

WYOMING STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL ON JUVENILE JUSTICE

Meeting Minutes

September 21-22, 2023: Jackson, WY

Agenda:

Thursday, September 21, 2023

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

Friday, September 22, 2023

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

Present:

Abbey Kercher
Adrienne Freng
Brittany Cangialosi
Chris Jones
Dale Weber
Damon DeBernardi
Dylan Pierce
Erica Wood
Jennifer Palser
Logan Christie
Melinda Cox
Narina Nunez
Nicole Hauser
Ruth Ogden
Stacy Becker

Ex-Officio Present:

Salli Perryman
Christina McCabe
Shawn Sitzman

Via Proxy:

Others Present:

Brandon Schimelpfenig (DFS)
Jacob Edwards (DFS)
Lindsey Schilling (DFS)
Laurel Wimbish (WYSAC)
Tyson Becker
Jennifer Wilch (DWS)
Allen Thompson (WASCOP)
Sarah Cavallaro (TYFS)
Chris Moll (TYFS)
Matt Banks (DFS)
Erin Weisman (Teton County
Atty.)

Absent:

Alan Stuber
Alexandra Bammel
Dakota Jackson
Erika Sanchez
Kassidy Thomas
Lila Konecky
Patricia O'Brien
Ronald Howard
Stacy Nelson

Call to Order

I. Call to Order: Thursday, September 21, 2023 at 1:00p.

- a) Roll Call/Introductions
- b) Declaration of Quorum; a quorum was established with 15 members present.

II. Approval of Minutes:

June 15-16, 2023 meeting held in Rock Springs, WY; Adrienne Freng motioned to approve the draft minutes; Damon DeBernardi seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

III. **New Business:**

a) Strategic Plan Review/Timelines

Logan Christie discussed the current strategic plan and where each committee is at regarding progress within their goals and activities. Logan stated that by the end of the year, each committee will need to provide progress and recommendations on their assigned goals and activities. Adrienne Freng with the Data committee stated that they met in the interim as well as Erica Wood with the Outreach/Youth committee. Alan Stuber was not available to state if the Best Practices committee met in the interim. Nicole Hauser stated that the Legislative committee met and she had some questions for the full SACJJ regarding initiating the process to amend the SACJJ statute; 14-10-101.

Logan stated that during the interim, between this meeting and the meeting in November 2023, for all committees to meet and provide new recommendations on the current strategic plan to either himself or the SACJJ Coordinator, Brandon Schimelpfenig, and then those recommendations can be presented during the November meeting in Casper, WY.

b) 14-Day Requirement

Logan briefly discussed the 14-day requirement with the SACJJ. Erica Wood stated that she met with Laramie county regarding the requirement. She also stated that she met with Crook, Weston and some of the other smaller counties in Wyoming. Erica stated that some areas have been finding problems with the requirement as they are interrupting the citation pre-court. Melinda Cox offered the suggestion of someone on the SACJJ creating a Google Doc to reflect efforts made by the SACJJ to reach out to community stakeholders in juvenile justice and how this decision is impacting their operations.

c) Collaboration With Other Wyoming Councils Presentation-Jennifer Wilch, Dept. of Workforce Services

Jennifer Wilch, Wyoming Workforce Development Council Coordinator, was present via Zoom to discuss the Wyoming Workforce Development Council and the opportunities it can present to Wyoming's youth as well as others. Jennifer stated that the council members are hand -selected by the Governor of Wyoming to work with the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services (DWS) and its eighteen full-service state centers. The council identifies workforce challenges, fosters collaborations, and creates opportunities for Wyoming residents as well as determines grant allocations for the U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Innovation Opportunity Act (WIOA). Jennifer also stated that DWS has several youth programs for eligible youth aged 16-24 years old. Jennifer then went on to detail each of the programs offered as well as fielded questions from the SACJJ on the council. Adrienne Freng mentioned the Wyoming Community Juvenile Service Boards (CJSB) program, what they do, and how they could assist with what the Workforce Development Council is trying to achieve. Brandon Schimelpfenig stated he would send Jennifer Wilch the contact roster for the CJSBs.

- d) Open Topic Discussion from Members
Brandon Schimelpfenig stated that Wyoming has a new federal contact within the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). He stated that the previous program manager for Non-Participating State (NPS) Marisa O'Harris has been promoted and the new NPS program manager for Wyoming is Cara Blair.
- e) Public Comment
No topics brought forth.

IV. On-Going Business – Updates From:

- a) Council Membership – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that the SACJJ has had a few new members appointed in Dylan Pierce, Erika Sanchez, and Cassidy Thomas as well as some members being removed, due to non-participation or not reapplying for another term. Brandon also stated that there were a few applications that have been put on hold due to the government v. non-government ratio; this is in reference to the requirement for the SACJJ to be comprised of no more than 50% full-time government. Nicole Hauser discussed the current process for how the Governor's Office and Executive committee approves of applications and mentioned that the Executive committee will take up in the interim how to better communicate with the Governor's Office and prospective applicants on a possible application period.
- b) Governor's Office – Jen Davis
Jen was not present however she provided a brief update to Brandon Schimelpfenig stating that there were no major updates from the Governor's Office other than working on the state's next budget.
- c) CJSB Reform – Brandon Schimelpfenig
Brandon stated that there were no updates regarding CJSB reform other than all of the amendments to the current contracts have been executed except Laramie County's.
- d) WYSAC-OJJDP Solicitation NPS Application
Laurel Wimbish with the Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center (WYSAC) stated that WYSAC is applying for the recent solicitation of the OJJDP NPS grant. She mentioned that she has received application reference materials from Brandon Schimelpfenig from DFS as well as from Erica Wood. She stated that the application deadline is October 2, 2023 and wanted to reiterate that there is a cap on how much states can spend on personnel costs; this has been set at 10% of the total grant. Laurel also requested for the SACJJ Grants committee to assist with scoring and commenting on county proposal once they are received.
- e) Juvenile Detention Risk Assessment (JDRA) – Adrienne Freng

Adrienne stated that she will be setting up a meeting between this meeting and the next SACJJ meeting in November with the new Executive Director for the Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP), Allen Thompson, to discuss the current status of the JDRA and gauge WASCOP's interest in reform efforts.

f) Budget Report/Grant Update – Brandon Schimelpfenig

Brandon stated that Title II 2020 still has \$8,162.63 remaining; Title II 2021 has \$30,000.00 remaining; and Title II 2022 has \$30,000.00 remaining. Brandon stated he has applied for Title II 2023. Nicole Hauser questioned as to why Jacob Edwards' expenses had come from Title II as opposed to another DFS budget and Brandon Schimelpfenig explained that as Jacob was providing ongoing updates regarding the statewide juvenile justice data collection system project to the SACJJ that his expenses were coming out of Title II. Nicole stated she would like to see them moved to another DFS budget however she then requested of the SACJJ to consider making Jacob an Ex-Officio from DFS and that his expenses could then be covered by Title II funds. On 9/22, Nicole motioned to start the process of the Governor appointing Jacob as an Ex-Officio; Damon DeBernardi seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried. This task was assigned to the Executive committee to reach out to Jen Davis with the Governor's to start the process of requesting that Jacob be appointed by the Governor as an Ex-Officio to the SACJJ.

g) Interstate Compact for Juveniles (ICJ) – Maureen Clifton or Brandon Schimelpfenig

Brandon stated that he did not have any ICJ updates from Maureen however he stated that administration within DFS was proposing to move annual ICJ dues to come out of Title II funds as opposed to where they are currently being taken out of. As the SACJJ is also the ICJ State Council for Wyoming, DFS administration felt that it should start to be taken out of Title II funds. Most SACJJ members were opposed to this idea and Nicole said she would bring up the topic during the DFS Update with Lindsey Schilling on 9/22. During the DFS Update, Lindsey clarified that should there not be funds to cover annual ICJ dues with the current DFS budget, and under emergent circumstances, that Title II funds could supplement and assist with funding the costs of annual ICJ dues as opposed to supplanting.

V. Committee Reports

a) Executive Committee – Logan Christie

Logan stated that the Executive Committee met during the interim and created the agenda for this meeting as well as discussed the SACJJ budget and best usage of the funds including sending members to in-person training as well as OJJDP sponsored national conferences. He also stated they discussed the SACJJ's current strategic plan.

b) Grants Committee – Logan Christie

No updates.

- c) Data Committee – Adrienne Freng
Adrienne stated that the committee met during the interim and discussed current strategic plan goals and activities. Adrienne also stated that the committee has been working with Laurel and WYSAC regarding the implementation of Reroute with counties.
- d) Best Practices Committee – Alan Stuber
Alan was not present to present an update however Erica stated that the committee had not met in the interim.
- e) Outreach/Youth Committee – Erica Wood, Brittany Cangialosi
Erica stated they met in the interim and made copious notes to the current strategic plan detailing their progress on goals and activities assigned to the committee. Erica also stated that they are working on revamping some documents in the SACJJ New Member packets given to new members on the SACJJ. She also stated that if the SACJJ decides to conduct statewide trainings that the Outreach committee discussed assisting with those as well.
- f) Legislative Committee – Nicole Hauser
Nicole stated that the Legislative committee met in the interim and discussed starting the process to amend Wyoming § 14-10-101 which is the statute that dictates authority for the SACJJ and ensuring that it matches the SACJJ's bylaws. Nicole then briefly highlighted each of the Legislative committee's goals and activities within the current strategic plan and its progress on each. On 9/22, Nicole motioned to start the process of amending the statute; Abbey Kercher seconded the motion; all in favor; motion carried.

Nicole then highlighted some discussions from the Legislature that are making their way through interim committee meetings. She stated that Wyoming Legislature is discussing making Delta-8 Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) a controlled substance. Another bill up for discussion is repealing a minor's right to consent to tobacco cessation programs. She stated right now minors can sign up for tobacco cessation programs themselves however with the proposed bill, the minor would now need their parent or guardian's approval to enter the program.

Friday, September 22, 2023

VI. DFS Update/Report

Lindsey Schilling, Social Services Senior Administrator, was present via Zoom to discuss DFS updates. Lindsey discussed the recent third-party study on provider rates for DFS placements; funding for this study was provided by the Legislature. She stated that even though the study has not had 100% participation, DFS still has some great information regarding provider rates within Wyoming and that preliminary analysis is complete. Lindsey then provided updates regarding the

Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) Task Force. She stated that there is discussion going on regarding the applicability of the federal ICWA law and juvenile justice and delinquency cases within the state. Lindsey also highlighted the upcoming Child and Family Services Review (CFSR) in November 2023, December 2023 and January 2024.

VII. Community Participation

a) Teton County DFS

Matt Banks, Social Services Supervisor, was present to discuss trends that the Teton County DFS office is seeing in their area. Matt stated that the Teton County DFS office is centrally located in the heart of downtown which assists with getting services to clients as well as being on the Jackson public transit bus route. He stated that the office has three workers and one of those workers primarily works juvenile services cases. Matt stated that the office currently has four open cases and has a multitude of services in the area to assist with meeting the needs of their clients. He stated that there are community mental health centers as well as adolescent substance abuse providers and sex offender treatment providers in the area that aren't as available in other parts of the state.

b) Teton County Youth and Family Services

Chris Moll and Sarah Cavallaro from Teton Youth and Family Services (TYFS) were present to discuss juvenile trends that TYFS is seeing in their area. Sarah stated the community offers multiple resources including the Van Vleck House, Red Top Meadows as well as the Hirschfield Center for Children. The Van Vleck House offers crisis shelter as well as group home services. Red Top Meadows offers residential treatment as well as a therapeutic wilderness program to adolescent males. The Hirschfield Center for Children offers forensic interviewing of children when local DFS suspects the child has been a victim of abuse. The Hirschfield Center also offers a court diversion program and proactive intervention services for families at risk of child abuse or neglect.

c) Teton County CJSB

Chris Moll from TYFS presented on the Teton County Community Juvenile Services Board and the services their programs help to provide in the Teton County area. Chris stated that TYFS and Teton County DFS work very well with each other especially within multidisciplinary team (MDT) meetings. Chris also highlighted Camp POST Card that the CJSB utilizes to increase law enforcement relationships with at-risk juveniles in the community.

d) Teton County Attorney's Office

Erin Weisman, Teton County Attorney, was present to discuss trends that the Teton County Attorney's Office is seeing regarding juveniles and crime in the area. Erin stated that she recently revamped some aspects of Single Point of Entry in order for the Town of Jackson to be able to do more with juveniles through municipal court. She also stated that the diversion program is very robust in the services they provide for juveniles and that most of the juveniles

she sees through Single Point of Entry are for substance abuse (alcohol, THC, or tobacco).

VIII. County Highlights

The SACJJ briefly highlighted key areas from the meeting in Teton County.

- Nicole Hauser mentioned the six-month review for out-of-home placements was something that stood out to her and is a positive within the Teton County community.
- Erica Wood also brought up the versatility of Teton County willingness to change for juvenile's needs as opposed to the juvenile needing to change to fit the program being offered.

IX. Announcements

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for November 30-December 1, 2023 in Casper, WY.

X. Adjournment

Damon DeBernardi motioned to adjourn the meeting; Stacey Becker and Abbey Kercher seconded the motion; all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:01a.