

JUVENILE JUSTICE
AND
DELINQUENCY PREVENTION
COMMISSION

AGENDA

April 12, 2024, Noon to 2 PM

Jury Assembly Room

Ukiah Courthouse

100 N. State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482

<https://mendocino-courts-ca-gov.zoomgov.com/j/1600926095?pwd=V0RqYUZJMIRGUhQvZmh6b0NmMGxiUT09>

Meeting ID: 160 092 6095 Passcode: 161251 Toll-Free Call-in Number: (833)568-8864

1. Call to Order
 - a. Welcome and Introductions
 - i. Welcome to new applicants for JJDPC
 - b. Additions or Corrections to Agenda
2. Public Comment for items not on the Agenda
3. Review and approval of Draft Minutes from February 9, 2024 meeting

Recommended action: Approve minutes.

4. Review and approval of Draft Minutes from the March 8, 2024 meeting

Recommended action: Approve minutes.

5. Chief Probation Officer Report

CPO Locatelli will provide an overview of the history and important responsibilities of the JJDPC, including how the JJDPC provides guidance and recommendations to support the work of juvenile probation. CPO Locatelli will also provide a legislative update on bills currently pending in Sacramento that may impact juveniles in the juvenile justice system.

Recommended action: Receive the report and provide input to CPO Locatelli, as needed.

6. Juvenile Hall Report

Recommended action: Receive the report and provide feedback to staff, as needed.

7. Inspection of Juvenile Detention Facilities

Recommended action: Discuss scheduling of inspection of Juvenile Hall which will include new commissioners in the inspection process.

8. Report on New Commissioner Recruitment Efforts

The Court Administration will provide updates on new applicants and recruitment efforts.

Recommended Action: Receive the report and provide guidance to enhance recruitment efforts.

9. Mendocino County Resources Guide provided by The Arbor

Recommended Action: Review the Guide and determine if it needs to be updated and potentially include other resources not currently listed.

10. Orientation of New Commissioners

Discuss update of Orientation Program/Manual for New Commissioners

Recommended Action: Discuss useful topics for the orientation materials and best practices to on-board new commissioners

11. New Business

12. Review and Discuss Requests for Items to be included on Future Agenda, Including Agenda Date(s) and Provide Direction

13. Adjournment: The next JJDPC meeting will be held on May 17, 2024 from noon to 2 p.m., location to be determined.



589 Low Gap Road
Ukiah, Ca. 95482

(707) 467-8257
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/probation/jjdpc

COUNTY OF MENDOCINO
Juvenile Justice
And
Delinquency Prevention Commission

02/09/2024

In Attendance; Kate Gaston, JJDPC Chairperson; Gary Levonson Palmer, JJDPS Commissioner; John Azzarro, Commissioner; Noel O'Neal, Commissioner; Vanessa Curl, Arbor Youth Resource Center; Martin Martinez Red Road, Christina Wilson, RCS; Dawn Amara, RCS; Izen Locatelli Chief Probation Officer, John Bednar MCJH Division Manager, Carly Dolan Judge, Kim Weston, Court Secretary; Karry Crawford, Probation - here to take notes

Absent; Libbe Madsen

- Welcome, Introductions:
- December Minutes Review/Accepted – Garry Levonson Palmer moved; John Azzarro 2nd all present approved

- Juvenile Hall Report John Bednar
 - Currently 10 youth in hall, 7 males, 3 females – 1 youth on hold for Lake County, 3 sentenced
 - Programs
 - Talks on garden project with a potential provider
 - Looking at bringing in guest speakers – 1 military, potentially fire.
 - Working on improving quality of existing programs making sure they best suit the youth
 - Staffing – New supervisor starts 3/3 and a new Juvenile Corrections Officer starts on 2/18.

 - Teaching life skills courses.

 - Looking at trying to partner with county Animal Services or Humane Society to have the Youth in the hall training dogs.

- Scott Marsh- working harder on connecting with youth in JH to make sure they have the resources they need when they get out.
- Martin Martinez with Red Road mentioned bringing in an Elder to meet with the kids
- Juvenile Probation Report – Izen –
 - Board approved court taking over commission as of next month.
 - Izen briefly spoke about the changes due to court take over
 - 13 Full Time Employees for hall staff, currently have 12 and 1 supervisor but working on new. Is best in 6 years for chief
 - Probation is down a lot of staff.
 - Dog program historically never worked, due to issues, allergies, and requirements of dog care. Maybe can get 4H.
 - Grandmother program died during covid, is working on getting that re started.
 - Izen spoke about issues with getting various volunteer groups in to work with kids in hall mostly due to JH youth constantly changing.
 - John to work with RCS on the Blue Zone initiative.
 - SARB's games, stopped during covid – MCOE took over, no kids have been referred.
 - Izen commented next 6 weeks are in budget process, not looking good and department heads are working hard. Probation is ok and he is expecting to be funded at current level.
- John Azzarro spoke about John Mendoza, co-author of graphic novel. John Mendoza sent him a letter asking if Juvenil Hall would be interested in a program he put together or any of the area groups would be wanting to use it for youth.
- John is resigning and Kate thanked John for his years of service.
- The Arbor
 - Has been very busy. Have a career fair is to all in April 20. Try to figure out what jobs are available and needed in the community. Focusing on vocational work as they know college isn't available to all. Taking youth on monthly trips to different university followed by an activity to promote leadership skills.
 - Also have contest for poster making for career fair on Feb 14th at 1pm –topics are youth concerns and how can The Arbor help them.
 - Interns from south valley – want to clean up the Hike to the "U" above the valley and make it more accessible. John suggested they reach out to the Ukiah Trail group.
 - New Coordinator for Restorative Justice.
 - Program out line – RCS gets referral from Probation and the schools and does intake. The youth meet with advocate and draft plan.

- Also do talking circles with youth to try to work through problems. Pomolita and Redwood Charter School is doing them.
 - Last six months – 8 referred youth, around 20 with the youth advocates
 - Izen stated the money came from probation from the Prop 64 grant and this is the last year for that fund. He is looking for more funding. If new money come available RJYC will need to be more mobile, not Ukiah/Arbor centered. Outlying jurisdictions need to be served.
 - Martin to investigate it as he sits on the board for prop 64
- Dawn Amaral said the housing program for youth 18-24 is successful. Currently have 15 to 20 of kids on probation are engaging. 1 youth on waiting list. RCS is helping for needs such as getting vital docs for youth, helping to make connections. Showing how to self-refer for assistance from RCS.
 - Kate asked about the WIC code – 18 & over, Izen stated no change to WIC code. Still under 18. This commission does not have a mandate for young adults.
- Kate thanked John for his service. Martin – would like to Honor John with plaque and write up in paper.

Questions

Next meeting - 3/8/24 at Ag Building

Adjournment: Gary Levenson-Palmer moved, John Azzarro 2nd motion, all present approved, Adjourned at 1:00 PM

Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission

Mendocino County
100 N. State Street, Room 303
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(707) 463-4664

<https://www.mendocino.courts.ca.gov/jjdp>

MARCH 8, 2024 MEETING

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kate Gaston, Chairperson; Noel O’Neill, Libbe Madsen

OTHERS PRESENT: Vanessa Curl, Arbor Youth Resource Center; John Bednar, MCJH Division Manager; Hillary Gayheart, OCYR; Judge Carly Dolan; Kim Turner; Kim Weston

ABSENT: Gary Levenson Palmer, JJDP Commissioner; Izen Locatelli, Chief Probation Officer

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 pm by JJDP Chairperson, Kate Gaston.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
 - a. Welcome and Introductions
 - b. Additions or Corrections to Agenda
Recognition of former JJDP Commissioner, John Azzaro: Comm. Gaston would like to formalize the plans for the recognition of former member John Azzaro.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**
None.
3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 9, 2024 MEETING (ATTACHMENT):** After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to defer approval of the February 9, 2024 meeting minutes to the next meeting.
4. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF BYLAWS FOR JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION (JJDP):** After discussion, the Commissioners approved the Bylaws for the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission as proposed. The Commissioners would like clarification from County Counsel concerning the Commission’s involvement in the selection process for the Chief Probation Officer. Kim Turner confirmed that the Bylaws can be amended if needed to accommodate this change.

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5. **REVIEW OF RECRUITMENT PROCESS AND ADDITION OF NEW MEMBERS ON THE JJDP:** Kim Turner reported that the Court has received five applications as of today. Kim suggested that the Court receive, review, and complete a Mendocino County-only background check on the applicants before recommending the applications to the Commission for appointment. The Commissioners agreed that applicants should not be officially appointed until they have attended at least one meeting to familiarize themselves with the work of the Commission. They also suggested that the applicants be conditionally sworn in after the initial vetting of the application and attendance at the meeting. The Court will initiate the Live Scan process and, assuming no concerns arise from this process, the Court will administer the official oath. The Commissioners would like to hold an orientation and training for new Commissioners. The Commissioners agreed to assist with this orientation. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed with the aforementioned steps and directed the Court to send written receipt of the applications and invitations to the applicants to attend the next meeting of the Commission. The Commissioners suggested that the recruitment and application announcement be sent to the Administration of Justice program at Mendocino College, South Valley High School, UISA, and Leadership Mendocino.
6. **PROBATION REPORT:** John Bednar reported that the Juvenile Probation Division is doing well and that an in-depth report will be made at the next meeting when the Chief Probation Officer is able to attend.
7. **JUVENILE HALL REPORT:** John Bednar reported:
 - a. Currently 9 youth are in Juvenile Hall. All are male. Two youth are on hold for Lake County. Staff are currently reviewing all detainees for any required mental health interventions.
 - b. Programs
 - i. Garden Program: Program will be run with the assistance of Mendocino College. There will be an update on the progress at the next meeting.
 - ii. New Therapy: They are working on adding new programs in art therapy and movement therapy with the assistance of the Mendocino County Youth Project.
 - iii. Dog Program: Continuing to work on a program partnering with the county Animal Services or Humane Society to have the youth in the hall training dogs.

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- iv. Culinary Program: Continuing to search for an organization/individual that is the right fit for the program.
 - v. Existing Programs: They are continuing to work on improving quality of existing programs making sure they best suit the youth.
- c. Staffing: Currently, Juvenile Hall is fully staffed. They are researching training programs for staff, specifically trauma awareness training and trauma informed care.
- d. He attended the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC) meeting where he made contacts for assistance with bigger programs. He was able to tour the Sacramento facility which has made good use of training rooms and has instituted a culinary program, a construction program, and other vocational training. This will be a great model for Juvenile Hall as they continue to improve the programming for detainees.
8. **INSPECTION OF JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES:** After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to put this item over to the April meeting and schedule the inspection for a time when new Commissioners have been sworn in and can attend the inspection.
9. **NEW BUSINESS:**
- Noel O’Neill Resignation:** Noel O’Neill has submitted his resignation and this is his last meeting. Kate thanked Noel for his service.
- John Azzaro Recognition:** After discussion, it was agreed that the Court will assist the Commission in recognition of all the Commissioners once they have all resigned. The Court will work with Probation or the County Executive Office to place this item on a future Board of Supervisors agenda. The Court will also work with Probation on accessing funding to memorialize the retiring Commissioners’ service.
- Chairperson:** It was agreed that Kate Gaston will remain the Chairperson for a few months until new Commissioners are installed.
10. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON FUTURE AGENDA, INCLUDING AGENDA DATE(S) AND PROVIDE DIRECTION:**

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Future Meeting Dates and Locations: After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to adopt a provisional calendar for meetings for 2024 which will be held the second Friday of every month from 12:00 pm to 2:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room at the Courthouse. The Court was directed to publish the provisional schedule and meeting locations on the website. This schedule can be amended by the new Commissioners.

Focus of New Commissioners: After discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the new Commissioners should focus on a project to gather a list of all services offered in the county. Vanessa Curl stated that The Arbor has already compiled this information and is willing to share it with the Commission.

Guest Speakers for Meetings: After discussion, the Commissioners agreed it would be beneficial to arrange for guest speakers at meetings to share their expertise with the new Commissioners.

11. **ADJOURNMENT:** The next JJDPC meeting will be held on April 12, 2024 from noon to 2:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room at the Ukiah courthouse.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:47 p.m.

MINUTES COMPLETE
Submitted by Kim Weston