

WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

April 13-14, 2023: Douglas, WY

Agenda:

Thursday, April 13, 2023

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

Friday, April 14, 2023

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

Present:

Abbey Kercher
Adrienne Freng
Alan Stuber
Brittany Cangialosi
Chris Jones
Dale Weber
Erica Wood
Jennifer Palser
Logan Christie
Melinda Cox
Nicole Hauser
Patricia O'Brien
Ruth Ogden
Stacy Becker

Ex-Officio Present:

Christina McCabe
Jo Ann Numoto
Shawn Sitzman

Via Proxy:

Karen Solomon
Narina Nunez

Others Present:

Brandon Schimelpfenig (DFS)
Jacob Edwards (DFS)
Rep. Tomi Strock (WY Leg.)
Lindsey Schilling (DFS)
Laurel Wimbish (WYSAC)
Kelli Blomberg (Platte Cty.)
Jenelle Moore (DFS)
Holly Lebsack (DFS)

Absent:

Alexandra Bammel
Clarence Thomas
Dakota Jackson
Damon DeBernardi
David Rollins
Gabriel Gerrish
Janelle Ordiway
Lila Konecky
Ronald Howard
Shad Bates
Stacy Nelson

Call to Order

I. Call to Order: Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 1:00p.

- a) Roll Call/Introductions
- b) Declaration of Quorum; a quorum was established with 16 members present.

II. Approval of Minutes:

January 19-20, 2023 meeting held via Zoom; Melinda Cox motioned to approve the draft minutes; Abbey Kercher seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

III. New Business:

- a) Chairperson

Erica brought up the topic of the SACJJ needing to elect a new Chair. The current Chair, Damon DeBernardi, recently accepted a position with the Sublette County

Attorney's Office and as one of the stipulations of being Chair is the Chair cannot be a full-time federal, state, or local government employee, a new Chair will need to be elected. Nicole Hauser nominated Logan Christie for Chair. Logan accepted the nomination. No other nominations were proposed. As the SACJJ did not have a quorum on the second day of the meeting, a vote will be held via email for election.

b) Strategic Plan Review

Erica stated that the current Strategic Plan is due to expire in 2023. She asked for all committees of the SACJJ to review their tasks and goals that they are responsible for between this meeting and the next meeting in June 2023. Then at the June meeting, each committee can report on their progress.

c) 14 Day Requirement

Erica discussed the requirement stating that all citations needed to be returned to their local court (municipal, circuit, etc.) before 14 days. This causes an issue in some areas of the state as some alternative programs for juvenile delinquency don't have enough time to incorporate services to the juvenile(s) before that 14 day-deadline. Erica stated that the county attorney in Campbell County is drafting a letter to exempt juveniles from that rule. Once completed, she stated that the Campbell County attorney is hoping to send it out to other counties in case other counties were interested in joining that effort. Melinda Cox stated that Fremont County has been negatively impacted by this rule.

d) Collaboration with other Wyoming Councils

Abbey stated that she reached out to Gabi Farmer with Boards and Commissions at the Governor's Office for contact information for other Wyoming state councils. She said she is currently putting together that contact list and will share with the SACJJ once completed. Erica discussed the importance of collaborating with other Wyoming state councils and commissions.

e) Open Topic Discussion from Members

Jo Ann Numoto discussed SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) and that they have a five (5) year strategic plan and have sent out invitations for public comment. She asked if anyone would like the invitation and said she would send the invite to Brandon to then send out to the SACJJ.

Abbey brought forth the topic of adding a section to the end of each meeting's minutes highlighting the community where the SACJJ has traveled. Brandon stated he could do that and just add a section at the end of each meeting's minutes titled "Community Highlights." The SACJJ approved of this recommendation. This topic will be added to this meeting's minutes moving forward.

Ruth Ogden asked the SACJJ about information on the Wyoming Children's Justice Project (CJP) and Wyoming Division of Victim's Services adding a track

for parent attorneys to their annual conference. Shawn Sitzman said he was not aware of this but that he could provide follow-up information with the Division of Victim's Services on this topic.

Brandon Schimelpfenig brought up the topic of adding national juvenile justice topics and/or trends to the ongoing business section to better inform the Governor on not just Wyoming juveniles justice topics but also what is going on nationally. The SACJJ approved of this recommendation. This topic will be added to the June 2023 SACJJ meeting agenda and minutes.

- f) Public Comment
No topics brought forth.

IV. On-Going Business – Updates From:

- a) Council Membership – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated there are some members terms expiring in August 2023. He read the list to the SACJJ which consisted of Adrienne Freng, Alexandra Bammel, Clarence Thomas, Gabriel Gerrish, Janelle Ordiway, Karen Solomon, and Shad Bates. He stated that with Gabriel and Janelle's terms expiring and them being youth members that the SACJJ would be below the "1/5 youth membership" rule. He advised the SACJJ to look at recruiting youth members to fill this void. Brandon also discussed the [membership requirements](#) as they pertain to the Title II grant from OJJDP for the SACJJ's funding. Brandon also discussed the new members that have been appointed by the Governor.
- b) Governor's Office – Jen Davis
Jen was not available for an update however she stated to Brandon that there was not an update from the Governor's Office.
- c) CJSB Reform
Brandon stated redesign efforts of the Community Juvenile Services Boards (CJSB) have begun to gain traction and said that amended applications for most of the CJSBs have been received and that he is only waiting on a few more. He also stated that amendments to those respective CJSB contracts with the Department of Family Services have been drafted. He is currently waiting on approval as to form from his administration. Brandon mentioned that Platte County has submitted an application for funding and should be contracted within the next few months as it makes its way through the approval process with the Department of Family Services.
- d) Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment (JDRA)
Adrienne stated that the Data committee has talked with the Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP). During those discussions, the question came up of how counties are currently utilizing the JDRA and whether eliminating the JDRA would be beneficial or not. A spreadsheet has been started to collect that information and while not complete it is hopeful it will be

completed in time to share the information at the June 2023 meeting in Rock Springs.

- e) Budget Report/Grant Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that Title II 2020 still has \$14,445.15 remaining; Title II 2021 has \$30,000.00 remaining; and Title II 2022 has \$30,000.00 remaining. Brandon stated the solicitation for 2023 should be coming out soon.
- f) Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ) – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that there are no updates regarding ICJ to report other than that the annual dues for ICJ membership are going up from \$12,000.00 to \$16,200.00.

V. Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee – Damon DeBernardi
Erica presented a committee report on Damon’s behalf. Erica stated that the committee presented a New Member Orientation this morning, 04/13/23, to new members that were appointed. She also mentioned the recent discussions on the need for a new Chair.
- b) Grants Committee – Damon DeBernardi
Damon was not present however Erica stated that there were no updates to present.
- c) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng
Adrienne was not present to provide an update however she mentioned during her JDRA update that that is what the Data committee has been working on.
- d) Best Practices Committee – Jennifer Palser
Jen stated she would need to meet with the previous chair of the Best Practices committee regarding a survey the committee had been working on. Also, she said she needs to assess where the committee is at regarding current strategic plan goals. Erica stated she would send the results to her as she has a copy of them. Dale Weber, Patricia O’Brien, and Chris Jones volunteered for the Best Practices committee. Alan Stuber also volunteered for the Best Practices committee.
- e) Outreach/Youth Committee – Erica Wood, Brittany Cangialosi
Erica stated that the group revised the SACJJ recruitment flyer and sent it out to the SACJJ for review. Erica also mentioned the group discussed how best to distribute the flyers whether at the university or another avenue. She also discussed the option of utilizing social media as a recruiting tool. Lastly, Erica discussed the possibility of an annual newsletter and that it might be beneficial to disperse to other Wyoming state councils. Alan Stuber volunteered for the Outreach/Youth committees

- f) Legislative Committee – Nicole Hauser
Nicole discussed the recent Legislative report distributed to the SACJJ prior to this meeting. Nicole also mentioned that the next Wyoming Legislative session is a budget session and that any proposed bill will need a 2/3 majority vote to be introduced. Ruth volunteered to join the Legislative committee. Alan Stuber volunteered for the Legislative committee.

Friday, April 14, 2023

VI. DFS Update/Report

Lindsey Schilling, Social Services Senior Administrator, was present via Zoom to discuss DFS updates. She stated that the Department of Family Services (DFS) is preparing for the federal Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) due to take place in late 2023. She said that DFS has two options for administering the review; having a federal-led review where the Children’s Bureau will travel to Wyoming and DFS will review three (3) sites across the state or having a state-led review where DFS will lead the review process and review all nine (9) judicial districts across Wyoming. Currently, Wyoming is preparing for a state-led review and has submitted a plan for completing the review. Lindsey also discussed the DFS case management system WYOSAFE and where it is at in the process of implementation. She stated that all timelines are on track and should be good to go for release in July 2024. She also mentioned that the statewide juvenile justice data system that DFS is managing is also on track for implementation by July 1, 2024.

Lindsey briefly discussed all the interim committees and their meeting dates between now and the next legislative session in 2024 that involve DFS with their topics.

VII. Community Participation

a) Converse County DFS

Jenelle Moore, Social Services Supervisor for Converse County, and Holly Lebsack, District Manager for District 8, were present from DFS to discuss services and juvenile justice trends in Converse County. Jenelle stated the Converse County DFS receives about 1.8 intakes per month. She also mentioned the average age for juveniles on probation in Converse County is 14.8 years old. Jenelle mentioned that Converse County currently has 14 juveniles on probation and that three of those are on probation for firearm related charges. She also mentioned that all but three of those 14 juveniles have ongoing substance abuse related issues. She then discussed the Converse County DFS office and what sorts of juvenile crime they have been seeing including numbers of staff in both the Douglas and Glenrock offices.

VIII. County Highlights

- Local DFS presented.

- Converse County seem to have firearm and substance abuse concerns with juveniles.
- Rep. Tomi Strock was present and also discussed juvenile justice from her stance in the community.

IX. Announcements

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 15-16, 2023 in Rock Springs, WY.

X. Adjournment

Erica Wood adjourned the meeting by acclimation. The meeting was adjourned at 10:04a.