



Advisory Council on Juvenile Services

Meeting Minutes: Friday, January 16, 2015

11209 Metric Blvd., Austin, Texas

Members Present:

Doug Vance, Vice Chair; Chelsea Buchholtz for David Reilly; Mark Williams; Phillip Hayes; Larry Thorne; Mario Ramirez; Carrie Barden; Debra Emerson; James Williams; and Mike Meyer

Members Absent:

Estella Medina; David Reilly; Mark Allen; Homer Flores; and Teresa Stroud

Others Present:

Ricardo Guerrero, Hidalgo County; and Israel (Buddy) Silva, Hidalgo County

Agenda Item I: Call to Order/Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Doug Vance, Vice Chair of the Advisory Council. Mr. Vance welcomed everyone.

Agenda Item II: Review of Minutes

The minutes of the October 17, 2014 Advisory Council Meeting were approved.

Agenda Item III: Texas Juvenile Justice Department Updates (TJJD)

Ms. Chelsea Buchholtz, Chief of Staff, Texas Juvenile Justice Department provided information on behalf of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department.

She informed the members that David is recovering from surgery and doing well. He sends his regrets that he could not be at the meeting today.

She also informed the members of a new appointment to the TJJD Board. Mr. Joe Brown resigned his position on the Board. Mr. Riley Shaw has been appointed by the Governor's Office to serve on the Board. He is currently an Assistant District Attorney for Tarrant County.

She added that a new medical director, Dr. Desai has been hired by TJJD. Dr. Desai is a psychiatrist. He has had several positions prior to coming to TJJD to include working with the state hospital. He is highly regarded in his field and TJJD is very excited to have him come on board mainly because of the mental needs our youth. A psychologist will also be hired to work with Dr. Desai. The psychologist will be acting as a mental health consultant to assist with mental health services for Juvenile Probation Departments.

Ms. Buchholtz reminded Advisory Council members of the upcoming release of the recidivism report prepared by the Council of State Governments. The release will be made public at a meeting scheduled for Thursday January 29, 2015 in Austin, Texas.

Agenda Item IV: TJJD Budget Updates & Discussion

Mike Meyer, Chief Financial Officer, provided an update regarding the Budget, advising that the House of Representatives released its initial version of the state budget January 15, 2015. The approach taken with the budget was very different than in past sessions. The format is the basic amount of funding that was requested by TJJD, but no line items have been listed. Instead, a request has been made of TJJD to advise how the juvenile justice components should be funded.

Agenda Item V: Legislative Update

A new House Committee has been designated by the Legislature. The House Committee on Juvenile Justice and Family Issues will be the committee reviewing Juvenile Justice Issues.

There will be an ongoing monitoring of potential legislation regarding raising the age of jurisdiction and various truancy bills.

Agenda Item VI: System Wide Response to Council of State Governments Recidivism Report

TJJD has facilitated a working group to discuss and prepare a response to the Council of State Government Report Core Principles Document. TJJD and counties involved in the report have

had several meetings and conference calls inviting discussion on a response that includes a review of the Core Principles identified in the CSCG Report. The draft document will be forwarded to the counties and regional associations for review and input. Lisa Capers is facilitating the preparation of the written document.

Agenda Item VII: Juvenile Justice System Overview

The Advisory Council has created an “ad hoc” subcommittee to work with TJJD to help develop a “vision” as to what the juvenile Justice system should look like; and how it should be funded. Mark Williams will act as Chair and committee members include Doug Vance, Homer Flores, James Williams, Estela P. Medina and special appointee, Ed Cockrell, CJPO Jefferson County.

Agenda Item VIII: Trauma Informed Care Training

The Advisory Council has requested review of the Trauma Informed Care Training requirements. TJJD staff has agreed to review the requirements of this training and will provide an update.

Agenda Item IX. Sub-Committee Report (s)

Standards Sub-Committee

The subcommittee has started work on the Texas Administrative Code standards Chapter 341. The committee held its first meeting in Austin Texas January 22-23, 2015 at the Travis County Juvenile Probation Department. The standards to be reviewed are the probation and case management standards. Representatives from various departments and associations are involved with this important work.

Funding Committee/Cost of Probation

The Funding Committee presented to the Advisory Council a recommendation to recognize costs related to probation and community based programs by using the Legislative Budget Board information. The Criminal Justice Uniform Cost Report prepared by the Legislative Budget Board is scheduled to be released sometime in January 2015.

Agenda Item X: Old Business

None presented.

Agenda Item XI: New Business

None presented.

Agenda Item XII: Public Comment

No public comment was presented at this time.

Agenda Item XIII: Advisory Council Member Updates & Announcements

No public comment was presented at this time.

Agenda Item XIV: Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Next Advisory Council Meeting

The next meeting of the Advisory Council is scheduled for March 6, 2015

***Minutes approved on March 6, 2015 by members of the council.**