

# TEXAS JUVENILE PROBATION COMMISSION BOARD MEETING

November 17, 2011  
Brown-Heatly Building  
Austin, Texas

## COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Jean Boyd  
Will Conley  
Migdalia Lopez  
Billy Wayne McClendon  
Bob Shults  
Ray West, Chair

## COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Scott O'Grady  
Rene Ordoñez

## T.JPC MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT

Vicki Spriggs, Executive Director  
Lisa Capers, Deputy Executive Director and General Counsel  
Chris Hubner, Chief of Staff  
Kristy Almager, Staff Services Manager  
Nancy Arrigona, Director of Research and Statistics  
Linda Brooke, Director of External Affairs  
Annie Collier, Deputy Chief Financial Officer  
Kevin DuBose, Director Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation  
Scott Friedman, Director of Compliance  
Bill Monroe, Chief Financial Officer  
John Posey, Planner  
Jim Southwell, Director of Management Information Systems  
Genovia Spencer, Human Resources Manager  
Nydia Thomas, Deputy General Counsel  
Cindy Weisinger, Director of Training

## T.JPC STAFF PRESENT

Paul Anderson  
Amy Bailey  
Kati Branch  
Nadine Butler  
Pearl Chang  
Craig Corder  
Ben Gu  
Bill Bryan  
Chris Cowan  
Laura Druedow  
Kelli Garcia  
Eric Gonzales  
Jessica Gonzales  
Tonya Gonzales  
Luis Guerrero  
Dona Hanohano

Doug Halstead  
Ellie Hernandez  
Lesly Jacobs  
Conrad Jones  
Rachel Kapur  
John Kinsey  
Diane Laffoon  
Frank Mata  
Sarah McCleary  
Judy McReynolds  
Patrick McReynolds  
Ameli Pena  
Monica Peters  
Katrena Plumber  
Nita Reddy  
Samantha Retzlaff

Christine Riggs  
Karen Roe  
Saul Salas  
Bill Smith  
Kaci Sohr  
Steve Spencer  
Brad Stafford  
Sedria Stevenson  
Michael Suda  
Pedro Valentin  
Aaron Vanelli  
Anthony Welebob  
Flora Williams  
Kim Wood  
Judy Ybarbo  
Amanda Zammarron

**1. Call to Order – R. West**

Commissioner Ray West called the board meeting of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to order at 9:16 a.m.

**2. Excuse Absences – R. West**

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

**3. Approval of Minutes from September 16, 2011 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. Special Presentation – R. West**

Chairman West revealed that On Thursday, November 17, 2011 the Austin American-Statesman published the "Top Workplaces of 2011", a list of the best places to work in the Greater Austin area. This year, 598 companies were nominated, 143 companies participated in the program and 85 companies were selected for the Top Workplaces award. The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission was named to this distinguished list and has been recognized as one of Austin's top workplaces.

A plaque featuring the Austin American Statesman article with a Texas Juvenile Probation staff photo was presented to Vicki Spriggs in recognition of her service as Executive Director of the agency. A special video featuring past and present Texas Juvenile Probation staff was shown as a final farewell to the Commission, as November 30, 2011 will be the last day the Commission will exist.

No action was required for this item.

**5. Update on Fiscal Year 2011 Expenditures – B. Monroe**

Mr. Monroe gave a brief recap of Fiscal Year 2011 expenditures stating that Fiscal Year 2011 came to a close on August 31, 2011. The Commission had a budget of \$160,957,644.00 for Fiscal Year 2011 and expended \$160,702,701.00 or 99.84% of that budget. The Commission was required to return \$7,015,188.00 in 2011 due to state budget reductions. These funds were returned by keeping salaries in line and by using returned funds from some counties' Commitment Reduction Program or Grant C.

Mr. Monroe also pointed out, as mentioned in the last board meeting, that in 2011 funds were acquired through a Governor's Criminal Justice Grant to allow for the Commission to complete a video conferencing project that will ultimately save a great deal of funds for the State. The project will allow for 2012 trainings to be held in various regions throughout the State. It will also allow for a facility here in Austin where departments can participate in training via on-line and in real time conferencing.

No action was required for this item.

**6. TJPC Advisory Council Update – E. Medina**

Ms. Medina introduced members of the Advisory Council that were present for the last board meeting of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission as Jane Anderson King, Pama Hencerling, Mark Williams, Doug Vance, Homer Flores, Randy Turner, and Melissa Weiss.

Ms. Medina gave an overview of the work the Advisory Council has been involved with since 2009. The highlights discussed were outcomes of workgroups reviewing funding, standards, legislative strategic planning, TYC commitment goals, and recidivism and performance measures.

Also reviewed were the recommendations the Council would like to pass on to the new agency and Advisory Council once the Texas Juvenile Justice Department is formed on December 1, 2011.

Acknowledgments were given to the current Commissioners, Commission staff and to Vicki Spriggs for all of their hard work and service to the state of Texas.

No action was required for this item.

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

Mr. Dubose presented a handout that reflected FY2011 in its entirety as it was presented in a different format from past meetings in order to better reflect the types of reports the Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Division receives.

In 2011, the Division received 2,315 reports which include the call line reports and these reports are subject to the investigation process. Of the 2,315 reports, each one takes an investigator at least 20 minutes to process and determine how it may be classified. Once classified, the time spent on an investigation will vary based on the type of report received.

Of the total reports 727 were classified as serious incidents; 438 were classified as allegations of abuse, neglect and exploitation; 154 were classified as physical abuse by physical restraint; and 104 were classified as physical abuse not involving restraint. There are still 102 allegations pending, which reflect an exceptional closure rate compared to years past which is directly the result of the division being fully staffed with 7 investigators.

Mr. Dubose clarified that non-reportable incidents are described as reports that are always documented but do not involve a serious incident, for example a restraint where a child was accidentally scratched on the arm vs. a restraint where a child suffered a broken leg. The vast majority of these types of calls come from the call line and is usually the result of a child that is not happy due to a circumstance that happened at a facility, that is considered not reportable.

No action was required for this item.

**8. Executive Director's Report – V. Spriggs**  
**- Introduction of New Staff**  
**- Agency Activity Update**

The Juvenile Case Management System (JCMS)  
Caldwell Counties are preparing to be the next counties to implement JCMS.

Ms. Spriggs referenced the Criminal Justice Grant from the Governor's Office that was awarded to the Commission. She noted that while it does save counties funding as it relates to receiving quality training, it does not and never will replace people from the Commission providing quality training as well. It will allow for departments that have very limited funds or are unable to travel, the ability to access and attend the trainings.

The transition team will have its first meeting on Monday, September 19 and the TYC/TJPC workgroups continue to work in the areas of Fiscal, IT, HR and Legal.

The agency will host a Quality Assurance Conference on September 22 and 23. The conference was created to allow departments a better understanding of how the monitoring system will be set up in the coming year. The conference will look at website resources that departments can use to prepare for visits and what to expect at their individual visit. The registration for the conference was originally expected to draw 50-60 people; however there are now over 200 people registered for the conference.

No action was required for this item.

**15. Public Comments – R. West**

One public comment was received Michael Williams, a past board chair of the Commission.

**16. Adjourn – R. West**

A **motion** was made by Commissioner McClendon and **seconded** by Commissioner Lopez to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. The board meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m. The next board meeting will be held on November 17, 2011.