

**STANISLAUS COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday – November 09, 2023

Stanislaus County Probation Department

MEMBERS/DESIGNEES PRESENT:

Mark Ferriera, Chief Probation Officer, Chair, Probation Department
Sandra Day, for Scott Kuykendall, Stanislaus County Office of Education
Jon Appleby, for Jeff Laugero, District Attorney’s Office
Mark Herbst, for Sara Noguchi, Modesto City Schools
Joshua Woolworth, for Jody Hayes, CEO
Joshua Clayton, for Jeff Dirkse, Stanislaus County Sheriff’s Office
Brandon Gillespie, Chief, Modesto Police Department
Jeff Davis, for Christine Huber, Community Services Agency
Tony Vartan, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
Gina Machado, for Cindy Duenas, Center for Human Services
Marian Martino, JJC Chair/Volunteer
Isaiah Herrera, Youth for Christ
Dr. Abu K Mboka, California State University, Stanislaus

ADDITIONAL PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

Renee Flora, Center for Human Services
Janice Cree, Probation, Data Manager
Tracie Martin, Probation, Facility Superintendent
Leticia Ruano, Probation, Assistant CPO
Matt Aleson, Without Permission
Mylton Cruz, Youth for Christ

Members/Staff Absent

Kimberly Gonzales, Stanislaus County Public Defender’s Office- Excused

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:05 p.m. by Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera. Members, designees, and additional participants introduced themselves.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No public comment was received.

3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 24, 2023

MOTION: Brandon Gillespie. SECOND: Joshua Clayton. The Meeting Minutes for July 27, 2023, was approved.

4. JUVENILE INSTITUTIONS UPDATE

Facilities Superintendent Tracie Martin reported the following Juvenile Institutions’ update:

- a. The Juvenile Institution’s current population is 66.
- b. In October, a total of 67 youths were booked.

- c. Additional educational programming will soon be available for the Secure Youth Treatment Facility (SYTF).
 - o Partnered with the Stanislaus County Office of Education for Truck Driving Simulation programming, which will soon be available.
 - o Volt Institute will be offered 3 days a week to provide skilled programming to transition to their offsite location upon youth's release. Certificates by the Manufactured Skills Standards Council will be provided upon successful completion.
 - o Central Valley Barber College will start in custody with the possibility of transitioning to their offsite location upon the youth's release (tentative).
 - o Northern California Construction Training (NCCT) is in discussion for the upcoming year.
 - o SCOE is now offering culinary with expanded programming to include youth from the general population.
- d. Prison Education Project (PEP) classes ended their fourth session, Creative Expressions and Career Development. In February, classes will resume with Introduction to College and Introduction to Film Studies.
- e. Center for Human Services (CHS) provides Substance Abuse Disorder (SUD) counseling full-time within the facilities.
 - o 21 youths are currently on the SUD caseload.

Marian Martino asked if the females from the general population in Juvenile Hall are eligible to participate in the skilled programs being implemented. Facility Superintendent Tracie Martin stated that the skilled programs at this time are explicitly funded for the Secure Youth Track Facility, noting hopes of later expanding the programs to include the general population. Marian asked if, upon the youth's release from custody, there would be any costs associated with the programs should they decide to transition to the offsite location. Ms. Martin answered that the youth's offsite programming would remain free of charge upon their release.

Modesto Police Department Chief Brandon Gillespie asked about the booking trends for October. Tracie noted that some bookings were by the group associated with auto theft, some repeat offenders, violent crime bookings, and probation violations. Chief Gillespie noted that the Modesto Police Department had recently experienced a rise in youth arrests associated with auto theft.

5. REVIEW/VOTE ON PROPOSED JJCC MOU/BYLAWS REVISIONS

Chief Ferriera advised the Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council of the County Counsel's recommendation to improve some language on the bylaws that could be Brown Act violations.

The recommendations are as follows:

- a. Article V – Membership
 - i. 1. Amend the voting members sections by separating (i.) Modesto City Schools and the Stanislaus County Office of Education. The bylaws will now read: *“i. Modesto City Schools; j. The Stanislaus County Office of Education; k. An at-large community representative; l. A non-profit community-based organization providing services to minors.”*
 - ii. 4. Current bylaw: *“A member representative may resign at any given time by providing written notice to the Chairperson. The resignation shall become effective the date the notice is received or at a later time specified in the notice.”* This section would be amended by adding to the last sentence with the following: *“...however, the resignation will not be accepted unless, and until, a replacement is selected as described in section three (3) or five (5) (whichever is applicable) of this Article (V).”*
The bylaws will now read: *“A member representative may resign at any given time by providing written notice to the Chairperson; however, the resignation will not be accepted unless, and until, a replacement is selected as described in section three (3) or five (5) (whichever is applicable) of this Article (V).”*

- iii. 6. Current bylaw: “For all other members, upon the resignation of a member representative, the process described in section three (3) of this Article shall be followed. Amend by adding (V) after the word Article.” The bylaws will now read: *“For all other members, upon the resignation of a member representative, the process described in section three (3) of this Article (V) shall be followed.”*
- iv. 7. Current bylaw: “If a Council member fails to attend three consecutive Council meetings without the absence being authorized by the Chairman, or if the Council member has not arranged for an alternate member to represent him or her, it may result in termination of the Council member. Termination of a Council member will require a majority vote of the membership, as described in section 3 (a) of Article VII.” The last sentence was amended by removing “the process” and adding “a majority vote of the membership, as described in section 3 (a) of Article VII.” The bylaws will now read: *If a Council member fails to attend three consecutive Council meetings without the absence being authorized by the Chairman, or if the Council member has not arranged for an alternate member to represent him or her, it may result in termination of the Council member. Termination of a Council member will require a majority vote of the membership, as described in section 3(a) of Article VII.*
- v. 8. Alternate Members
 - I. a. Current bylaw: “Each Council member shall attempt to designate an alternate member to represent the member at a Council meeting if the Council member cannot attend a Council meeting.” This bylaw would be amended by removing “attempt to” from the first sentence. The bylaws will now read: *“Each Council member shall designate an alternate member to represent the member at a Council meeting in the event the Council member is unable to attend a Council meeting.”*
- b. Article VII - Meetings and Procedures:
 - i. 3. Voting Procedures
 - I. Current bylaw: “Decisions shall be reached through majority voting of the membership, which is defined as a majority of the members present.” This bylaw would be amended by removing “which is defined as a majority of the members present.” The bylaws will now read: *“Decisions shall be reached through a majority vote of the membership.”*
 - ii. 5. Public Comments:
 - I. Current bylaw: “Public comments at meetings are limited to three minutes for each agenda item. The Chairman has the discretion to extend the tie based on the complexity of the issue.” This bylaw would be amended by fixing the typo “tie” to read “time.” The bylaws will now read: *“Public comments at meetings are limited to three minutes for each agenda item. The Chairman has the discretion to extend the time based on the complexity of the issue.”*

Adoption of Changes: MOTION: Joshua Clayton SECOND: Tony Vartan
The changes to the proposed JJCC MOU/bylaws were unanimously approved.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gina Machado from the Center for Human Services announced that Cindy Duenas is slated to retire in June 2024. She informed the group that she was chosen as Cindy’s successor by their Board of Directors.

Renee Flora announced the 24th Annual #Shetoo Conference will be in February. She advised that 10 spots remain available for any female youth interested in attending. Information is available in Spanish and English.

Marian Martino announced the Deck the Halls Program has been expanded from youth in custody to youth on probation and out of custody; the program is going on its 14th year and is donation-funded. Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera thanked Marian Martino for her leadership of the Deck the Halls event year after year.

7. NEXT MEETING

The next quarterly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 29, 2024, at Noon.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
OF THE STANISLAUS COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

ARTICLE I

NAME

The name of this organization shall be THE STANISLAUS COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL.

ARTICLE II

The organization is authorized by Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.22 and Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 96-926 dated October 29, 1996.

Article III

PURPOSE

The purposes of the Stanislaus County Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council shall be:

1. To develop and implement a continuation of county-based responses to juvenile needs and crime.
2. To set priorities for the use of granted or allocated funding for juvenile justice activities when applicable.
3. To develop a comprehensive multi-agency juvenile justice plan that identifies resources and strategies for providing an effective continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of juvenile offenders, including strategies to develop and implement local out-of-home placement options for the offenders.

Article IV

DUTIES

The Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council shall have the following duties:

1. Assist the Chief Probation Officer in developing a comprehensive, multi-agency juvenile justice plan to provide a continuum of responses for the prevention, intervention, supervision, treatment, and incarceration of juvenile offenders in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.22 and Government Code Section 30061.
2. At least annually, review and modify, if necessary, the juvenile justice plan.

Article V

MEMBERSHIP

1. Pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 749.22, in addition to the Chief Probation Officer serving as Chairman, voting members shall include, but not be limited to one representative from the following agencies:
 - a. Sheriff's Office
 - b. District Attorney's Office
 - c. Public Defender's Office
 - d. Board of Supervisors
 - e. Community Services Agency
 - f. Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
 - g. A community-based drug and alcohol program
 - h. The Modesto Police Department
 - i. ~~Modesto City Schools and the Stanislaus County Office of Education~~
 - i-j. The Stanislaus County Office of Education
 - j-k. An at-large community representative
 - k-l. A non-profit community-based organization providing services to minors
2. The District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, Modesto City Schools, Stanislaus County Office of Education and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall each designate a representative from its respective office, department, board, or agency to serve as a member of this Council.
3. For all other member representatives indicated in Section 1 of Article V, nominations shall be made to the Chairperson and approved by the Council. As required by Section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the Chairperson

will notify the Board of Supervisors, via written correspondence, if there are any changes to the community-based organizations serving on the Council.

4. A member representative may resign at any given time by providing written notice to the Chairperson; however, the resignation will not be accepted unless, and until, a replacement is selected as described in section three (3) or five (5) (whichever is applicable) of this Article (V). ~~The resignation shall become effective the date the notice is received or at a later time specified in the notice.~~
5. The District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, the Stanislaus County Office of Education, Modesto City Schools, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall designate a new member representative whenever a member representative from its office, department, board, or agency resigns.
6. For all other members, upon the resignation of a member representative, the process described in section three (3) of this Article (V) shall be followed.
7. If a Council member fails to attend three consecutive Council meetings without the absence being authorized by the Chairman, or if the Council member has not arranged for an alternate member to represent him or her, it may result in termination of the Council member. Termination of a Council member will require the process a majority vote of the membership, as described in section-3(a) of Article VII.
8. Alternate Members
 - a. Each Council member shall ~~attempt to~~ designate an alternate member to represent the member at a Council meeting in the event the Council member is unable to attend a Council meeting.
 - b. When representing a Council member at a Council meeting, the alternate shall have the same voting power as the regular Council member.

Article VI

OFFICERS

1. Officers of the Council shall be a Chairperson, and an Acting-Chairperson and such other officers as the Council may choose to elect.
2. Responsibilities of Officers:
 - a. Chairperson – In accordance with Section 749.22 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, the Chief Probation Officer shall serve as the

Chairperson. The Chairperson shall supervise and direct the Council's activities, affairs, and officers. The Chairperson shall preside at all Council meetings. The Chairperson shall have such other powers and duties as the Council or Bylaws may prescribe.

- b. Acting Chairperson – In the event of the temporary absence of the Chairperson, the Chairperson's alternate member as designated pursuant to Section 8 of Article V shall be the Acting Chairperson and perform the responsibilities of the Chairperson.

3. Membership Terms

The membership term for the Chairperson shall be concurrent with his/her term as Chief Probation Officer. Member representatives of the District Attorney's Office, the Sheriff's Office, the Public Defender's Office, the Board of Supervisors, the Community Services Agency, the Modesto Police Department, Stanislaus County Office of Education, Modesto City Schools, and Behavioral Health and Recovery Services shall serve an indefinite term until the member representative resigns or a new member representative is designated by his or her office, department, board, or agency. All other member representatives shall serve an indefinite term until the member representative resigns or is replaced by the Council.

Article VII

MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

Meetings of the Council and its committees shall be governed by the Brown Act open to public as required by the Brown Act.

1. Regular Meetings

Regular meetings shall be held quarterly (January, April, July, and October) at the Stanislaus County Probation Department located at 2215 Blue Gum Avenue, Modesto, CA. 93538.

2. Special Meetings

A special meeting may be called at any time by the Chairperson, upon written request, specifying the general nature of the business proposed. An agenda and 24-hour notice must be given to the public.

3. Voting Procedure

- a. Decisions shall be reached through a majority voteing of the membership,
~~which is defined as a majority of the members present.~~
- b. The Council shall use parliamentary procedures (the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order) to conduct business.

4. Setting the Agenda

The Chairperson shall place items on the agenda for Council meetings. Any member representative may place an item on the agenda by making a written request to the Chairperson no later than seven (7) days prior to the scheduled meeting for which the member representative wishes to include the agenda item.

5. Public Comments

Public comments at meetings are limited to three minutes for each agenda item. The Chairman has the discretion to extend the time based on the complexity of the issue.

Article VIII

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

1. Council members shall not participate in making any governmental decision in which they have a financial interest.
2. Any member with a disqualifying conflict of interest must, in compliance with the Political Reform Act:
 - a. Publicly state the nature of the conflict in sufficient detail to be understood by the public;
 - b. Recuse himself/herself from discussing and voting on the item; and
 - c. Leave the room until the item has concluded.
3. The member may be allowed to address the Council as a member of the public. Said disclosure shall be noted in the official Council minutes. The member must also comply with all other applicable conflict of interest laws.

Article IX

AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be adopted, amended, or repealed by a majority vote of the Council.

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS PROBATION DEPARTMENT

Mark Ferriera, Chief Probation Officer

Date

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jeff Dirkse, Sheriff

Date

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Jeff Laugero, District Attorney

Date

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE

Jennifer Jennison, Public Defender

Date

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Terry Withrow, Board Member

Date

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS COMMUNITY SERVICES AGENCY

Christine Huber, Director

Date

COUNTY OF STANISLAUS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

Sarkis Vartan, Director

Date

CENTER FOR HUMAN SERVICES, A COMMUNITY BASED DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM

Cynthia Duenas, Director Date

MODESTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Brandon Gillespie, Chief of Police Date

MODESTO CITY SCHOOLS

Sara Noguchi, Superintendent Date

STANISLAUS COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

Scott Kuykendall, Superintendent Date

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES

Abu Mboka, Professor Date

Marian Martino, Chair of the Juvenile Justice Commission Date
Juvenile Institutions Volunteer

Isaiah Herrera, Youth for Christ Date

SIERRA VISTA CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES, A NON-PROFIT, COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATION PROVIDING SERVICES TO MINORS

Jeff Anderson, Director Date