

TEXAS JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION BOARD MEETING

January 21, 2011
Brown-Heatly Building
Austin, Texas

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Ray West, Chair
Jean Boyd
Will Conley
Migdalia Lopez
Billy Wayne McClendon
Scott O'Grady
Rene Ordoñez
Bob Shults

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Lea R. Wright

TJPC MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT

Vicki Spriggs, Executive Director
Lisa Capers, Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel
Bill Monroe, Chief Financial Officer
Kristy Almager, Staff Services Manager
Nancy Arrigona, Director Research and Statistics
Denise Askea, Director Non-Secure Facilities & Special Programs
Linda Brooke, Director External Affairs, Policy Development
Annie Collier, Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Kevin DuBose, Director Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation
Scott Friedman, Director Compliance
Jim Southwell, Director Management Information Systems
Genovia Spencer, Human Resource Manager
Cindy Weisinger, Director Training

TJPC STAFF PRESENT

Paul Anderson
Katie Branch
Linda Brown
Nadine Butler
Luis Guerrero
Rachael Kapur
Diane Laffoon
Katrina Plummer
John Posey
Samantha Retzlaff
Karen Roe
Lang Spencer
Michael Suda
Judy Ybarbo

1. Call to Order – R. West

Commissioner Ray West called the board meeting of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to order at 9:15 a.m.

2. Excuse Absences – R. West

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Ordoñez and **seconded** by Commissioner Lopez to excuse the absence of Commissioner Wright. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Minutes from November 19, 2010 Board Meeting – R. West

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Boyd and **seconded** by Commissioner Shults to approve the minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Fiscal Year 2011 Expenditures – B. Monroe

The budget for the first time now reflects the reductions that the State Legislature has asked us to make for this current fiscal year. The budget is now \$163 million compared to what it was at \$169 million. The total reduction shows 3.2%, but overall the reduction in General Revenue is higher. The percentage reads lower, because we did not need to reduce the JJAEP this year.

The Commission recently received \$494,000 from the Governor's Criminal Justice Grant for technology expenditures. All of these funds have been distributed to the counties.

Under the Operations category, percentages are not necessarily always reflected because these expenditures are paid for as they occur. However, when you look at the bottom line of total Operations, we are under budget with 29% expended and 1/3 of the year already gone.

On January 19, 2011, the Legislature filed House Bill 1. If the bill is passed as introduced, appropriations in the next biennium will be \$285 million compared to \$362 million in this current biennium, which is \$77 million less. \$22 million of this is the loss of Title IV-E funds over the last 4-5 years. The process of this loss is complete, allowing us roughly \$7 million per year to provide IV-E funding to the counties. The reduction of State funds is \$55 million. However, when you are a county probation department you consider the whole \$77 million. HB1 also drops the amount for JJAEP's from \$79.00 per day to \$59.00 per day.

On the positive side of HB1, the grants have been structured to provide some flexibility related to the proposed changes the Advisory Council recommended. Another positive is the Commitment Reduction Grant (Grant C) was held without any reductions. Although Grant C funds have been kept at the current amount, the target has now been lowered from 1,783 commitments to 1,111 commitments.

No action was required for this item.

5. TJPC Advisory Council Update – E. Medina

The workgroup has held discussions regarding the Commission's standards. Clarification was needed on Standard 358.100(7)(A)(B): Definition of Escape. TJPC has now clarified the definitions between an actual escape and someone who has not come back from a furlough.

Standard 343.600(O)(2) Required Pre-Admission Records stating the Behavioral Health Assessments be conducted, but clarification was needed regarding time requirements and to define professional staff that will be doing that.

Regional discussions were held to look at estimates of 231 TYC commitments during the first quarter of FY 2011 and address regions statewide that need help in reducing this number by developing programs and services.

Many of the chiefs that serve on the Advisory Council attended the Sunset Advisory Hearing on January 12, 2011. We understand there is a bill to be drafted and there is still a lot yet to be determined, and we will be following that closely.

So far, there have been 227 certifications which have been pretty consistent at this time.

No action was required for this item.

6. Update on Allegations of Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation for Fiscal Year 2011 – K. Dubose

The numbers presented go through December 2010. As of the end of December, there were 152 allegations of abuse. As in the past, the majority of the allegations come from Secure Detention Facilities with Secure Post Adjudication Facilities being the second largest reporting entity. Consistent for years now, the most frequently reported type of allegation is Physical Abuse-Physical Restraint. We've had 57 of those now, and 31 for non-restraint. There have been 298 Serious Incidents reported through December.

In regards to Ms. Medina's comments on clarification of escapes, we have had 22 escapes reported through December. Some of these involved residents who failed to return from furlough. To address this issue, in future board reports you will see an additional classification to identify that type as Escape F. The Commission's definition of escape had been modeled after the definition in the Texas Penal Code.

Comparisons on Abuse Allegations going back to FY2005 were discussed, and the Commission is on pace to see a reduction in allegations again this year. There's been a 27% reduction in allegations this year as compared to where we were last year. There have been no changes in reporting requirements and they are as strict as they have ever been.

No action was required for this item.

7. Update on Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Call-Line Statistics for Fiscal Year 2011 – K. Dubose

Twice a year, numbers from the call line are reported to the Board. Now that more than a full year has passed since the call line was mandated, in FY2010 we can report that we had 890 calls. The call line was not mandatory until FY2010. So far for FY2011, there have been 272 calls.

The reductions in reporting are due to the staff and juveniles being better trained in the use of the call line and what it is for, so we have had fewer numbers of the non-abusive type calls.

No action was required for this item.

8. Discussion and Possible Approval of Amendments Made to Subchapter K, Chapter 341, Related to Texas Juvenile Probation Commission Standards and Carrying of Weapons for Adoption and Final Publication in the Texas Register. – K. DuBose

The Board approved the initial publication of Subchapter K, Chapter 341, Carrying of Weapons in the Texas Register in September. However, additional changes were made in November, and the Chapter was republished for public comment at that time. The Amendments to Chapter 341 were proposed to further the safe and lawful carrying of a firearm by juvenile probation officers.

Through the public comment period, no public comments were received. Staff now requests that the Board approve the Subchapter K, Chapter 341, Carrying of Weapons, for adoption and final publication to the Texas Register with an effective date of March 1, 2011.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Lopez and **seconded** by Commissioner Conley to approve the adoption and final publication made to Subchapter K, Chapter 341 for publication in the Texas Register. Motion passed 7 for, 1 against.

9. Discussion and Possible Approval of Amendments Made to Chapter 341 Related to Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to Ensure Consistency with Other Changes of TJPC Standards and to Clarify Certification Requirements for Initial Publication in the Texas Register for a 30-day Public Comment Period – C. Weisinger

The Commission is proposing amendments to Chapter 341, the chapter governing probation standards, to ensure consistency with other chapters of TJPC standards and to clarify certification requirements. The changes are with regard to the definition of juvenile justice program, criminal history requirements for volunteers and interns, clarification of who may and who is required to be certified, and the code of ethics.

The Commission is requesting the Board approve the proposed amendments to Chapter 341 as presented for initial publication in the Texas Register for a 30-day public comment period.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Boyd and **seconded** by Commissioner O'Grady to approve the amendments made to Chapter 341 for initial publication in the Texas Register for a 30-day Public Comment Period. Motion passed unanimously.

10. Discussion and Possible Action on Amending Title 37 Texas Administrative Code Chapter 348 Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program for Adoption and Final Publication in the Texas Register – P. Anderson

Pursuant to Chapter 37 of the Texas Education Code, the Commission is responsible for the development of Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) standards.

After a 30-day public comment period, no comments were received. Staff requests that the Board approve proposed Chapter 348 as written for final publication and adoption in the Texas Register for an effective date of August 1, 2011.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Lopez and **seconded** by Commissioner Shults to approve the Chapter 348 Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) for final publication and adoption in the Texas Register. Motion passed unanimously.

11. Discussion and Possible Approval of Summer School Funding for Counties Required to Operate Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEP's) – L. Brooke

TJPC rider #12 allows for up to \$3.0 million of JJAEP funding to be allocated for summer school programs in the mandatory JJAEP counties. The agency estimates that at least \$1.0 million will be available for summer school programs.

The amendment will include the following criteria:

1. Summer school programs will only be funded for up to 35 operational days and for no less than 20 operational days.
2. Any unspent funds from the regular school year must be applied to summer school prior to any additional funds being allocated.
3. Days funded will only be for students expelled for a mandatory reason under the Texas Education Code 37.007(a),(d) or (e).
4. Programs may choose to operate either a half-day (minimum of 3.5 hours) or a full-day (minimum of 7 hours). Programs choosing to operate a half-day will be funded at the maximum rate of \$40 per student day of attendance and programs operating a full-day at the \$79 per student day of attendance.
5. Counties will be required to notify TJPC no later than May 1, 2011, if they intend to operate a summer school program under the approved plan.

Staff requests board approval for the funding of summer school for mandatory JJAEP students.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Boyd and **seconded** by Commissioner Lopez to approve summer school funding for counties required to operate Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Programs (JJAEP's). Motion passed unanimously.

12. Discussion and Possible Approval of New Chapter 355 Related to Non-Secure Juvenile Justice Facilities for Second Publication in the Texas Register for another 30-Day Public Comment Period– R. Kapur

Pursuant to Texas Family Code Section 51.126 and House Bill 3689, adopted by the 81st Texas Legislature, the Commission is responsible for the development of Non-Secure Correctional Facility standards.

The Board approved these standards to be published in the Texas Register at the November board meeting. During the initial publication period, public comments were received; based on the public comments, the Commission has made some substantive changes to Chapter 355. The Commission staff requests that the Board approve Chapter 355 to be published with the Texas Register for a subsequent 30-day public comment period.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner McClendon and **seconded** by Commissioner Lopez to approve the New Chapter 355 for a second publication in the Texas Register with a subsequent 30-day public comment period. Motion passed unanimously.

13. Review, Discussion and Possible Action Regarding Disciplinary Action in the State Office of Administrative Hearings Docket No. 665-10-0815; Texas Juvenile Probation Commission v. Gerald Lee, TJPC Certification No.17320; A Certified Officer (Proposal for Decision and Final Order) – K. Roe

This is a disciplinary action case taken against a certified officer Gerald Lee, and Mr. Lee is here today. The Commission recommended revocation of Mr. Lee's certification as a juvenile detention officer following an incident that occurred at the Harris County Juvenile Detention Center on September 4, 2007, where a resident attempted to commit suicide and was not successful. Harris County conducted an internal investigation of that incident and forwarded to the Commission a report that indicated Mr. Lee had violated some of the agency standards and provisions.

The Commission's Disciplinary Committee reviewed the report and the information provided about Mr. Lee's conduct and recommended revocation of his certification. Mr. Lee contested the request for revocation, and a hearing was held before the State Office of Administrative Hearings (SOAH) on March 25, 2010. The Administrative Law Judge Shannon Kilgore then issued a Proposal for Decision on April 21, 2010, where she concluded that Mr. Lee violated a portion of the Texas Administrative Code Chapter §343.17(1)(G), a part of the Code of Ethics that requires that certified officers be diligent in their responsibility to record and keep accurate information and records regarding juveniles.

The judge issued her Proposal for Decision, both parties were provided the opportunity to file exceptions. Neither Mr. Lee nor the agency filed exceptions to Judge Kilgore's Proposal for Decision. The standard of review for this is found in the Administrative Procedure Act §2001.058(e). The scope of the Commission Board review today is that a state agency may change a finding of fact or conclusion made by the administrative law judge or may vacate or modify an order issued by the administrative law judge, only if the agency determines:

- (1) that the administrative law judge did not properly apply or interpret applicable law, agency rules, written policies provided under Subsection (c), or prior administrative decisions;
- (2) that a prior administrative decision on which the administrative law judge relied is incorrect or should be changed; or
- (3) that a technical error in a finding of fact should be changed.

The agency shall state in writing the specific reason and legal basis for a change made under this subsection. The Administrative Procedure Act also requires that the agency provide notice to Mr. Lee and that was done and he is here today. The Administrative Procedure Act does not dictate any procedure for the Commission Board to follow at this point.

It is fair to say that there was a video and that Mr. Lee did ask that the video be displayed. Mr. Lee feels that the video would exonerate him and the video was not shown to the administrative law judge. Instead, a written detailed summary of everything that happened during the 30 minutes or so in question was presented. This summary was made by Mr. Englade, the internal investigator and juvenile probation officer at Harris County.

Commissioner O'Grady stated that because the video was not displayed at the hearing, he feels there could be a difference between Mr. Lee's actions and what the timeline suggests in the transcript. He sees an issue with the video being available to compose a summary transcript and the video not being available to show in court. This would lead him to find a technical error.

Ms. Roe stated that Mr. Lee admitted only at the hearing that he did not conduct the checks as he should have, and that he did falsify the reports when directed to do so by his supervisor. At the time of the investigation, Mr. Lee did not reveal that the supervisor had instructed him to do so, despite the fact that he had been questioned about it. He had been advised by his attorney not to answer any questions and so he did not. So, the Commission's action was to issue a letter of written reprimand to the supervising officer because, based on the information available at that time, there was no direct evidence that the supervisor had instructed Mr. Lee to falsify the documents.

Commissioner Shults pointed out that he finds it "difficult to swallow" that the video shows evidence of all actions and there is still a problem determining guilt.

Mr. Lee had no past investigated reports or wrong doings that were ever reported to the Commission.

Ms. Spriggs then stressed the importance of taking responsibilities for your actions. She noted that Mr. Lee is a good person and cares about his job but that this case pertains to a child who tried to kill himself when he was not being supervised properly. We also need to understand that there is a power differential in this situation where Mr. Lee is at the bottom. He may have felt like he had to falsify the documents, but it was still his responsibility to tell us that his supervisor made him do it.

If the Commission were to find that no error had been committed it would mean that Mr. Lee's certification would be revoked and he would have a right to appeal it in the Travis County District Court for judicial review. And if the Commission concluded that there was a technical error of some interpretation of the law, then the board is free to adopt some finding or conclusions other than that presented by Judge Kilgore and choose whether or not to remove Mr. Lee's certification. This is the final step in the Administrative Procedure, and then either party could file in Travis County for judicial review.

The discussion was the modification of the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge to a probated one year suspension, to be effective upon the commencement of employment as a Juvenile Supervision Officer (JSO), based on a technical error in the findings of fact in the Administrative Law Judge's recommendation, specifically referring to items 16 – 20 containing that recommendation.

The conditions of the probation would be that he cannot have any confirmed allegations or violations of JSO standards during the 12 month period or he will be subject to further discipline, suspension or revocation. He will be subject to 80 hours of recertification training. It was also added that there should be no violation of TJPC code of ethics or any TJPC standards.

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Ordoñez to modify the recommendation of the Administrative Law Judge to a probated one year suspension with the conditions stated above. The motion was **seconded** by Commissioner Conley. Motion passed 7 for, 1 against.

**14. Executive Director's Report – V. Spriggs
- Agency Activity Update**

This case has given us an opportunity to provide training for probation and supervision officers on their responsibilities and how they respond to reporting requirements and decision making. Having a supervisor direct a staff member to do something inappropriate is not unheard of. But this is the first time we're sure this has happened, and we need to continue to drive the employee responsibility point home. Our business is justice, and we're talking about children, and adults have the responsibility to do the right thing.

Judge West added we're talking about equal justice too. And if there had been equitable findings as to all involved, we might not have to spend time on this decision.

The Texas Youth Commission (TYC) staff provided the numbers Commissioner Boyd requested earlier in the meeting as to the number of persons determinate sentenced into the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) system. For fiscal year 2010 that number was 42, and so far in fiscal year 2011 the number is 21.

The Commissioners received a copy of a letter from Senator Leticia Van de Putte thanking the Commission and staff for all of their hard work on the report, "Alternatives to Juvenile Justice for Youth Involved in Prostitution." The Commission Research Unit did all the leg work and research involved in that study.

Bill Monroe, the Commission's Chief Financial Officer talked about funds that were received to upgrade technology and help departments to be prepared for the Juvenile Case Management System (JCMS) when it's ready to be rolled out. When this grant came along, Cindy Weisinger, Director of Training was able to seize these funds, and get them out to departments in preparation for JCMS, which we hope to be able to continue. When you look at the House Bill 1 version of the budget, funding for the JCMS no longer exists.

This version of House Bill 1 involves no use of the Rainy Day Funds, and no new taxes. So this is going to be the worst case, the most drastic scenario. Once we have the Senate version, we'll do a side by side by side presentation of the budget. Meaning, we'll do what we requested in our Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) which is a 95% budget, what House Bill 1 says, and then what Senate Bill 1 says so we'll be able to see what the differences are across the board.

The performance target set for Grant C commitment diversions in the past fiscal year, 2010, was 1,783. Departments actually committed only 1,119, so departments really performed exceptionally well. People looked

at that and wanted to shrink TYC down because diversions come at a lesser fee while providing quality services. However, Grant C doesn't stand alone; it's interfaced with all the other grant funds that the Commission administers. If you start pulling out the other pieces, Grant C is no longer going to be effective. That's the issue that we're going to be monitoring and campaigning on as we go forward during this session.

The Advisory Council began the broader discussion about more flexible spending; that resonated across the state for probation departments, throughout our office, and, as I started talking about it downtown, they got it too. That is in this new version of House Bill 1, and I expect to see it in Senate Bill 1 as well, because it makes sense. If you're going to have less, you better be able to do more with what you have, still focusing on performance outcomes. I think we all have an issue with 1,111 commitments as a target. But we'll see where the Senate goes with that and what the funding looks like. So I want to come back to that number as well.

The reduction from \$79 to \$59 per day for mandatory kids in the Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program (JJAEP) is highly problematic. The average cost per day for JJAEP is \$143. From day one, the state has underfunded the reimbursement of mandatory students. Going from \$79 per day to \$59 per day and still having that requirement is something that we really have to pay attention to. Part of the issue is we just learned the other day, that once funding for the JJAEP's came from the Foundation School Funding and now it comes from General Revenue. The LBB staff told us they were directed at looking at first getting rid of discretionary funding and then doing rollbacks where they could.

There are two bills that look at JJAEPs. One raises the cap as to who would have to provide a JJAEP, and the other one says you can do whatever you want; if you don't want to operate a JJAEP, you don't have to.

The bigger overall issue is we were told by LBB staff that Article II agencies, Health and Human Services agencies, including Child Protective Services (CPS) and Mental Health, were spliced by 25-35% on average. That's a huge cut. The Community Youth Development Program that was created in 1996 targets those areas with high juvenile probation referrals, high school expulsions, high dropout rates, and high CPS referrals around the state. That program has been very effective, but since it is a non-core service at a time of massive budget cuts, it was put on the table for an 84% reduction. It was reduced to the point where it's not going to exist.

So one by one, as agencies eliminate their non-core functions, the floodgates open to the doors of probation. Reduced mental health services, reduced intervention by CPS, we already know that domestic violence referrals have increased for CPS, which means that the kids sitting at home while their parents are beating each other, are coming to school already acting out and now the class is going to be larger, with less teachers. With those filters that used to keep kids from coming to probation going away, there is more likelihood of increased referrals. So we need to watch everything that relates to other agency's budgets.

We do know TDCJ's TCOOMMI adolescent services budget was eliminated while our budget was cut 10%, and now we will need to revamp the program at this point in time.

I won't speak to Sunset recommendation except to say that we will work with Leadership to make sure we have the best possible outcome in terms of justice, community services, quality services, and we'll do whatever it takes to have that happen and work towards that end. I spoke to Ms. Townsend as well, and her response, our joint opinion is we're going to work with the process to see we come out with a model that benefits Texas, and we may need two separate agencies, there may be something different given the budget situation, we don't know. But my job is to keep you posted as we go.

Commissioner Conley asked a question about how the field responds to meeting the mandates in terms of reducing commitments and providing quality services as much as they're being reduced. I want to note that we have a Chief's Summit scheduled for February. One of the things that has remained as part of the agenda is our regional workgroup, where our Chiefs break into groups to discuss issues either from a focused conversation, where we set the topic and they discuss it, or they discuss the issues. At that time we'll have the Senate and the House versions of the budget to discuss, and based on this, we'll talk about what are the challenges we're going to be facing and how do we meet those challenges. We'll have the body politic if you will, in one location, having a full day of where we are, and where we're going, so we can have some information to bring back to you next time we see you.

On behalf of the Advisory Council, the Commission presented Ms. Medina and two other members of her staff with a commendation recognizing not only her leadership with the Council, but the extraordinary grace that her staff displays to everyone who comes in for those meetings, and the exceptional level of accommodation they provide. The Advisory Council represents people from other agencies and they do meet with Chief Juvenile Probation Officers to discuss things like how do we look at limitations of funding making their job harder and more stringent in terms of accountability and hoops they have to jump through.

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...they are very satisfied with the results of Grant C, and want to keep moving forward. Our job is to tell them how all these funds work together, especially when other budgets are being cut and will result with more kids being sent to probation. It was heartening to see that House Corrections Committee recommended continuing the funding for the JCMS project because it will help us to leverage acquiring the ongoing funding needed to "green" the process. I will update you as we go forward in time with that.

The Criminal Justice Committee's Charge 5 – is to review the detention of juvenile offenders in local jails. I understand there are some recommendations that are going to come forth with that, and we are keeping an eye on that. Their recommendations are to continue monitoring the well-being and recidivism of juvenile offenders.

Overall, Charge 5 is to review the housing of juveniles in state jail facilities, and monitor whether or not the policy of housing them with general population should be modified. The issues around that of course are there are no standards for juveniles in jails in terms of education or physical activity. Sometimes a kid is certified, and they're sitting in jail for maybe a year. The fallacy is that these kids are certified because they should be the most serious offender. If they're certified, then they can bond out. If they have the funding to do it, then they're on the street potentially. So there are a lot of issues that need to be looked at.

The Criminal Justice Committee's Charge 8 - Study and evaluate the success of juvenile probation pilot programs aimed at community-based diversion of youth from TYC, again, it's back to the Grant C. Make recommendations for needed legislative action and additional programs to increase the number of delinquent youth successfully rehabilitated in their home communities.

The committee recommends to:

1. Continue the momentum by enhancing the juvenile probation pilot programs aimed at community-based diversion of youth from TYC, expanding these programs to all JPD in Texas.
2. Continue to downsize TYC and its central office to the appropriate level required for their reduced population.
3. Revisit the last session's sunset recommendation to consolidate all Juvenile Justice Agencies into a new Department of Juvenile Justice and reduce the apparent redundancies in the current organization structure. Emphasize the use of community programs to provide treatment and rehabilitation of youth in their communities.

The Criminal Justice Committee's Charge 9 – Consider the impact that secondary education school disciplinary laws and policies have on the juvenile justice system and the adult prison system. Recommend changes, if needed, to current law.

The committee recommends to:

1. Amend Chapter 37 of the Education Code by narrowing the definition for "Disruptive Activities", "Disruption of Classes", "Serious and Persistent Misbehavior" to eliminate non-criminal acts.
2. Amend Chapter 37 of the Education Code by changing the dangerous or disruptive violation to dangerous and disruptive, in order to insure students are not being removed for simple disruptions to class.

So you have those recommendations and you also have the Bills of Interest:

HB 562 by Berman, Allows all current mandatory JJAEP counties to **choose** to operate a JJAEP vs mandating them to operate.

HB 593 by Pitts, Changes the population size of a county required to operate a JJAEP from 125,000 to 180,000

SB 61/HB408 by Zaffirini / Walle, Relating to minimum standards for juvenile case managers.

A number of county budgets are being cut across the board and so probation departments are certainly being squeezed from both directions. At the height of our collection of Title IV-E funds, we were receiving \$42 million. We're now down to \$7 million. Many counties are already in a serious situation, it's a real problem. Challenging times present challenging opportunities.

We have had a historically great state and local partnership and we need to maintain that. We cannot put more on the counties and give them much less because that's not right. That's the perspective that we come from that will never be defeated. We will always do the very best that we can, and I speak for every chief probation officer and every member of the Commission staff, our job is to find a way to make it work, so that we can always be proud of juvenile probation in Texas.

No action was required for this item.

15. Public Comments – R. West

No public comments were received at this time.

16. Adjourn – R. West

A **motion** was made by Commissioner Conley and **seconded** by Commissioner Lopez to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The board meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. The next board meeting will be held on March 25, 2011.