

**Amended Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, April 8, 2019**  
**Capitol Annex, Room 131**

**Members Present:** Senator Whitney Westerfield, Co-Chair; Representative Jason Petrie, Co-Chair (JPSC); Commissioner Ray DeBolt, Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ); Laurie Dudgeon, Director, Administrative Office of the Courts, Mr. Steven Gold, Henderson County Attorney; Judge Lisa Jones, Chief District Judge, Damon Preston, Director, Department of Public Advocacy; Dr. Ronnie Nolan, Director, KECSAC, Lt. Phil Russell, Louisville Police Officer, Dr. John Sivley, Behavior Health Service Provider; Christina Weeter, Kentucky Department of Education.

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Eric Clark (Natalie Kelley), CHFS Department for Community Based Services, Commissioner Wendy Morris, Commissioner, CHFS Department for Behavior Health, Development and Intellectual Disabilities and Sec. John Tilley, Secretary, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet.

**I. Welcome/Call to Order**

Senator Westerfield began by introducing Representative Petrie, as the new Co-Chair for JJOC. He made the motion to accept the minutes from the May 23, 2018, meeting, Steve Gold, Henderson County Attorney made the motion and Dr. John Sivley seconded the motion. There was no discussion of the minutes. The minutes were approved as submitted.

Senator Westerfield asked Laura McCauley, Juvenile Justice Specialist and Dr. Ida Dickie, Ph.D., Juvenile Justice Advisory Board, Chair to come to the table to begin their report on JJAB.

Senator Westerfield explained to Ms. McCauley and Dr. Dickie that he had been thoroughly disappointed in the Juvenile Justice Advisory Board and its lack of participation is the passage of SB 200. He also spoke on the dysfunction of the board since the inception of the 2013 Task Force. Senator asked if JJAB had a staff, and was told that Ms. McCauley was the coordinator for the board. Senator Westerfield pointed out that had it not been for Pastor Palmer, there would have been no DMC representation with regard to research and statistics. Senator Westerfield told Dr. Dickie and Laura McCauley he expected more from them, and the JJAB Board. He added that if JJAB did not take a more predominate roll, he would work to dismantle the board.

Steve Gold echoed Senator Westerfield's message. Mr. Gold pointed out that he had never heard anything from JJAB, except for a notice that Henderson had been granted funding for a small project. He reiterated that had it not been for Pastor Palmer, JJOC would have not been as informed with respect to DMC. Mr. Gold stated that he expected more from the current board and its new Chair, Dr. Dickie.

Mr. Steve Gold said that he had worked with Laura McCauley while she was with the Sub Committee for Equity and Justice for All Youth and believes her activity now with JJAB is going to be a very positive thing.

Laurie Dudgeon then spoke on the lack of participation by JJAB, and suggested that Dr. Dickie and Ms. McCauley took at Utah's JJAB Board and the plan it had developed.

Senator Westerfield asked about JJAB's standard approach, and Laura McCauley said it was based on a "needs assessment." Ms. McCauley explained how JJAB had worked in the past, and how information had been disseminated. Laurie Dudgeon stated she had never received any information from JJAB.

Damon Preston stated that JJAB's feedback to skewed and suggested the Board encourage more participation. He asked what percentage of JJAB's members were under the age of 18. He suggested the Board reach out to that age group because those members could provide a voice to the system.

Senator Westerfield asked Ms. McCauley if all the slots on the Board were currently filled. Ms. McCauley indicated the federal government had increased the number of members to 28, and all were filled except that of the consultant.

Senator Westerfield asked Dr. Dickie and Ms. McCauley what were the goals of the JJAB. Neither Dr. Dickie nor Ms. McCauley responded.

Ms. McCauley began her power point presentation, which was an overview of JJAB, since its inception in 1974. She spoke on the board's relationship with the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act and how they work together to enhance juvenile justice.

Ms. McCauley spoke about the "purpose" of JJAB and the requirements it must meet in order to receive formula grant funds. She talked about the annual performance reports which she submits to OJJDP, and how the state plan is supported by scientific knowledge regarding adolescent development and behavior.

Ms. McCauley reviewed the specifics of the OJJDP, including the JJDP membership categories and their definitions. She compared Kentucky's statutes to OJJDP Act, and provided a breakout of how members are selected.

She spoke on the historical perspectives of the board, current mission statement, organizational chart and JJAB's scope of responsibilities.

Dr. Dickie spoke on Kentucky's mandatory three year strategic plan, and noted that the next plan will be due by the Fall of 2020.

Dr. Dickie concluded the presentation by promising that the relationship between JJAB and JJOC would grow and as Chair of JJAB, she would participate in upcoming legislative dialogue and meetings.

Next of the agenda was Theresa Wolcott, DJJ Justice Program Supervisor and Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) State Coordinator, and Maria Gurren, Jefferson County Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee Coordinator. They were welcome to the table by Senator Westerfield.

Ms. Wolcott began by providing the objective of JDAI to the board members. Senator Westerfield requested some detailed information from Jefferson County.

Laurie Dudgeon noted that all kids are eligible for detention alternatives. She pointed out that there are multiple options such as home supervision, ankle monitoring, etc.

Co-Chair Petrie asked if we had the data on that information and Theresa Wolcott stated that she did with regard to the kids, which were processed. Ms. Wolcott said that presently 32 kids were in detention in Jefferson County. However, she added that number fluctuates daily.

Steve Gold asked Ms. Wolcott if that information could be made available to JJOC. Ms. Wolcott said it could. Ms. Wolcott pointed out that Status Admissions are available on page 6 of the handout.

Dr. Sivley asked if there was a particular issue with regard to status offenders, and if there were any alternatives to that issue. Ms. Wolcott told him the only alternative right now was YMCA Safeplace.

Ms. Wolcott said most were truancy, contempt and possible narcotics but said detention is not the answer. She presented a state scale slide showing total admissions into detention statewide, and admissions with regard to youth of color.

Ms. Wolcott said alternatives to detention are limited. She stated there was no programs to place youth. Ms. Wolcott talked about a pilot program in Boone, Campbell and Kenton counties, which would address 48 % of admissions. Ms. Wolcott continues by saying that judges do not want to lock up kids, but there is no place to put them. AOC cannot contract for services.

Damon Preston asked where contempt of court fell under and Ms. Wolcott told him they fell into the regular mix of youth. Where they are placed depends on their original charge.

Dr. Sivley asked if the Department of Juvenile Justice was working with any community or private centers to provide alternatives to detention. He also asked was funding in place for the Pilot Program in Northern Kentucky, and where that funding came from. Ms. Wolcott said the funding came from a grant, which JDAI applied for and was awarded.

Laurie Dudgeon said that JDAI served in a case management role. Dr. Sivley said it was unfortunate that two different agencies could serve the same youth but do not talk to each other about those services.

Maria Gurren, Jefferson County Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee Coordinator, spoke about Louisville and provided specifics to that area. Both Ms. Gurren and Ms. Wolcott spoke about Community Engagement Series. The series addresses youth (10-17) across 11 counties in Kentucky. That age group is the largest population going to detention.

Damon Preston asked if any legislation had been offered which would change that concept. Ms. Wolcott said currently she was working on two different pieces of legislation. The first was the deinstitutionalize of status offenders and the second is to define the definition of detention.

Steve Gold supported the need to change legislation with regard to these two issues.

Commissioner DeBolt pointed out that everything we have talked about today was prior to Senate Bill 200, which will cause a change in the numbers in the near future.

Dr. Ronnie Nolan told the committee that education wants to be involved and offered support to the Day Treatments.

Commissioner DeBolt pointed out that Jefferson County was the only county with a “counted” facility,” Youth Alternative Center and the Coleman Center.

Senator Westerfield thanked Ms. Gurren and Ms. Wolcott for their presentation. At that point, Senator Westerfield asked the board if they were interested in any particular topic. He also requested everyone take a part in the 2020 Legislative Session, and he welcomed any input to bills he is currently working with regard to juvenile justice.

It was agreed the next JJOC meeting would be held Monday, June 10, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned.

DRAFT