

**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION
Meeting Minutes – June 7, 2022
Via Zoom**

Commissioners Present: Victoria BurtonBurke, Chair
Stephen Betts, Vice Chair
Carol Rhoads, Secretary
Darius Parakh
Diana Traub
Heather Angove
Jean Pennypacker
Lissa Thiele
Nora Manchester
Penny Blake
Ron Hansen
Vaishali “Shali” Sirkay
Lionel Allan

Commissioners Absent: Lisa Macias

Also Present: Honorable L. Michael Clark, Superior Court
Honorable Maureen Folan, Superior Court
Kara Garasky, Superior Court
Karla Fukushima, JJC
Neha Parthasarathi, JJC
Morena Cruz, Behavioral Health
Graciela Gonzalez, Behavioral Health
Vanessa Cornejo, Behavioral Health
Veronica Robles, Behavioral Health
Marc Utsey, Probation Department
Kristin Keller, Probation Department
Jill Ugalde, Probation Department
Nick Birchard, Probation Department
Elisa Carias, Probation Department
Dolores Morales, Probation Department
Mariel Caballero, Probation Department
Ashanti Hayes, Probation Department
Paul Jhin, District Attorney’s Office
Nisreen Baroudi, Public Defender’s Office
Damon Silver, Public Defender’s Office
David Epps, Alternate Defenders Office
Glen Casados, IDO
Dane Caldwell Holden, SCCOE
AnnaLisa Chung, Dependency Advocacy Center
Ruth Maurice, OMOS
Damion Wright, DFCS
Vone Kegarice, JPD
Manny Cardenas, FLY
Destiny Aguayo, FLY
Vianni Garcia, FLY

Matt Cammann, Seneca Family of Agencies
Deborah Pell, Bill Wilson Center
Dana Bunnnett, Kids in Common
Dr. Shelley Aggarwal, Juvenile Facilities Medical Clinics
Lanphuong Le, Valley Medical Center
Ruby Collado, Valley Medical Center
Lt. Rob Lang, San Jose Police Department
Andrew Cain, Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Allie Hughes, Office of Supervisor Otto Lee
Kelsey Reedy, Humboldt JJDPC & HTAYC
Patrick Tondreau, Citizen
Ray Blockie, Citizen

Call to Order & Introductions: Chair BurtonBurke called the meeting to order at 12:17 p.m.

Agenda Approval: The agenda was approved by all Commissioners present.

Public Comments/Oral Petitions: None.

Approval of Minutes: May 3, 2022 Minutes approved by all Commissioners present.

REPORTS

Presentation by Commissioner Jean Pennypacker: Juvenile Hall Inspections: Commissioner Jean Pennypacker reported on the following:

- Data was collected from virtual interviews, youth surveys, and an in-person facility inspection.
- The facility is well-supervised and well-managed, as evidenced by their exemplary response to COVID.
- There is still a disproportionate number of Latinx and Black youth detained at JH.
 - Percentage of Latinx has not changed; percentage of Black youth increased.
- Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) was fully operational as the behavior management program in 2021.
 - Introduced “Starbucks” as incentives.
- All programs and activities still virtual.
- COE made important advances in improving the educational experience of youth.
 - Teaching was hybrid—in person and zoom instruction
 - Ren-Star testing was conducted more frequently, and teachers are receiving the testing results.
 - Career and technical education opportunities have been introduced.
 - Educational navigator is available to help transition youth to their home districts.
 - College liaison has been identified to help youth with class selection at community college.
- Youth survey results:
 - Most youth felt safe at JH and identified positive relationships with staff and teachers.
 - About half felt they were doing better at Osborne School than their home school.
 - Youth identified positive goals for the future, but have concerns about what will happen once they are released.
 - Youth still do not like food selection at JH.
- Commendations from facility inspection:

- Outstanding response to COVID from juvenile justice system partners.
- Recommendations from facility inspection:
 - The JJ system should continue to focus on the study of racial disparity (Latinx and Black) among youth being arrested and detained at JH, and how to mitigate this issue.
 - Provide data reports:
 - An evaluation of the efficacy of JH programs on an annual basis (share with JJC)
 - Summary reports on use of force, IRs, due process forms, and grievances.
 - Make available to the JJC for review: all complaints, information gathered, and the resolutions.
 - Address concerns that youth may have about their return to the community.
 - Work with youth to develop alternate menus & snacks that are appealing and meet nutritional guidelines.
 - Budget for medical social worker to help youth access medical care and medicines once they transition to the community
 - Seek additional community partners to address youth using opiates and marijuana.
 - Fleets & Facilities:
 - Make JH a priority to respond to facility repair requests.
 - Upgrade JH medical offices and infirmary.

Swearing In: Judge L. Michael Clark administered the oath of office to Neha Parthasarathi as Juvenile Justice Youth Commissioner in the County of Santa Clara, for a term ending in 2022.

Chair's Report: Chair BurtonBurke reported on the following:

- Last month the JJC elected officers for the next year: Commissioner BurtonBurke – Chair, Commissioner Betts – Vice Chair, Commissioner Allan – Secretary, Commissioner Parakh will provide technical guidance and support.
- JJC attended trainings put on by partners in the dependency system.
- This month had three overlapping inspections.
- Recruitment and interview of potential new members
 - Neha to be sworn in today
 - Three commissioners will be departing
- Chair BurtonBurke asked individuals reporting today to address the question of the day: What is your agency doing to make summer meaningful for the youth you serve? How is your agency going to take advantage of the summer slowdown?
- No JJC public meeting in July.

Presiding Judge: Judge Clark reported on the following:

- No summer slowdown for the juvenile court; things are getting busier.
- Continue to have three judges and three courtrooms devoted to juvenile justice; only two courtrooms can be operational at one time.
- Continue to utilize hybrid approach (in-person and online).

Dependency Court: Judge Folan has nothing new to report.

Alternate Defender's Office: David Epps had nothing new to report.

- Not slowing down for summer.

Independent Defense Office: Glenn Casados had nothing new to report.

Legal Advocates for Children & Youth (LACY): Andrew Cain has nothing new to report.

- Summer slowdown allows their office to recalibrate and prepare for the upcoming school year.

Dependency Advocacy Center (DAC): Annalisa Chung reported on the following:

- No summer slowdown.
- Received funding to expand preventative legal services program for First Call for Families.

The Office of Mediation and Ombuds Services: Ruth Maurice had nothing new to report.

Alternative Schools Department: Dane Caldwell Holden reported on the following:

- Running two summer schools this summer: one in North county, one in South county. June 21 – July 19, 9am – 1pm
 - Study time, art therapy, music & art classes, credit recovery
- Graduating June 14 with over 50 graduates
- Chair BurtonBurke asked if there's any news on the in-custody schools? Dane answered that the graduation includes both in custody and community school youth.
- Chair BurtonBurke asked if the summer program is also for youth in custody? Dane answered that the court schools don't close, so it will be school as usual.

Department of Children and Family Service/Children's Receiving Center (DFCS): Damion Wright reported on the following:

- DFCS having another session of family themed bootcamp that will be provided to the courts next week.

Probation Department – Juvenile: Nick Birchard and Elisa Carias reported on the following:

- No slowdown yet for probation.
- Preparing for the launch of the educational services unit being able to provide pre-adjudicated services beginning July 1st.
- Preparing to onboard many new Deputy Probation Officers this summer. Currently have 18 vacancies to fill. Many staff back from DSW work.
- Commissioner Pennypacker asked Elisa to explain pre-adjudicated services? Elisa answered: In the past, educational services were offered once youth were adjudicated (once their petition was resolved). Services will be changing so that now the referral to educational services will happen immediately (will not have to wait for the court process).
- Commissioner Pennypacker asked how is that different than just attending school? Elisa answered: the youth she is referring to are out of custody, so the services being provided will make sure youth have all the educational assistance they need.

Ashanti Hayes reported on the following for Juvenile Hall:

- Uptake of COVID-positive staff.
 - Only 2 to 3 COVID-positive youth in JH.
- Will start meeting with behavioral health regarding the uptake in amount of youth using opioids.
- Working with COE in regard to the new schedule that is current in the institution.
- Will be having graduations for some of the youth.

Marc Utsey reported on the following for The Ranch:

- The Ranch has been having many tours with community organizations. Youth were able to provide tourists with a light snack to eat during tours.
- In the process of having UnChained (dog program) come to The Ranch.
 - Collaborated with COE so youth can earn credits for participating in UnChained.

- Program coordinator is working on: Juneteenth celebration, program on effects of gang culture (painted mural), and planting/maintaining tree orchard.
- Commissioner Hansen asked: We just completed the Secure Track inspection. One comment shared by youth was that sometimes the youth feel like they are on display during so many tours. Wanted to bring this concern to light. Marc and Nick responded: They will do a better job of balancing tours and communicating with youth regarding the tours process and reason. When tours are conducted, staff lets the youth know so they can go back to their units and discuss with other youth, and if they have concerns, they can bring it to management's attention.

Behavioral Health: Veronica Robles and Grace Gonzalez reported on the following:

- Working on recruitment for in custody clinicians.
- No summer slowdown.
- Continuing to explore how to expand BH services (esp family therapy component).
- Onboarded a new clinician specifically for Secure Track (will assist with CFT facilitation, case staffings, and care coordination). *Jorge Garcia (bilingual)
- Commissioner Blake asked: before the specific Secure Track clinician, was there a counselor who was working with the Secure Track? How many people will now be available to them? Grace responded: they each have an assigned general clinician, and to rehab counselors available to them.
- Nisreen asked in the chat: Is there an update for Advent reopening? Veronica responded: No update currently. She will reach out to others for news.

Medical Services: Lanphuong Le reported on the following:

- Assistant Nurse Manager, Ruby Collado joining her today.
- Resumed health outreach program. Nurse attends once per week on Monday to provide referrals, information, and answer questions.
- They have a question box for the families to submit questions. The box is collected at the end of the day and families are contacted with an answer to their question.
- Commissioner Hansen commended the program Medical Services has restarted with the court. It was a great addition, and he is very happy to see it beginning again.

Law Enforcement Agencies: Rob Lang had nothing new to report.

District Attorney's Office: Paul Jhin had nothing new to report.

Public Defender's Office: Nisreen Baroudi and Damon Silver reported on the following:

- Starting July 11th Erin Callahan will be returning to juvenile and will be replacing Agustin Arias.
- PDO juvenile team is scheduled to tour The Ranch.
- Agustin Arias attended a panel discussion at DJJ on May 20th. Discussed the youth's concern of what will happen to their case once DJJ ends.
- Nisreen brought this concern up at a committee meeting and everyone agreed to have a discussion about the Santa Clara County youth to see if there is anyone they can bring back before the 2023 closure date.
- Commissioner Hansen asked: There are reports of DJJ staff looking for other jobs, which has potentially caused a decline in services available. Has there been any discussion regarding this? Nisreen responded: It's in all of our interests to get as many kids out of there as we can. Loss of staff and programming is causing issues for youth. Nick responded: There will be 12 youth remaining past the closure of DJJ next year, but their parole dates may be moved up, so it's difficult to know how many will actually remain past closure. They have been told the youth will

be offered some type of placement opportunity. Nisreen responded: PDO will have to sit down with DAO to see how much time those youth have after 2023. Nick reported: They will not be mixing DJJ returning youth with the current Secure Track youth.

- Complaints that youth pending transfer hearings have been waiting long amounts of time. Out of 12 youth pending transfers, only 2 are PDO clients.
 - Some reasons for these delays are: due to the seriousness of what they would face if their case is transferred, it takes a lot of research and a long time to sort through the abundance of evidence.
 - Avg wait time currently is around 1 year.
 - Judge Clark and Judge Folan are the only judges currently hearing transfer cases.
 - The better a youth does in custody, the better that is for their transfer hearing.
- Commissioner Blake asked: How does this impact the programming for the youth at JH? Nick responded: Most of the youth Nisreen are speaking to are in the secure unit, so they are there for a long period of time (not mixed in with short term stay youth), and their education and programming components are being taken care of in accordance with that.

Announcements/Correspondence:

- Dana Bunnett announced that the Juvenile Court Aligned Action Network will be meeting on June 8th from 2:30-4pm. This group is focused on improving education outcomes for youth engaged in the justice system. They meet every other month. If anyone is interested, email dbunnett@kidsincommon.org.

Swearing in of New Youth Commissioner:

- J. Clark swore in Youth Commissioner Neha Parthasarathi.

Adjourn to Executive Session: Chair BurtonBurke adjourned to Executive Session at 1:13 p.m. The next meeting will take place on August 2, 2022. Location TBD. No public meeting in July.

Respectfully submitted,

Kara Garasky