

# Department of Juvenile Justice Services

## Director's Office

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**John M. Martin, Director**  
Michael Whelihan, Assistant Director

### Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board March 14, 2019 - 12:30 pm

Joshua Conference Room  
Sixth Floor  
Government Center  
Las Vegas, NV 89101  
Minutes

Chair: Vacant  
Vice Chair: Judge William Voy

#### Present

Commissioner Lawrence Weekly  
Commissioner Justin Jones  
Judge William Voy  
Judge Robert W. Teuton

#### Clark County Management

Jeff Wells, Assistant County Manager  
Catherine Jorgenson, Deputy Attorney  
Brigid Duffy, Deputy Attorney

#### Department of Juvenile Justice Services

John Martin, Director  
Michael Whelihan, Assistant Director  
Satonya Patton, Executive Assistant (*prepared minutes*)  
David Doyle / CAC Chair

#### Department of Family Services

Tim Burch, Administrator of Human Services  
Jill Marano, Assistant Director  
Judy Tudor, Assistant Director  
Sheila Parks, CAC Chair

#### Guest

Ronald Cordes, Chief Deputy District Attorney  
Judge Bryce Ducksworth

### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Vice Chair, Judge William Voy with a quorum present.

**II. Public Comments**

None at this time.

**III. Approval of the January 24, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes are approved as written.

**IV. Approval of the March 14, 2019 Agenda**

The agenda is approved as written.

**V. Budget and Legislation Discussion**

**Budget Hearing** – Jeff Wells, Assistant County Manager stated that the preliminary budget hearing will be held on March 25, 2019. He stated that he is not sure what the targeted budget number is.

**DFS Watching Assembly Bills** – Tim Burch, Administrator of Human Services stated that the Department of Family Services (DFS) is watching the following assembly bills: AB 150; AB 151; AB 111; and BDR 38-54. Deputy Attorney, Brigid Duffy briefly provided feedback for AB 150 and AB 151. Mr. Burch discussed the fiscal impact that some of the bills will have on DFS.

**DJJS Watching Assembly Bills** – John Martin, Director for Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) stated that they are watching the bill that pertains to the Nevada Association of Public Safety Officers (NAPSO). Mr. Martin briefly discussed a BDR that has not been dropped yet that pertains to youth being certified as adults. Judge Voy stated that there are a few bills that he is interested in one of which is a bill about youth housing; and the second bill relates to mental health, which is SB247.

**VI. Receive the Director’s Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) and Direct Staff Accordingly from Director John M. Martin**

**Referrals** – Mr. Martin stated that youth referrals are down thanks to The Harbor.

**The Harbor**

- a) To date The Harbor has serviced 7,100 youth and families.
- b) The National Association of Counties (NACo) Conference is being hosted in Las Vegas this year. Clark County has applied for the NACo Achievement Award on behalf of The Harbor. The NACo Achievement Award recognizes innovative programs that modernize county government and increase services to county residents.

**Cross Over Team** – Judge Voy stated that Ronald Cordes is spearheading this team. The Cross Over Team is a unit that has been developed to manage cases served by both DJJS and DFS. Staff have been assigned to this unit and are receiving cases. Mr. Contourous provided a brief update of what the team is doing; but states that more employees are needed for the team. The team is only handling dual custody youth. Approximately 85 youth is on the current caseload. These cases are on Judge Voy’s Wednesday calendar.

**VII. Receive the DJJS Citizens Advisory Committee Report from *David Doyle, Chair***

**Strategic Plan** – Mr. Doyle stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee Members are supportive of the DJJS strategic plan.

**Harbor Expansion** – Mr. Doyle stated that the Citizens Advisory Committee Members are supportive of the second Harbor expansion. Harbor Charleston has serviced 1,000 youth since it opened 5 months ago.

**VIII. Receive the Director’s Report on the Activities of the Department of Juvenile Justice Services (DJJS) and Direct Staff Accordingly from *Tim Burch, Administrator of Human Services***

**Foster Parent Recruitment & Retention** – The Department of Family Services has partnered with VMWare to provide training to support unit staff and resource development staff. This process is encourage staff to look at new ideas on how the department approaches and engages families who are interested in becoming foster parents. The hope is that everyone has an understanding of ongoing recruitment and retention of foster parents throughout the licensure process.

**Supplement Positions** - Mr. Burch stated that 20 positions are needed to transition employees from grant positions to hard money positions.

**Policy Updates** – The final roll out of the safety practice model of the DFS Policy and Procedures will be completed, this will include the installation for the last two family assessments.

**Training Academy** – The academy class will be graduating in May 2019. Eighteen employees will graduate.

**IX. Receive the DFS Citizen’s Advisory Committee Report from *Sheila Parks, Chair***

**CAC Membership** – Ms. Parks stated that keeping members has been an ongoing issue for CAC. However, they have recently had one new member approved and three members renewed their memberships.

**Child and Family Services Review (CFSR)** – Ms. Parks gave special thanks to Mr. Burch and the DFS Leadership Team for including community stakeholders to participate in the 2 day workgroups in Carson City. Ms. Parks, along with Judge Sullivan and other community partners helped to discuss strategies for the Performance Improvement Plan (PIP). Since the meeting, they have been actively participating in the weekly meetings to come up with goals for the PIP. This information is due back to the Feds by April 2019.

**Organizational Health of Employees, Retention of Foster Parents and External Communication with Stakeholders** - CAC continues to support DFS on their strategic initiatives. Their top priorities include organizational health of employees; retention of foster parents; and external communication with stakeholders. Additionally, Ms. Parks was invited to participate in a Retention Focus Group, which was co-facilitated by a consultant with the Annie E. Casey Project. The focus group has a two-fold mission: Firstly, they looked at the systemic issues which were identified by DFS staff, during the various site meetings that addressed what staff felt impacted their morale and retention. Secondly, the focus group will propose strategies to look at ways to improve the support and the retention of staff, as well as caregivers. One recommendation that was made during the focus group is that a former youth should be invited to participate, as they bring a unique and vital prospective to this work.

**X. Schedule Next Meeting** – *May 9, 2019*, in the Joshua Conference Room Joshua Conference Room – 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center at 12:30 pm.

**XI. Public Comments**

**Specialized Foster Care** - David Doyle thanked the Policy and Fiscal Affairs Board for their support of specialized foster care.

**Homeless Teens** - Commissioner Lawrence Weekly stated that Kevin Schiller will give a presentation on how some tax dollars can be allotted for the homeless teens in Nevada. This will be item 46 on the March 19, 2019 Board of County Commission calendar.

**XII. Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned.