



Governor Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg  
San Wong, Director

## JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

"To advocate for an effective, fair and equitable justice system for every Iowa youth."

### MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING Google Meet

Thursday, December 3, 2020

- Present:** Andrew Allen; Christy Burkhardt; Hon. Susan Cox; Patrick Garcia; Stephanie Hernandez; John Hirl; Kristin Hixenbaugh; Chad Jensen; Jeremy Kaiser; Dave McDaniel; Alan Ostergren; Tony Reed; Jennifer Tibbetts; Jeralyn Westercamp
- Staff:** Steve Michael; Scott Musel; Dave Kuker; Brianne Messer; Tiara Mosley; Kathy Nesteby; Jill Padgett; Kayla Powell; Jeff Regula; Julie Rinker; Kylie Spies
- Others:** Sarah Butler-Shoop; Felicia Carter; LaTasha DeLoach; Chuck Isenhardt; Pete McRoberts; Christin Mechler; Laurie Nash; Logan S.; Lynn Vogan

#### I. Call to Order & Introductions

Andrew Allen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Introductions were made. A quorum was not present until 11:05 a.m. Action taken was conducted once a quorum was present. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing concerns, the meeting was held virtually via Google Meet.

#### II. Approve Minutes

A quorum was not present during this time. The minutes from the September 24-25 Retreat were not approved.

#### III. Division & National Report

##### • Farewell to Dave & Welcome to Jill

Steve Michael reported the following:

- The Justice Advisory Board released two new reports this week—"Three-Year Criminal and Juvenile Justice Plan" and the "Correctional Policy Project: Iowa Prison-Population Forecast FY 2020 – FY2030".
- The racial disparities report, "An Analysis of Three Decision Points in Iowa's Juvenile Justice System" was released in early November.
- Michael and members thanked Dave Kuker for his work in juvenile justice over the past 30 years and wished him a happy retirement (December 28).

#### IV. CJJ Conference Report

Allen provided a brief report on the virtual CJJ conference. The policy platform was reviewed and several policy briefs were adopted (see: <https://juvjustice.org/federal-policy/2021-policy-priorities>).

Scott Musel reported that required OJJDP training overlapped with the CJJ conference. He did his best to attend both the training and the conference.

**V. Title II Juvenile Justice Youth Development Allocation**

Musel provided information on the previous allocation amounts and the funds for the current federal allocation year that began October 1. Traditionally over the past several years, Title II funds distributed to Iowa total \$400,000. However, this year an additional \$139,062 were added. He reviewed spending requirements for Title II funding.

Musel reviewed the motion by the PnP Subcommittee which approved no increase in the allocation to Juvenile Court (\$253,334) and to use the additional \$125,155 to fund projects that meet the priority areas and demonstrate youth involvement. The remaining funds go towards Council funds (\$20,000) and staff and administration (\$140,573 combined) as defined by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention.

Chad Jensen asked if unspent funds from the previous year would automatically roll over into the new allocation. [Note: These amounts will not be known until the December 31 deadline when all claims have been submitted and processed.]

Michael responded that the PnP Subcommittee did not address those funds. However, past practice has been to roll those funds into the next allocation.

Jennifer Tibbetts voiced concern over how funds are rolled over for the allocation compared to the subcommittees. She thought it was an inconsistent use of funds from year to year. Michael responded that the subcommittee funds were intended for travel purposes. Tibbetts requested a formal discussion to provide clarity and transparency.

Patrick Garcia understood Tibbetts' frustration, however, he noted how federal funds expire. Michael offered to provide information on the expiration of federal funds. Hon. Susan Cox asked for more clarity, she thought the special project funding was a lot of money.

Allen would like to develop a plan for the funds set aside for special projects. He noted priority areas and thought it was a great opportunity to do something we have been unable to do.

Garcia added that this is also an opportunity to spend funds over three years for longer impact and recommended that the subcommittees recommend or submit proposals for use of the funds. He also suggested the funds be used by offering a one-time training or event, go towards prevention services, or other ways to effect minority populations, biases, etc.

Dave Kuker noted that these funds would expire on September 30, 2023. The Policy & Programs Subcommittee (PnP) thought it was important to use funds towards special initiatives, however, no final solution was agreed upon.

Allen recommended that the PnP further discuss the funding for special project(s) and noted that subcommittee meetings are open to all JJAC members. He wants members to agree upon a process for expending the funds.

**Musel reported that there is a motion for this budget from the PnP, however, the use of the \$125,155 has not been determined.**

Michael suggested the group to act on the budget presented and provide a separate motion asking staff to present information on fund expiration.

Allen asked staff and Stephanie Hernandez (PnP Chair) to develop an agenda to discuss the special project(s) and policy on the use of carryover funds.

**The motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Dues - Coalition for Juvenile Justice (CJJ)**

Michael asked about CJJ dues. Musel responded that annual dues are \$5,000, but a 5% discount is provided if dues are paid early, leaving a total due of \$4,750. Musel and Allen provided information on the importance and type of work conducted by CJJ.

**Tony Reed moved to approve payment of CJJ dues, seconded by Garcia. The motion was unanimously approved.**

- **Council Budget Report**

Musel reported that a balance of \$33,730 remains. Due to the pandemic and lack of travel for in-person meetings, funds were not expended at the same rate as in the past. Credits remain for CJJ conference registration and air fare for the CJJ conference that was originally scheduled to be held in-person, but was later changed to a virtual conference due to the pandemic.

Musel noted that during the OJJDP training it was mentioned that the minimum allotment to states may increase to \$600,000. If so, it would increase the council budget to \$30,000.

On November 20 a special meeting was held by the Executive Committee to approve registration for several ITFYW members to participate in a "Mitigating Racial and Gender Bias" virtual conference by Girls' Circle. During that meeting, up to \$5,000 was authorized to be spent. However, upon further discussion, there was consensus to investigate a promotional training opportunity that would provide for additional attendees.

- **Title II Judicial District Progress Reports**

Musel reviewed the progress reports and status of funds used by each judicial district.

Jensen noted how COVID has affected work and trends in juvenile court services. He thought it was important to study lessons learned. It has been a unique year.

- **Special Projects from additional Title II funds**

There was consensus to hold a PnP meeting to further discuss this agenda item.

- **One Circle Foundation Training Opportunity**

Kathy Nesteby noted that the Executive Committee previously approved \$5,000 for several ITFYW members to attend Girls' Circle training, however, during subsequent discussion, the Executive Committee asked staff to investigate costs to provide statewide training and present the information to the full council for further discussion.

Nesteby reported that she contacted the One Circle Foundation regarding training for a larger audience. The Foundation is offering a discount to past 'training hosts' and would be willing to provide "*Mitigating Gender & Racial Bias: Intersectionality and Allyship*" training to approximately 35 individuals for \$7,500 (a 10% discount). Nesteby noted that the Council has expressed the importance of race and gender equity throughout its priority areas.

Jennifer Tibbetts noted that One Circle is the only evidence-based program for girls and their curriculum is regularly used throughout Iowa. Additionally, the Foundation has a boys' council and curriculum for boys and women.

**Hernandez moved to approve arranging training for 35 individuals at a cost of \$7,500, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Garcia. The motion was unanimously approved.**

**VI. Racial Disparities – 3 Decision Points**

Michael noted that the report was the result of a staff discussion following the death of George Floyd. Staff thought it was important to investigate decision points in the juvenile justice system. The report provides data on disparities for minority youth. Michael reviewed the report highlights and recommendations.

Cox noted her opposition to the recommendations while Tibbetts noted her support. Allen noted concerns related to crisis stabilization. Jensen noted that additional resources are needed.

Michael reported that while detention has a role, we will have to make sure alternatives are available. However, there has to be a better option for probation violations. The DMC Subcommittee has endorsed the report. The intent of the discussion today was to embed these recommendations in the JJAC's three-year plan due in early 2021. He added that the DMC Subcommittee and the Iowa Task Force for Young Women were finalizing goals and objectives.

Allen noted the lack of time remaining and asked for guidance. There was consensus to forward discussion to the PnP. Musel noted that the next PnP agenda encompasses a review of Priority Area goals and objectives.

Due to time constraints, agenda items VII and VIII were not discussed.

**VII. Current Activities (2017 – 2020 Three-Year Plan)**

- A. Priority One: Effective and Promising Practices**
- B. Priority Two: Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and Trauma**
- C. Priority Three: Disproportionate Minority Contact**
- D. Priority Four: Female Equity**
- E. Priority Five: Compliance Monitoring**

**VIII. Upcoming Activities (2021 – 2024 Three-Year Plan)**

- A. Priority One: Prevention and Intervention**
- B. Priority Two: Mental Health**
- C. Priority Three: Transition of Youth**
- D. Priority Four: Female Equity**
- E. Priority Five: DMC**
- F. Priority Six: Compliance Monitoring**

**IX. Unfinished Business—**There was no unfinished business.

**X. New Business—**There was no new business.

**XI. Adjourn**

Allen apologized that time expired prior to discussion of all the agenda items.

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker, Administrative Secretary, Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning