are due March 1, 2000.

- **Juvenile Crime Enforcement Coalition.** Narina asked the Council, if they would be interested in serving on their communities' coalition for the FY99 JAIBG. This will allow JAIBG coordinators to network with Council members regarding juvenile issues. Renee Gamino will provide a list of JAIBG project coordinators, so Council members can contact the representative in their community.

**Juvenile Justice Committee.** Val Seidel, Committee Chairperson, reported the committee reviewed the written input regarding the proposed juvenile detention standards. A summary report will be developed and the committee will discuss recommendations on how to address the comments.

- The standards will be included in the revision of the twenty-four hour Care Facilities' standards. In order to implement the standards into the DFS rules, it will need to be reviewed by the Attorney General's Office, Governor's Office, Legislative Service Office and released for public comment.
- The next step will require legislation to be developed and reviewed during the 2001 Legislation session. Bob Mayor and Les Pozsgi will develop a letter requesting the Joint Judiciary Committee complete an interim study on the standards. Val Seidel motioned for the above process to be initiated and Kathy Hutchinson second. Council approved the motion.

**Reviewing Legislative Issues.** Kathy Hutchinson inquired about other juvenile justice recommendations to present in the Legislation Session for the year 2000. Steve Lindly indicated a Wyoming Initiative has been submitted to the Governor's Office with a prescribed approach to address the substance abuse problem in Wyoming.

**February 16, 2000, Invitation.** Merit Thomas reminded the Council about the letter inviting the Council to a panel presentation addressing Substance Abuse concerns in Wyoming. Presenters will include Dr. Embry, Bernie Ellis and General McCaffrey. It will be held in the Capitol Building, Room 302, from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**Discuss Dr. Embry's Presentation.** Bob Mayor requested time to discuss the presentation provided by Dr. Embry. After discussion, the Council decided to host a similar presentation for the Judges' Association. Nena James indicates Holly Hansen, Supreme Court and Tony Lewis, Bar Association need to be notified to coordinate this presentation. Les Pozsgi will make the contact. The Council would like the training scheduled in the Fall 2000. Tom Sullins motioned and John Frenthway second. Council approved the motion.

**Statistical Center.** Bob Mayor entertained thoughts and ideas regarding the funding of the Statistical Center. The Council is supportive and would like to be included in future discussion with Gary Sherman, University of Wyoming and Tom Pagel, Governor's Advisory Board on Substance Abuse and Violent Crime.

## New Business

Poszgi addressed the following:

- **Expanding Juvenile Recordkeeping.** The Joint Judiciary Committee considered the Expanding Juvenile Recordkeeping legislation at a recent meeting in Casper. By reviewing this legislation, it allows Wyoming to continue receiving JAIBG funds for FY99. Joint Judiciary decided not to sponsor this legislation due to the larger budget issues of the session.
- **Joint Judiciary Budget:** Les Pozzgi reported the Juvenile Justice budget is looking at \$1.8 million in budget cuts. Most of the budget cuts will effect the following areas:
  - Operating Budget
  - Contractual services for youth

Narina Nunez asked Les if he needs the Council to contact Legislators regarding the budget cuts to youth services. He will keep the Council informed via e-mail and provide suggestions for the Council.

**Workshop.** Merit Thomas addressed the brochure, a "We Need To Talk!", Community Dialogue Drug Abuse conference. She indicated the deadline to register is January 28, 2000.

**Elections.** The following individuals were elected to serve: Chairperson, Val Seidel and Vice-Chairperson, Kathy Hutchinson. The new bylaws no longer require a position for Secretary and Treasurer. The Council Coordinator completes the minutes and provides the budget report.

**Closing Remarks.** Bob Mayor thanked the Council members, Department of Family Services and Division of Juvenile Services staff for assisting him during his tenure as Chairperson.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for April 13-14, 2000, in Casper.

**Officers Meet w/Governor.** Bob Mayor reminded the Officers about the meeting with Governor Geringer on January 31, 2000, at 10:00 a.m., in Cheyenne. Prior to the meeting with the Governor, the following Officers will meet with Les: Kathy Hutchinson, Val Seidel, Bob Mayor, Ben Silliman and Chuck Kratz.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business and no objections, it was moved the Council adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Renee D. Gamino, Council Coordinator