



PROBATION DEPARTMENT



Kalisa Rochester
Chief Probation Officer

Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission Meeting Minutes (Revised)

May 26, 2021
Meeting via ZOOM

Attending

1. Joe Hoffar, Chairperson
2. Mark Bacciarini, Judge for Merced County
3. Chris Henn, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
4. Joel Daffron, Program Manager
5. Joseph Owens, Program Manager
6. Kelly Bentz, Commissioner
7. Sandra Stevens, Vice Chairperson
8. Lori Minor, Commissioner

Absent

1. Kalisa Rochester, Chief Probation Officer
2. Lisa Maples, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
3. Jermaine Paster, Commissioner

Call to Order

Joe welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:33 pm. He took a roll call of the members.

Additions to the agenda

There were no additional items added to the agenda. Sandra motioned to approve the agenda. Lori seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting on March 24, 2021 were individually reviewed. Lori moved to approve the minutes. Sandra seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

Standing Item SB 823 Update

- Joseph gave the update on the changes at the Facility. They will be moving camp back over to Building 2. We are getting ready to facilitate the SB 832 populations. They are in the initial stages of executing their plan. There was a roundtable discussion.
- So far there are no Title 15 changes as a result of the SB 832 changes. There was a discussion on the inspection we are required to complete. These changes will all fall under the Juvenile Facility. There are no new 209 updates or requirements.

Standing Item Inspection Reports

- Joseph reported there were no inspections since the last meeting. They have a Public Health Inspection scheduled for July 6th.

Standing Item Ancillary Services

- Joseph explained that all the youth are getting in-person education as well as in-person medical and dental care. BHRS is up and running in the Facility. They are providing mental health services. In-person visitation with parents is up and running.
- So far, we have had no COVID issues with the youth. Not one youth has tested positive.
- The Facility is open, with moderate modifications for safety purposes, and the commissioners are welcome to come visit.

Standing Item Meals/Nutrition

- Joseph reported the meals and nutrition component is going well. They only received one (1) grievance dealing with food. The youth wanted a broader variety of food choices. They are working on changing the menu as they cycle through quarterly.

Standing Item Behavioral Health

- Joseph confirmed that the mental health team is in place and up and running. He presented the data for April as follows:
 - They had a population of thirty (30).
 - Fourteen (14) of those youth are seeing a mental health counselor.
 - Ten (10) of those youth are on psychotropic drugs.
- The BHRS team is doing a great job.

Old Business

There was no old business to discuss.

Roundtable Discussion

Probation Website

- Joe asked Joel about the Probation website. Joel updated the team on the website changes. We are in the final stages of the website revamp. Touchups are happening prior to going live. He explained how the JJDP section will work and the links that will be

available. The team is excited and hoping we can get more involvement. There was a round table discussion. Questions and answers regarding the specifics of the site were discussed. The goal is to have two (2) commissioners from each District plus the two (2) youth commissioners.

- Joe explained that when things open up, we need to get the word out there about this Commission. This can be done through job fairs, early intervention events and other community functions. Joe would like the pamphlets printed in other languages for outreach purposes.
- Kelly mentioned the Atwater Festival scheduled for July 4th. Joe will look into this event and Kelly offered to assist him. There was a roundtable discussion. Kelly also suggested a better process for recruiting members. There was a roundtable discussion with several suggestions.
- Joe wants this to be a more active commission. We need projects to focus on that will benefit the youth.

Breaking Barriers

- Breaking Barriers and the warm hand offs from Prop 47 clients to Breaking Barriers was discussed. Joe explained that we currently have Probation, BHRS and WorkNet out at Breaking Barriers. This new team will be providing services now. Breaking Barriers also extends services to the families of the clients. This will help getting the clients back into the community in a positive manner.
- Chris gave a rundown on the Breaking Barriers programs for both Adult and Juvenile clients and their families. He explained the goals and programming. We are conducting surveys so we can see what they (client/community) want and not necessarily what we think they need. He explained the reentry goals for both Juveniles and Adults.
- We are working on resources to help the clients. The goal is also the get the same type of set up in Merced. Breaking Barriers will be the model for future facilities. The RISE Program for juveniles was discussed which mirrors the Phoenix Program for adults. Joel explained some of the challenges and processes for both programs. These programs are both done in collaboration with MCOE. There was a roundtable discussion.
- We also have the LINK Program for youth at the Facility.
- Joel explained the Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT) curriculum and the linkage between In-Custody and Field services.
- Lori had questions on the Prop 47 programs verses Breaking Barriers programs. Joel explained the differences between the two.

Future Projects

- Kelly believe we need a project other than just the inspections. The Commission needs to be more active with things to focus on. It will give the group a purpose. There was a roundtable discussion.
- There was further discussion on the DJJ conversion and services that will be available.

Secretary

Joe reminded the team that they will need a new secretary and asked for volunteers. Maurina explained that they will have a secretary as soon as the position is filled. The minutes for this group fall under the duties for the Probation secretary. She just doesn't know how long that will take for the Department to fill the position. She reminded them they can get their own secretary if they chose to do so. She also reminded the team that they need to keep in mind they will need someone as the second signature on the bank account as she will be coming off.

Future Agenda Items

- It was decided that Breaking Barriers should be a regular agenda item. At the next meeting someone will present on the programs at Breaking Barriers. Chris relayed that there will be an Open House for Breaking Barriers in the near future. He will make sure the commissioners receive an invitation.

Closed Session

Sharing Critical Incidents Update

- Joseph reported that we had zero critical incidents since the last meeting. We currently have thirty (30) youth in the Facility.

Grievances Filed

- Sandra reviewed the grievances and gave the report. She gave the counts for specific complaints by the Youth. Joseph explained how and why some of the issues arose.
- One youth wanted to speak to the Chief. Joseph explained how he is trying to circumvent the process and go directly to the Chief.
- There was only one complaint on food issues.
- There were thirty-five (35) compliments. She shared a couple of the specifics with the team. There was a roundtable discussion.
- Joe expressed that he feels the MRT is working. Joel explained how the program works and the benefits. The relationships are building great foundations. There was a roundtable discussion.

Resume Open Session

There was nothing to report on open session as no action was taken during closed session.

Adjournment

Joe asked the group to let him know about any outreach events coming up. We will do our best to get commissioners to attend these events.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm. The next meeting will be July 28, 2021 at 5:30 pm.

Minutes by Maurina Erickson, Secretary III