



Jeffrey D. Bosworth
Chief Probation Officer

Probation Department Sierra County

P.O. Box 67
Downieville, California 95936
(530) 289-3277
FAX (530) 289-2821



Hon. Charles H. Ervin
Hon. Yvette Durant
Superior Court Judges

NOTICE OF MEETING AND AGENDA

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

Monday, May 14, 2018

The Sierra County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council will meet on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the main courtroom, Courthouse, Downieville, CA. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Call meeting to order

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Introduction of members
3. Public Comment Opportunity. (Public comment is limited to three minutes per person and not more than three individuals addressing the same subject).
4. Discussion/Action/Review of programs directed to youth that "have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing delinquency and addressing juvenile crime for any elements of response to juvenile crime and delinquency, including prevention, intervention, suppression, and incapacitation (30061(b)(4)(i) GC)
5. Adjourn.



SIERRA COUNTY

JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

March 26, 2018 Meeting Minutes

JJCC Meeting – Downieville – Courtroom

Call to Order and Introductions: The Meeting was called to order by Chair Jeffrey Bosworth at 1:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

a. Individuals Present: Chairman Chief Jeffrey Bosworth (Chief Probation Officer), Vickie Clark (Director of Health and Social Services), Merrill Grant (Superintendent of Schools), Docia Bostrom (Community Representative), J. Lon Cooper (Public Defender), Larry Allen (District Attorney), Derrick Koch (Non-Profit Community Organization Member), Sandra Groven (Drug Court Coordinator), and Yvette Durant (Assistant Presiding Judge).

b. Absent: Lea Salas (Administrative Director Behavioral Health), Kathryn Hill (Clinical Director Behavioral Health), Tim Standley (Sheriff), Scott Schlefstein (BOS).

2. Discussion/Clarification of Group: Chair Bosworth does not think this is a formal council. Jerry Cooper asks for an explanation of the difference between the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

and the Juvenile Justice Committee is that the JJCC and the JJC. This committee comes up with a plan to spend the probation portion of the COP money, which according to Caleb is about \$8,500 per year. We have about \$76,000 in the budget now. The Juvenile Justice Commission, as Jeff recalls, the JJC (at least in other counties), is more like a grand jury for the probation department. In Lake County it was members of the community including one juvenile. They would keep track of what was going on at the juvenile hall, including meals, etc.

3. **A New Member.** Derrick Koch. Everyone at the meeting introduces themselves. Derrick explains that appreciates our consideration of him in this position. He works with several different youth groups. He works with the Boy Scouts in Loyaltan on his personal time. The Loyaltan Fire Department Explorer Group. Through his work he assists with the Friday Night Live, they have 6 chapters in Sierra County. There is a pilot program in Loyaltan for life skills. They have Project “Alert” in Downieville. It is mandatory at Downieville High School. Derrick mentions that

he does not want have problems with being “representative” of any of the groups. Discussion was held regarding the representative capacity. Derrick has 4 kids and is very active with the schools. He loves working with kids. It appears that all of the programs mentioned are non-profit organizations. Merrill Grant thinks that Derrick is a great asset. Everyone agrees. J. Lon Cooper expresses his opinion that Derrick is very enthusiastic. Everyone agrees and Derrick is welcomed onto the Council. Chair Bosworth will inform the Board of the addition.

4. Public Comment Opportunity.

No public comments.

5. Preliminary Discussion on JJCPA Plan going forward

Chair Bosworth begins that we have money, but now, for the first time, he has to submit a plan to the State.

As of today, we have \$76,000 cash balance in the account. According to Caleb, we get approximately \$8,500 per year.

Docia Bostrom asks if we have a Juvenile Hall in our County. Chair Bosworth states that we do not. We use the Juvenile Hall in Nevada County

when it is necessary.

Chair Bosworth states that this money should be spent on is programs and approaches that have been demonstrated to improve juvenile delinquency, truancy, including prevention, intervention, suppression and incapacitation. Juvenile Hall bookings in the last several years are rare. The last couple of times it has been the same juvenile who is now 18.

Judge Durant comes in to ask if it is something a judge should be involved in. She will return and join us in a minute.

Chair Bosworth states that we have been spending the funds on juvenile hall bookings, which is about \$100 per day, which includes schools. He thinks we have spent about \$1,000 in the past two year's total.

Nevada County is part of a pilot project that they will likely extend to us. The capacity of Nevada County Juvenile Hall is about 30, and the population is dwindling. When Jeff was superintendent in Lake County in 2005, they had approximately 30 juveniles, and found that was not sustainable and they now send their juveniles to Mendocino County.

Nevada County has a pilot program where they will be housing young

adults, 18-24 in the juvenile hall, separate from the other juveniles. The idea is to keep these young adults out of Wayne Brown where they may be in contact with other more serious offenders. They have been doing it for about a year.

The other expenditure is that on occasion, a minor may need counseling or assessments not funded in another way. They have a counselor in Reno who we have worked with and is currently doing an assessment for one of our juveniles now.

Docia comments that Derrick mentioned that he has a life skills class in Loyaltan. She would like to see one here in Downieville.

Chair Bosworth states that we can use the money for a variety of things, affects, treats or suppresses juvenile delinquency or truancy.

Chair Bosworth states that we (Sierra County), we have one of the worst truancy rates in the State. Merrill Grant asks that it means “rate per 100 students?” Chair Bosworth states that he pulled this information from the California Department of Education. A truant is 3 or more unexcused absences in a school year.

If we could come up with some solutions for reducing the truancy problems, it might be a good place to start.

Chair Bosworth states that in Lake County at the rancherias, they had a lot of truancy issues because of head lice.

Merrill Grant states that absences and truancy are two different “cats.” He states they have 400+ kids. He thinks every kid in Sierra County misses 3-10 days of school. He does not think that we have the economy of scale to have this be an accurate representations.

Chair Bosworth states that he obtained his information from the Department of Education website. Merrill Grant states that they keep stats. There is chronic absenteeism in the County. There are not a lot of unexcused absences because parents cover for their kids, including taking kids out of school for trips and hunting, etc. He thinks that the lack of attendance is more of a community problem, as there seems to be less emphasis on education in this County. They get a lot of coverage from parents to make it okay to miss school.

Chair Bosworth states that it is like marijuana use. Not everyone who

uses marijuana becomes a hard drug addict, but most hard drug addicts used marijuana. The analogy is that not everyone who is a truant becomes a delinquent, but everybody who is a delinquent starts out as a truant.

Vicki Clark states that it might also be the geography of the area, where one doctor or dentist appointment will take a kid out of school for a whole day. Merrill Grant states that he has 3 girls and they have to get their braces tightened every month. It is disruptive for them, and they are only a mile from the dentist's office.

Merrill Grant states that the issue with SARB and students he considers actually truant, who are dealing with transiency, parents taking turns watching the children, are the most vulnerable.

Discussion then went to the Baker family. Mr. Grant indicates that they have counselors at the school to help everyone deal with the loss.

Merrill states that the academic portion is strong, and Derrick is working with projects to have more outreach. He thinks social services is working hard with the SARB individuals. He believes they put a lot of resources towards these issues, but not everyone takes advantage of it.

Chair Bosworth suggests having an expert to discuss internet usage, i.e., sending inappropriate pictures over the internet. Merrill Grant states that they had such a class last year.

Mr. Grant thought we were talking more about an intensive program, i.e., the Wilderness camp.

Chair Bosworth talks about going to boy scout camp with a group of children from the Alameda Juvenile Hall. It was a reward for good behavior for them.

Docia mentions that Schaefer High Sierra Camp is right off of Highway 49 and would be something to consider. She said is it expensive. Larry Allen states that they could also send people to Riley(?) The Loyalton Rotary is interested in sponsoring kids through that program.

Merrill Grant indicates that they could funnel some of the funds from this source through the Loyalton Rotary to sponsor some youth. He also suggests we get some sort of summer plan going and that Derrick can follow-up with them throughout the year.

Derrick states that Plumas County is working on a summer program

for this year, and he is going to be involved to see how that goes. They have more resources than our county, but they might have some good ideas and maybe we can combine with them in the future. Unfortunately it does not provide any programs for this summer.

Docia states that when her kids were 10-13 it was day camp, they went kayaking, Wilderness Challenge.

Derrick states that since his funding is through SAFT (?), must be proven to prevent certain actions. His understanding is that the Wilderness Challenge was based upon a program founded by Native American Principles, but that it did not satisfy some of the requirements for ongoing funding. He thinks there are two other programs that have been proven to satisfy these requirements, that could be considered for our County. Derrick is looking into getting these things going.

Vicki states that the funding they were trying to use for the Wilderness Challenge was unavailable because it was not an “evidenced-based program.” Docia states that it kept kids occupied and out of trouble, and provided them with good role models, so why would that not be considered “evidenced based.” Vicki and Derrick explain that there are

certain requirements to be met for that source of funding. However, if we do not have to use that funding, and can provide our own funding, we would not be hampered by that requirement. Derrick mentions that Plumas has more resources and it would be nice to share and cooperate with their programs.

Chair Bosworth states that “evidence-based” is the most over-used word in the system these days. He has seen it used in all sort of situations and had weird things be considered “evidenced based”.

Docia says that bullying and social media bullying are two of the big issues, and that having some program that gets kids away from these types of behavior seems like it should work.

Chair Bosworth states that he had Billy Mills come to speak to his High School Class. Billy was a motivational speaker. He was a Native American Olympic medalist. It was very powerful for the Native American youth in that he was a good role model. It would be good to have a speaker who could relate to our youth and encourage them to raise themselves up.

Merrill Grant states they periodically have speakers, but they are more

like “one-offs.” He would like to see something during the summer, with a follow-up with the kids throughout the year. He would like to have the youth realize where they live. It can be done internally throughout the year.

Merrill Grant wants to know how hard it is to distribute these funds it is not difficult. Chair Bosworth states that using this funding is not difficult. It can be passed through other agencies.

Chair Bosworth states there are two funds. This one, and the Youthful Offender Block Grant which we use to pay Sofia Gonzalez’s salary. We have to submit our budget to the state once a year. They have never hesitated when we advise them we are using the Youthful Offender Block Grant for salaries.

Chair Bosworth and Larry Allen agree that using these funds is not very restrictive, it just has to pass the laugh test. They have this fund and they are looking for ways.

Based on programs and approaches that have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing delinquency and addressing juvenile crime for any elements of response to juvenile crime and delinquency, including:

prevention, intervention, suppression, and incapacitation.

Docia asks a question of the law enforcement people if they see adults who are in trouble then have kids who get in trouble. Larry Allen states that it is difficult to say, when the trailer park was there, there were a lot of them, but now the trailer park is gone, so that situation has diffused.

Docia mentions that there are a lot of families in Downieville where the adults in the family are using drugs and the kids will be starting school and she is concerned that they will become problems.

Chair Bosworth states that the school is the place to start. We have had only one juvenile last year, and possibly two this year coming up. Our “602” wards have been small in number. The delinquency numbers are lower than they were, but the truancy rates are higher.

Merrill Grant states that there has been a shift in the past several years. Loyalton elementary grew by 10-15%. The people coming in are taxing all their resources. He would like to see the children have more adult mentorship.

He would like to see something kicked off in the summer with a few

at risk kids.

Chair Bosworth wants to continue funding the juvenile hall. He also wants to use these funds for counseling as they have been.

Vickie Clark asks if we should be soliciting people to come and speak to our group about their programs. She thinks that having a motivational speaker, but wants an action plan for follow-up.

She is trying to set something up in Sierra County where they can certify their own foster homes and when not in use as a foster home, they can be used for mentoring.

She mentions that everywhere she goes she hears from the community that people want the Wilderness Challenge back. She thinks it had a couple of arms to it, overnight events, plus day events. She thinks that Don Yegge was involved and suggested we have him come and speak to our group. Chair Bosworth seems to recall that the group had issues with insurance; however, this was long before he came to Sierra County.

Merrill Grant would like to see if we can work with some existing group to send a cadre of kids to a program this summer for a week of camp

and then start a follow-up program.

Chair Bosworth suggests we start working with the SARB students. Merrill Grant agrees and thinks they can get some people involved. He will put something in writing. He wants to have the kids stay locally so they can appreciate the area we live in. He mentions the trail stewardship program. If we could get some at-risk kids involved and get their hands dirty, something might take. They might take an interest in mountain biking and make a career out of it.

Next meeting will be May 14, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. in the Downieville courtroom. Chair Bosworth wants everyone to bring proposals. Docia wants us to get on the social media issue as soon as possible. Docia suggests using Trindel as a resource.