

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>

JUNE 14, 2024 MEETING

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Kate Gaston, Chairperson, Gary Levenson-Palmer, Marquez Gibson, Libbe Madsen (via Zoom), Nicholas Canaday (via Zoom), Susie deCastro (via Zoom)

OTHERS PRESENT: Judge Carly Dolan; Izen Locatelli, Chief Probation Officer; John Bednar, MCJH Division Manager; Kim Turner, Court Executive Officer; Tanya Ruiz-Estrada (prospective Commissioner- via Zoom); Kim Weston

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Bode Gower, Esperanza Montano-Culbertson, Sarah Martin, Vanessa Curl

The meeting was called to order at 12:33 pm by JJDPC Chairperson, Kate Gaston.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
 - a. Welcome and Introductions
 - b. Additions or Corrections to Agenda
 1. Ms. Gaston reported that she and Gary Levenson-Palmer completed the inspection of Juvenile Hall but that they will require another date to complete the full inspection. This continued inspection will need to be approximately two hours.
2. **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

None.
3. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES FROM THE MAY 17, 2024 MEETING (ATTACHMENT):** After discussion, the Commissioners approved the May 17, 2024 meeting minutes as written. Mr. Levenson-Palmer moved to approve; Mr. Gibson seconded; Nick Canaday abstained.
4. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REVISIONS TO BY-LAWS:** Ms. deCastro requested that we remove all category references (e.g. people of color) from the final paragraph of the By-Laws. Mr. Gibson asked where his requested changes concerning 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 (Unicode Municipal Code section 8.20.070) are reflected in the amended By-Laws. The older draft not including those changes was incorrectly provided by administrative staff. After discussion, the approval of the revised by-laws was tabled until the next meeting to incorporate the additional provisions into the document.

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5. **HONORING RETIRED COMMISSIONERS:** Ms. Turner reported that the County Board of Supervisors will be recognizing all current and recently retired Commissioners at the July 23, 2024 meeting starting at 9:15 am. Commissioners may attend the meeting remotely if they are unable to appear in person. The meeting connection information can be found on the Board of Supervisors page on the County website. The Commissioners also requested that this information be sent out via email. Ms. Gaston will be reaching out to all retired Commissioners to provide information regarding this ceremony.

Mr. Canaday requested information from the three remaining Commissioners on their projected retirement dates. Ms. Gaston reported that she will remain on the Commission until the new Commissioners feel they are ready to stand on their own. Mr. Levenson-Parker stated that he plans on remaining on the Commission until the inspection of Juvenile Hall is completed and the new By-Laws are approved. His goal is to retire from the Commission at the end of August. Ms. Madsen stated that she does not feel an urgency to retire at this moment and is undecided on a date.

6. **PROBATION REPORT:** Chief Locatelli reported that next fiscal year will be difficult for the County. All county departments will be receiving budget cuts this year. The Juvenile Probation budget is being reduced by \$175,000 and the Adult Probation budget will be reduced by \$250,000. He stated that they will not be cutting services and do not plan on any personnel layoffs. They will not be hiring any additional staff. Should either department require additional funds during the later quarters of the next fiscal year, the Board is open to adjustments and special requests.

Chief Locatelli reported that Lake County is interested in establishing a more permanent usage of our Juvenile Hall. He stated that he will not have over 20 kids in the hall, but he feels it would be beneficial to both counties to take a more regional approach. His discussions with Lake County are ongoing. Lake County currently has an agreement to house juveniles with Tehama County.

Chief Locatelli also reported that they are transitioning from an outside medical provider to make use of county agencies (e.g. BHRS). They are in the process of setting up billing processes so that they can bill federal and state programs for the reimbursement of the fees in the first 90 days of involvement with the juvenile.

Chief Locatelli stated that the annual BSCC inspection of Juvenile Hall is July 8, 2024. The Annual OYCR inspection will be held in August.

7. **JUVENILE HALL REPORT:** Mr. Bednar reported that currently four youth are in Juvenile Hall, three male, and one female (currently out on a pass). He is expecting an upswing in the hall population due to summer vacation. Staff have been preparing for the inspection of Juvenile Hall by the JJDPC as well as the upcoming annual inspection by the BSCC.

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8. **INSPECTION OF JUVENILE DETENTION FACILITIES:** Mr. Levenson-Palmer reported that he and Ms. Gaston met this morning to conduct the annual inspection of Juvenile Hall. No other commissioners were present for the inspection. After discussion, it was agreed that the following needs to be completed at the second inspection date:

- Complete walk through of facilities
- Review the procedures for the incarceration of juveniles from initial processing to release
- Interview youth
- Interview staff
- Review of filed grievances

Chief Locatelli stated that there is a large amount of duplication in the various inspections of the Hall and suggested that the Commissioners review the BSCC and OYCR reports to refocus the inspection and turn it into a more useful tool.

After discussion, the Commissioners agreed to schedule the second part of the Juvenile Hall inspection of Juvenile Hall for Friday June 21, 2024, starting at 10:00 am. Ms. Gaston, Mr. Levenson-Palmer, Ms. deCastro, and Mr. Gibson will participate in the inspection. Information concerning the date of the second inspection time will be sent out to all Commissioners. Ms. Gaston will send the inspection form out to all commissioners ahead of time.

9. **NEW BUSINESS:**

Ms. Turner reported that all meetings will be held at the Courthouse due to the difficulty in providing remote connections at the County facility. Ms. Gaston requested all Commissioners to attend the meetings in person, when possible. Ms. Madsen requested that staff obtain feedback on the meeting location from members of the public.

Mr. Bednar requested that next year's inspection of Juvenile Hall be completed in March or April of 2025.

Ms. Gaston reported that she recently attended the quarterly meeting of the Policy Council on Children and Youth (PCCY) and learned that her membership has expired. Due to this, there is an open seat on the Council that needs to be filled by a JJDPC member. Ms. deCastro expressed interest in filling this seat and Ms. Gaston stated that she would contact Ms. deCastro to discuss the necessary steps to become a member. Ms. Gaston will attend the next meeting of the Council with the new JJDPC member for introductions to other Council members.

Chief Locatelli would like the Commission to focus on delinquency prevention to avoid overlap with other commissions and council.

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10. **COMMISSIONER CONTACT UPDATES TO CLERICAL STAFF:** Ms. Weston requested Commissioners email her with any updates to the contact information. She will provide an updated Commissioner Roster at the next meeting.

11. **REVIEW AND DISCUSS REQUESTS FOR ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED ON FUTURE AGENDA, INCLUDING AGENDA DATE(S) AND PROVIDE DIRECTION:**

Ms. Gaston requested that the next three to four meeting dates be included in future agendas.

Mr. Levenson-Palmer would like to have a guest speaker at the July meeting. The Commissioners will update staff on speaker information for the addition to the agendas.

12. **ADJOURNMENT:** After discussion, it was agreed that the next JJDPC meeting will be held on July 12, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. in the Jury Assembly Room at the Ukiah Courthouse. A Zoom link will be provided for Commissioners who cannot attend in person and for any members of the public to attend.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 1:42 p.m.

MINUTES COMPLETE

Submitted by Kim Weston