

Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Commission

Mendocino County
100 N. State Street, Room 303
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 463-4664

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

MAY 17, 2024 MEETING

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kate Gaston, Chairperson, Gary Levenson-Palmer, Libbe Madsen, Esperanza Montano-Culbertson, Sarah Martin, Susie deCastro, Marquez Gibson,

OTHERS PRESENT: John Bednar, MCJH Division Manager; Kim Turner, Court Executive Officer; Scott Marsh, MCYP Program Manager and member of the public.

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Bode Gower, Nicholas Canaday, Vanessa Curl, Tanya Ruiz-Estrada

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by JJDPC Chairperson, Kate Gaston.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Welcome and Introductions
- b. Additions or Corrections to Agenda
 1. Ms. deCastro requested that the JJDPC set aside time to review orientation materials provided at the prior meeting to new commissioners. Ms. Turner will ask Ms. Weston to provide copies of the orientation packet to older commissioners.
 2. Mr. Gibson asked that the JJDPC begin assembling juvenile data from various sources to be used to determine areas of focus for the upcoming year.
 3. Ms. Gaston reported that she has been attending a quarterly meeting of the Policy Council on Children and Youth (PCCY) that convenes local agencies and organizations to focus on initiatives for youth. She suggests that another commissioner might want to act as a liaison between JJDPC and PCCY. PCCY will be conducting an assessment of resources for youth and it would be a good idea for the JJDPC to link to these resources.
 4. Ms. Gaston asked that the Court announce meetings and send out materials to an expanded email list that she maintains instead of relying on commissioners and members of the public to find the meeting information on the Court's website. She will provide the email list to Ms. Turner. She also asked that future meetings be relocated to the Ag Building on Low Gap Road, which was the former meeting room, as she and other commissioners believe that some members of the public are not comfortable coming to the courthouse for meetings. Ms. Turner will reach out to the Ag Building contact person and ask if the room is still available. Ms. Turner will also make sure that Ms. Weston solicits agenda items a week before the date the materials are published on the website.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

None.

3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 12, 2024 MEETING**

(ATTACHMENT): After discussion, the Commissioners approved the April 12, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Ms. Martin moved to approve; Ms. Madsen seconded.

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4. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO BY-LAWS:** Ms. Turner reported that she had incorporated the participation of the JJDPC in the recruitment and selection of the Chief Probation Officer position, as is required by statute. Mr. Gibson asked that the by-laws also reflect that the duties and powers of the JJDPC include the ability to request from any department, division, board, commission or other agency assistance and data that will enable the JJDPC to carry out its functions. He referenced the Unicode Municipal Code section 8.20.070, which describes the powers of the JJDPC. After discussion, the approval of the revised by-laws was tabled until the next meeting to incorporate this provision into the document.
5. **HONORING RETIRED COMMISSIONERS:** Ms. Turner reported that the County does not provide commemorative gifts when retirements occur but that the Board of Supervisors would place an acknowledgement of the JJDPC retiring commissioners on its agenda and recognize their work at a public meeting. Ms. Gaston suggested that this occur in the summer, even if all older commissioners have not yet retired and that the five commissioners that worked with the County could be honored in one group ceremony.
6. **PROBATION REPORT:** John Bednar reported on behalf of Chief Locatelli. There will likely be budget reductions in most county departments due to shortfalls in state and local revenues. However, at this time, it appears that the Probation Department may not be asked to sustain a significant reduction.
7. **JUVENILE HALL REPORT:** Mr. Bednar reported that currently seven youth are in Juvenile Hall, six male, and one female. One youth is on hold for Lake County. Staff have recently had a number of youth exhibiting signs of mental illness and have been working effectively with these detainees.
8. **INSPECTION OF JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES:** After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to schedule the inspection of Juvenile Hall for Friday June 14, 2024, starting at 10:00 am. Ms. Gaston, Mr. Levenson-Palmer, Ms. Martin, Ms. deCastro and Mr. Gibson will participate in the inspection. At 12:30, the JJDPC will convene for orientation of new members at a location to be determined. Mr. Levenson-Palmer will send the inspection form out to all commissioners ahead of time, along with copies of the two most recent inspection reports.
9. **NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Levenson-Palmer noted that the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) offers training, legislative updates and other resources to JJDPCs across California. He suggested that all commissioners get on the email lists to learn more about these resources.
10. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON FUTURE AGENDA, INCLUDING AGENDA DATE(S) AND PROVIDE DIRECTION:** After discussion, it was agreed that these topics were previously covered in Agenda Item 1.

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11. **ADJOURNMENT:** After discussion, it was agreed that the next JJDPC meeting will be held on June 14, 2024 at 12:30 p.m., following the juvenile hall inspection earlier that day, at a location to be determined.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:16 p.m.

MINUTES COMPLETE
Submitted by Kim Turner