

WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

June 15-16, 2023: Rock Springs, WY

Agenda:

Thursday, June 15, 2023

- Call to Order
- Approval of Minutes
- New Business
- Ongoing Business
- Committee Reports
- Tour of Sweetwater County JDC

Friday, June 16, 2023

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

Present:

Adrienne Freng
Alan Stuber
Alexandra Bammel
Brittany Cangialosi
Chris Jones
Dale Weber
Damon DeBernardi
Erica Wood
Logan Christie
Melinda Cox
Nicole Hauser
Patricia O'Brien
Stacy Becker

Ex-Officio Present:

Salli Perryman
Christina McCabe
Shawn Sitzman
Rep. Rachel Rodriguez-
Williams
Sen. Lynn Hutchings

Via Proxy:

Abbey Kercher
Erica Wood
Jennifer Palser
Narina Nunez

Others Present:

Brandon Schimelpfenig (DFS)
Jacob Edwards (DFS)
Lindsey Schilling (DFS)
Laurel Wimbish (WYSAC)
Brooke Benson (GW BBBS)
Krisena Marchal Sweetwater
Cty.)
Donna Sheen (WCLC)
Lamar Westbrook (DFS)
Karin Kelly (Sweetwater Cty.)
Lauren Radakovich (SWCA)

Absent:

Clarence Thomas
Dakota Jackson
David Rollins
Gabriel Gerrish
Janelle Ordiway
Karen Solomon
Lila Konecky
Ronald Howard
Shad Bates
Stacy Nelson

Call to Order

I. Call to Order: Thursday, June 15, 2023 at 1:00p.

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

II. Approval of Minutes:

April 13-14, 2023 meeting held in Douglas, WY; Nicole Hauser motioned to approve the draft minutes; Melinda Cox seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

III. New Business:

- a) Chairperson Elected – Logan Christie
Between the April 2023 meeting in Douglas and this meeting, a vote for Chair was held via email and Logan Christie was elected as Chair of the SACJJ.

b) Strategic Plan Review

Logan discussed the current Strategic Plan for the SACJJ and where each committee is at regarding progress made for each goal within the Strategic Plan.

Logan started with the Best Practices committee and forwarded the conversation to Jen Palser as Chair of the committee. She stated they had met a few times however she stated that she would be resigning as the Chair of the Best Practices committee. She stated that the committee has started the repository of information.

The Co-Chair of the Outreach/Youth committee, Erica Wood, was not present for an update however the other Co-Chair, Brittany Cangialosi, presented an update. She stated that they have met a few times to discuss the objectives and suggestions for new objectives. She stated that the committee is hoping to have it finalized by the September meeting in Jackson.

Chair of the Data committee, Adrienne Freng, stated that they had not met recently to discuss strategic plan goals and objectives but she said she will schedule a meeting between now and the next meeting in September.

Logan asked for assistance regarding the Grants committee, as he had not been Chair for very long, from Damon DeBernardi and Damon stated that the Grants committee has been in a slight hiatus due to OJJDP not releasing the solicitation for the Non-Participating State (NPS) grant. Logan also mentioned that the Executive committee met recently to discuss the agenda for this meeting. Nicole Hauser also mentioned that regarding "increasing youth membership" that the Outreach/Youth committee has made progress on that goal. She also mentioned that "outreach to local community stakeholders regarding the SACJJ" that Brandon with the Department of Family Services has made progress on that goal. Nicole stated the Executive committee has made progress on the goal of "establishing four to five juvenile justice priorities" and has included these in the 2022 Annual Report.

Nicole also mentioned updates regarding the Legislative committee and the strategic plan stating that an item of need is to look at the Wyoming statute that sets forth the duties of the SACJJ; 14-10-101.

Logan stated for all committees to look at current strategic plan goals by the September 2023 meeting in Jackson and that during those meetings if anyone had any new goals to suggest them during the meetings.

c) 14 Day Requirement

The SACJJ discussed the 14-Day requirement for filing of petitions within Wyoming.

- d) Legislation
Nicole stated that she has not seen any juvenile justice legislation come through interim committees with the Wyoming Legislature.
- e) Collaboration With Other Wyoming Councils-Details
Logan asked SACJJ members if they had collaborated with other Wyoming councils and all said no. He said he would reach out to Abbey Kercher to obtain the contact list for Wyoming state councils that she has been drafting.
- f) Open Topic Discussion from Members
No topics brought forth.
- g) Public Comment
Laurel Wimbish with the Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center (WYSAC) stated that WYSAC is moving forward with partnering with the Community Juvenile Services Boards (CJSB) and executing agreements so that they may share juvenile justice data with WYSAC. She also mentioned that WYSAC was planning on applying for the Non-Participating State (NPS) grant from OJJDP once the solicitation has been released.

Jacob Edwards with DFS highlighted where DFS is currently at with implementing the statewide Juvenile Justice Information System. He stated that DFS and a committee of juvenile justice stakeholders are going to be releasing the rules next week for the system. Logan Christie also stated that there will be a Juvenile Justice Information System update added to SACJJ agenda as an ongoing business item.

IV. On-Going Business – Updates From:

- a) Council Membership – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that the Governor’s Office has not received any applications recently. He then read the names of members whose terms are due to expire August 31, 2023. Those names included Adrienne Freng, Alexandra Bammel, Clarence Thomas, Gabriel Gerrish, Janelle Ordiway, Karen Solomon, and Shad Bates. Logan reiterated recruiting efforts for the SACJJ to remain in compliance with Title II grant conditions.
- b) Governor’s Office – Jen Davis
Jen was not present for an update.
- c) CJSB Reform – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that amendments for the CJSBs are currently going through the approval process within DFS. He stated that DFS is looking at starting the reform workgroups up again but with some slight changes on topics to be discussed. He said that he will meet with his administration and discuss the workgroups.

- d) Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment (JDRA) – Adrienne Freng
Adrienne stated that she did not have an update regarding the JDRA however she said that she would get the workgroup together between now and the next meeting in September to discuss the JDRA.

Brandon stated that the current reporting period of July 1, 2022-June 30, 2023 is coming to a close and he said that he would begin drafting the 2023 annual report.

- e) Budget Report/Grant Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that Title II 2020 still has \$14,356.65 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) – Maureen Clifton or Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that he did not have any updates regarding ICJ.
- g) National Juvenile Justice Topics – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon mentioned a few juvenile justice articles in national news. He highlighted an article mentioning how systems in some states push juveniles into institutions where they face higher rates of abuse. He also highlighted an article mentioning how fees and fines push at-risk youth and their families deeper into the system due to their inability to pay said fines and fees.

V. Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee – Logan Christie
Logan stated that the Executive committee met in the interim and discussed his duties as the new Chair.
- b) Grants Committee – Logan Christie
No updates.
- c) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng
Adrienne stated there were no updates that were not already stated during the juvenile justice data collection update.
- d) Best Practices Committee – VACANT
Jen Palser stated that the committee had met to discuss definitions and possibly posting those on the website. Jen also reiterated her desire to resign as chair of the committee. Alan Stuber volunteered to be chair and there were no objections or other nominations. Alan has been named the new chair of the Best Practices committee.
- e) Outreach/Youth Committee – Erica Wood, Brittany Cangialosi

Brittany stated the committee met a couple times in the interim and developed a recruiting flyer for the SACJJ. Brittany also stated that the committee discussed the Neal Madsen Excellence in Juvenile Justice Award and the criteria for the award. She mentioned that the committee is discussing creating a SACJJ newsletter to communicate with the public about what the SACJJ does and information about the SACJJ. She also mentioned that they discussed the current strategic plan and the goals for the committee.

- f) Legislative Committee – Nicole Hauser
Nicole stated that she did not have any updates to report.

Friday, June 16, 2023

VI. DFS Update/Report

Lindsey Schilling, Social Services Senior Administrator, was present via Zoom to discuss DFS updates. Lindsey briefly highlighted the U.S. Supreme Court decision to uphold the federal Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) as drafted. What that means for Wyoming is that nothing will change regarding policy and procedure within the program. She also mentioned the upcoming Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) set to take place November 2023 through January 2024. Lindsey stated that Wyoming was approved to have a state-led review as opposed to a federally-led review. Lindsey also highlighted the recent budget session with the Wyoming Legislature that occurred earlier in the year. She discussed the addition of funding into the 600 series for payments to vendors through the DFS WYCAPS system. Lastly, she highlighted the adult protective task force recommendations that are being discussed regarding adult protection. She mentioned that DFS has been seeing more and more juveniles that were in the juvenile justice system rolling into the adult protective services area.

VII. Community Participation

a) Sweetwater County DFS

Lamar Westbrook, Social Services Supervisor, was present to discuss trends that the Sweetwater County DFS office is seeing in their area. Lamar stated that the biggest offense by far in their area for juveniles is substance abuse.

b) Sweetwater County Juvenile Probation

Karin Kelly, Sweetwater County Juvenile Probation Director, was present to discuss the Sweetwater County juvenile probation office and the trends that they are seeing with juveniles.

c) Sweetwater County CJSB

Karin Kelly presented on the Sweetwater County Community Juvenile Services Board and the services that the programs they help fund provide. She stated that the area has struggled with providing services to adolescent sex offenders. She said a lot of those families have to travel to Utah for services.

d) Sweetwater County Attorney

Lauren Radakovich, Sweetwater Deputy County Attorney, was present to discuss trends that the Sweetwater County Attorney's Office is seeing regarding juveniles. Lauren presented single point of entry data as well as aggregated case data for Sweetwater County. She stated that in 2019, Sweetwater County had 521 cases and that the total cases dropped significantly in 2020 to 403. She also stated that the case numbers went back up in 2021 and 2022 however they did not rise to 2019 levels. Lauren stated that the biggest offense category in Sweetwater County is drug and alcohol offenses.

VIII. County Highlights

The SACJJ briefly highlighted key areas from the meeting in Sweetwater County. It was noted that agencies within Sweetwater County collaborate very well with one another. Jacob Edwards with DFS noted that internal data collection is a strength within the county for juvenile justice. Nicole discussed the pre-court diversion program and liked the idea that it's an opportunity within the county and not a condition of supervision.

IX. Announcements

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 21-22, 2023 in Jackson, WY.

X. Adjournment

Damon DeBernardi motioned to adjourn the meeting; Melinda Cox seconded the motion; all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:01a.