

# Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting

Madison, WI

Interim Chairperson: Commissioner Sharlen Moore

Commission	Commissioner Jennifer Ginsburg, Commissioner Sharlen Moore,
Members Present:	Commissioner Shelby McCulley, Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Edjron Pearson, Commissioner Carl Ashley, Commissioner Diane Rondini, Commissioner Ron Hermes, Commissioner Tweed Shuman
Members Not Present:	Commissioner Marcus Williams, Commissioner – DCF Youth Leadership Team Member, Commissioner Charles Greer, Commissioner – DCF Youth Leadership Team Member, Commissioner JP Rotatori. Commissioner Ben Gonring, Commissioner Charles Tubbs, Sr.
DOJ Staff:	Sabrina Gentile, Kiley Komro, Steve Wagner, Lara Kenny, Matt Allord
Agency Partners and Agency Staff:	Kyle Peaden, DPI; Kris Moelter, CANPB; Greg Bucholz, DOC

### Welcome and Call Meeting to Order

Interim Chair Sharlen Moore welcomed commissioners to the meeting. Quorum was not present.

### Subcommittee Sharing

Policy, Legislation and Compliance (PLC) Subcommittee – Commissioner Carl Ashley reported that the subcommittee approved a GJC statement for the 2023 – 2025 Biennial State Budget. The statement was delivered to the Joint Committee on Finance and the Wisconsin Legislature. DOJ Staff also sent a copy to the GJC.

The subcommittee drafted the memo that the GJC will review today regarding AB 48/SB55. More discussion on the memo will occur during the Business Section of the meeting.

Commissioner Ashley acknowledged the work that has been done to revise the GJC Bylaws and looks forward to that discussion later in the meeting.

DOJ Staff reported quorum was present at 9:21 a.m.

### Motion to Approve Minutes

Interim Chair Moore requested a motion to approve the February 14, 2023, GJC Meeting Minutes.

### Motion to Approve February 14, 2023, GJJC Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Carl Ashley and seconded by Commissioner Edjron Pearson to approve the February 14, 2023, GJJC Quarterly Meeting Minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 9 Ayes, 0 No

### **Subcommittee Sharing**

Ethnic and Racial Disparities (ERD) Subcommittee – Commissioner Moore reported the ERD Subcommittee heard a presentation on the Wisconsin Deflection Initiative. The Wisconsin Deflection Initiative (WDI) is a proactive community approach that addresses public health and safety challenges faced in Wisconsin communities. By incorporating one or more of the six pathways of Deflection, communities can identify and deflect at-risk populations to treatment and recovery services without criminal justice exposure. Deflection programs connect individuals to systems of care at the earliest point possible to provide necessary resources and skills to improve recovery outcomes and reduce criminal activity.

The ERD Subcommittee is interested in prioritizing deflection in its R/ED action plan. The subcommittee continues to review the R/ED Plan and efforts to collect and analyze data relating to the five contact points of the juvenile justice system (Arrest, Diversion, Pre-trial Detention, Secure Confinement, and Transfers to Adult Court).

Youth Voice Commission (YVC) – Kiley Komro reported the YVC has met three times. The YVC meets on the last Wednesday of the month. Komro shared information regarding attendance and discussion topics.

### **Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ) Updates**

JJDP A Compliance – Matt Allord reported on the law enforcement agencies and municipal lockups that send DOJ monthly JSDR reports. Allord acknowledged that this is a great way to monitor agencies that have a higher number of youth holds and prevent violations. Allord and DOJ compliance staff appreciate the collaboration with the law enforcement agencies and the municipal lockups on compliance with the JJDP A.

Allord is planning for next year's compliance audits and invited Commissioners to the audits, so they have a better understanding of compliance with the JJDP A. Allord will have more information about how to participate in the Fall.

Conferences and Presentations – Allord reported that he will be presenting on the JJDP A at the State Prosecutors Training Conference on Thursday, May 11. Allord is the speaker for a workshop.

Allord reported Sabrina Gentile, Jeff Sauer and himself will be attending the Juvenile Superintendent's Conference next week in Wausau. DOJ Staff will give a brief presentation on the JJDP. The conference includes a tour of Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools.

Allord reported Komro and himself will attend an OJJDP training and the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. from May 23 – 26.

## **Business**

### GJJC By-Laws Review and Proposed Changes

Interim Chair Moore reported the Executive Subcommittee recommended a motion for the full Commission to approve the GJJC Bylaws with the proposed amendments. Interim Chair Moore asked the Commission to review the Bylaws and make a motion to approve.

### **Motion to Approve GJJC Bylaws as Amended**

Motion was made by Commissioner Carl Ashley and seconded by Commissioner Jennifer Ginsburg to approve the GJJC Bylaws as amended.

Commissioner Ashley commended during discussion that the procedure is balanced between allowing people to give their time and energies to the Subcommittees with the needs of the Subcommittee and quorum.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 9 Ayes, 0 No

### AB48/SB55 - Relating to prosecuting or adjudicating delinquent a person under the age of 18 for committing an act of prostitution.

Matt Allord reported the PLC Subcommittee drafted and approved a memo to the Wisconsin Legislature in support of Assembly Bill 48 and Senate Bill 55. The bills relate to prosecuting or adjudicating delinquent a person under the age of 18 for committing an act of prostitution. Allord summarized the memo and answered questions from the Commission.

The subcommittee recommends that the GJJC approve the Assembly Bill 48 and Senate Bill 55 memo to the Wisconsin Legislature.

Interim Chair Moore asked for a motion to approve the memo supporting Assembly Bill 48 and Senate Bill 55.

### **Motion to Approve the Memo Supporting Assembly Bill 48 and Senate Bill 55**

Motion was made by Commissioner Carl Ashley and seconded by Commissioner Edjron Pearson to approve the memo supporting Assembly Bill 48 and Senate Bill 55.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 9 Ayes, 0 No

**DOJ Staff Updates cont.**

State Budget – Sabrina Gentile reported the Joint Finance Committee removed over 500 items from the state budget. Some of the items removed were items that the GJC supported and listed in the state budget memo that was sent to the Joint Finance Committee and the Wisconsin Legislature.

The Joint Finance Committee removed:

- Raising the age of civil, municipal, and juvenile court jurisdiction to all persons under the age of 18. The GJC has officially supported raising the age of jurisdiction for many years. Wisconsin is one of only three remaining states to automatically treat children age 17 as adults for purpose of criminal prosecution.
- Full funding the reimbursement to counties for the costs associated with services for 17-year-olds in the juvenile justice system.
- Funding for Type 1 Juvenile Correctional Facilities in Milwaukee County and Statewide. Enacted in 2018, 2017 Wisconsin Act 185 required the Department of Corrections to establish one or more Type 1 juvenile corrections facilities no later than January 1, 2021, subject to the approval by the Joint Finance Committee. 2019 Wisconsin Act 8 subsequently delayed the establishment date to July 1, 2021.
- Grow Academy Expansion. Grow Academy is a non-secure residential program that serves delinquent male youth. The juvenile justice system faces a shortage of short-term residential beds that can accommodate high needs youth. The Grow Academy expansion would provide additional programming and placement options.
- The creation of a state training program for youth justice workers.
- Funding for intensive family preservation services to prevent abuse and neglect and to stabilize families of children at risk of entering the out-of-home care system and youth at risk of entering the juvenile justice system.

The Joint Finance Committee is still considering:

- Additional funding to counties operating secured residential care centers for children and youth (SRCCCYs) that serve more than one county.
- Funding for the development of robust youth justice data and reporting systems.
- Full funding of the state courts, criminal justice system and juvenile justice system. This includes support for wage increases and additional positions for public defenders and district attorneys and an increase to the private bar rate for attorneys accepting public defender appointments. This funding is needed so Wisconsin can meet its constitutional obligations to all citizens impacted by the justice system.
- Funding to improve the effectiveness of Youth Councils in various state agencies through convening of state staff supporting these councils and development of a statewide Youth Wellness Network to advise on systems affecting children's mental health and well-being.

Gentile asked Commissioner Hermes to summarize the Youth Justice items in the State Capital Budget.

Commissioner Hermes reported the State Building Commission did not adopt the Governor's Capital Budget like the last three state budgets. The Joint Finance Committee will now consider the Capital Budget which include the following youth justice items:

1. Additional Funding for Type 1 Youth Facility - Milwaukee  
Funding Request: \$32,609,000

2. Second Type 1 Youth Facility – Dane County  
Funding Request: \$83,000,000

3. Exploration of a third Type 1 Facility – Northeastern WI  
Funding Request: \$4,000,00

4. Grow Academy Expansion  
Funding Request: \$24,900,000

5. Lincoln Hills School and Copper Lake School (LHS/CLS) HVAC Improvements  
Funding Request: \$5.7 million

GJJC Membership – Komro reported the GJJC currently has 16 members. The JJDP requires at least 15 members. The GJJC has vacancies in certain roles required in the JJDP and is looking for members with the following roles:

- Youth or parent or guardian of a youth currently or previously under the jurisdiction of the juvenile justice system.
- Person under the age of 28.
- Representative from a victim or witness advocacy agency.
- Licensed mental health or alcohol and drug issue professional.
- Representative of an Indian Tribe.

Komro reminded members that GJJC application information is on the GJJC website.

Grants Update – Komro reported two subgrants started on April 1, 2023, and will end on March 31, 2024. Komro summarized the two subgrants listed below.

- Forest County Potawatomi Community – Providing Protection Project
- Your Move MKE, Inc. – Restorative Justice Rap Album

Komro will be announcing more grant announcements later this year.

Komro reported the Title II 2022 Budget has been approved by OJJDP. DOJ can use that money for subgrant awards. DOJ is still awarding funds from 2019, 2020, 2021.

Department of Corrections Update – Commissioner Ron Hermes reported on building progress for the Type 1 facility in Milwaukee and used a PowerPoint to review population data in Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools.

**Business cont.**

Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools August 8, 2023 Meeting Location – Komro reported Commissioner Hermes offered to host a GJC meeting at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools and provide a tour to Commissioners. There would be a virtual option for Commissioners that are not able to attend in person. There are background check requirements for anyone entering Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools. The Commission would have lunch at the school.

The Commission would like to accept Commissioner Hermes' invitation. DOJ Staff will work with Commissioner Hermes for meeting itinerary and logistics and provide more information to the Commission in June.

DCF Youth Justice Intake Data Report Presentation – Maria Onaindia and Alana Peck, Bureau of Youth Justice, Department of Children and Families

Maria Onaindia and Alana Peck used a PowerPoint to provide information on the youth justice data reporting systems used by the Department of Children and Families.

**Announcements**

Sharlen Moore shared information about the recent System of Care Summit.

**Public Comment**

Matt Allord used this time to recognize his staff at DOJ in honor of Public Employee Recognition week.

The Commission did not receive public comment.

**GJC 2023 Meeting Dates**

August 8, 2023

November 14, 2023

**Adjourn and Wrap Up**

Interim Chair Moore thanked members for their time.