

Governor's Juvenile Justice Commission

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 14, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Virtual

Chairperson: Commissioner Sharlen Moore

Commission Members:	Commissioner Sharlen Moore, Commissioner Dorinthia Robinson, Commissioner Edjron Pearson, Commissioner JP Rotatori, Commissioner Ron Hermes, Commissioner Margaret McMahon, Commissioner Diane Rondini, Commissioner Dana Brown, Commissioner Lesley Chapin, Commissioner Abigail Gosetti, Commissioner Kenna Tripple, Commissioner Carl Ashley, Commissioner Charles Greer, Commissioner Meaghan Henry, Commissioner Tweed Shuman, Commissioner Ben Gonring, Commissioner Andrew Miller
Members Not Present:	Commissioner Charles Tubbs, Commissioner Aidan Raney
DOJ Staff:	Sabrina Gentile, Kiley Komro, Lara Kenny, Matt Allord, Steve Wagner, Leslie Tlahuel, Shelly Sandry
Agency Partners and Agency Staff:	Jamie McCarville (DHS), Greg Bucholz (DOC), Kim Jenkins (DPI), Kyle Peaden (DPI), Carlton Frost (DCF), Jacob Hanifl (Dane County)

Welcome and Call Meeting to Order

Vice Chair Diane Rondini welcomed commissioners to the meeting. Quorum was present.

Vice Chair Rondini requested a motion to approve the February 13, 2024, GJC Meeting Minutes.

Motion to Approve Minutes

Motion to Approve February 13, 2024, GJC Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Commissioner Carl Ashley and seconded by Commissioner Lesley Chapin to approve the February 13, 2024, GJC Quarterly Meeting Minutes.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 18 Ayes, 0 No

Subcommittee Sharing

Ethnic and Racial Disparities (ERD) Subcommittee – Commissioner Edjron Pearson reported the ERD Subcommittee has approved the R-ED Juvenile Deflection and Diversion factsheet and shared the final copy with the Commission. Commissioner Sharlen Moore acknowledged the work done by DOJ Staff to create the factsheet.

DOJ Staff is developing presentation materials to be used with the factsheet. The Commissioners commented they look forward to sharing the factsheet with the public. The DOJ Staff reported the R-ED Deflection and Diversion factsheet, and the Wisconsin R/ED Summary factsheet are posted on the GJJC Resource webpage.

Policy, Legislation and Compliance (PLC) Subcommittee – Commissioner Carl Ashley reported the legislative session has ended. Unfortunately returning 17-year-olds to the juvenile justice system and other supported legislation were not approved. Stakeholders discussed using appropriate terms such as replacing the word juvenile with the word youth.

Greg Bucholz, DOC Agency Partner and Office of Detention Facilities Director, reported DOC is using the word youth in the DOC 347, Secure Residential Care Centers for Children and Youth (SRCCCY), rule.

Commissioner Ron Hermes reported the new Type 1 Facility in Milwaukee will not have juvenile in the name. Commissioner Hermes added at the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee hearing, the committee members discussed changed the word juvenile to youth and institution to facility.

Shelly Sandry, DOJ Training and Standards Bureau, reported the Curriculum Advisory Committee will meet on Friday, May 17, and will discuss terminology and using the word youth.

Youth Voice Commission (YVC) – Kiley Komro reported continued work to recruit new members. Komro thanked current members for their feedback on recruitment materials and flyers.

DOJ Updates

DOJ Staff – Matt Allord reported Intern Leslie Tlahuel has completed her semester with DOJ and has agreed to stay on this summer to finish some projects. Tlahuel researched the 17-year-old holds in recent years. The presentation is on today's agenda.

Allord reported the interviews started for the Compliance Monitor and ERD position. Allord hopes to have a person start this summer.

Compliance Update – Allord reported audits are completed and now staff is finishing writing reports and sending them back to the agencies. Final numbers of violations will be determined when staff can use the OJJDP compliance monitoring tool. OJJDP has not posted the solicitation and has not opened the compliance monitoring tool. Allord stated he wants to report the same information that was uploaded into the tool to the GJJC.

Grants – Komro announced that multiple grant recipients are finishing their projects in the coming months. Komro reported that new grant opportunities are in development and will open for applications soon.

Legislation – Sabrina Gentile reported the Legislative Council Study Committees have been named and there is a Legislative Council Study Committee on Emergency Detention and Civil Commitment of Minors. Gentile read the scope of the study committee to the Commission.

The study committee is directed to study the appropriateness of current emergency detention and civil commitment laws as applied to minors. The committee shall review whether special emergency detention procedures should be established for minors, including whether persons other than law enforcement either be permitted or required to take a minor into custody for the purpose of emergency detention. The committee shall also review current civil commitment placement options for minors, with an emphasis on examining the appropriateness of placements outside Wisconsin and feasibility of creating psychiatric residential treatment facilities for minors in Wisconsin. After these reviews, the committee shall recommend legislation that creates child-appropriate emergency detention and civil commitment procedures and maximizes civil commitment placement options for minors in Wisconsin.

Gentile noted Senator Jesse James (R – Altoona) is the Chair and Representative Patrick Snyder (R – Schofield) is the Vice Chair. DOJ Staff will send a link to the study committee when DOJ Staff sends follow up documents after the meeting.

Commissioner Hermes reported Senator James is interested in Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities.

Gentile reported the state Senate is in session today for veto overrides of bills. Gentile said that if the bills are overridden by the Senate with a two thirds majority vote, the bills need to be overridden by the state Assembly with two thirds vote. The Republicans do not have a two thirds majority in the state Assembly, so the Governor's veto actions are likely to stand.

Wisconsin Department of Corrections (DOC) Updates

Ron Hermes, Administrator of Juvenile Corrections and Greg Bucholtz, Director of the Office of Detention Facilities (ODF)

Commissioner Ron Hermes recapped the Senate Judiciary and Public Safety Committee hearing on Clearinghouse Rule 24-003, relating to security in Type 1 secured correctional facilities. Commissioner Hermes reported the committee had questions regarding the reduction in population and how it related to security. Commissioner Hermes noted the change in using the Mandt System.

The new space at Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center (MJTC) will open next week. The boys that are currently residing at MJTC will move into the new space.

Commissioner Hermes reported DOC is in 87% compliance with the consent decree and DOC is in substantial compliance with 43 of the 50 items. DOC is in the sixth year of the consent decree. Commissioner Hermes hopes DOC is done with the consent decree visits by middle of 2025.

Commissioner Pearson reported staff from Dane County toured the new MJTC section. Allord commented that DOJ Staff will reach out in the future to set up a tour opportunity for the Commission.

Commissioner Hermes reviewed the populations at Lincoln Hills and Copper Lake Schools (LHS/CLS) and what counties the youth at LHS/CLS are from.

Commissioner Hermes reported all final bids on Type 1 facility are due at the end of May. There should be an announcement of the name of the facility by the end of the month.

Greg Bucholtz reported the ODF Staff will be meeting on May 29 to review DOC 346 rule suggestions from the public hearing and develop the final draft of the rule. Once the final draft is completed, the public hearing will be scheduled for the rule. Bucholtz is predicting the hearing could be scheduled in the beginning of June. Bucholtz reported that all communications of youth with their families will be free of charge will be included in the final draft of the rule.

Business

Adolescent Brain Development and Age of Juvenile Justice Jurisdiction

Commissioner JP Rotatori

Commissioner JP Rotatori presented his Youth Voice Commission research project on adolescent brain development and how it relates to the age of juvenile and adult court jurisdiction. The Commission thanked Commissioner Rotatori for his presentation. Commissioner Rotatori answered follow up questions from the Commission.

Criminal Court and Detention Data for 17-Year-Olds

Matt Allord and Leslie Tlahuel, DOJ Staff

Matt Allord used a PowerPoint presentation prepared by Leslie Tlahuel to summarize data that is collected by DOJ on 17-year-olds for the Title II Formula grant report. Tlahuel interned with DOJ in the Spring semester and created the 17-year-old data report.

Title II Application Approval Timeline

Commissioner Rondini reported the GJJC needs to approve the Title II application before it is submitted to the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The solicitation has not been released and so we do not know if the next GJJC quarterly meeting is scheduled to

allow for the GJJC to approve the application. Commissioner Rondini asked if the GJJC could pass a motion to allow for the GJJC Executive Subcommittee to approve the grant application if needed.

Motion to authorize the Executive Subcommittee to approve the final Title II Application Packet for Submission to OJJDP

Motion was made by Commissioner Carl Ashely and seconded by Commissioner Dana Brown to authorize the Executive Subcommittee to approve the final Title II Application packet for submission to OJJDP.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 16 Ayes, 0 No

Announcements

Commissioner Pearson thanked the Commission for their support and sympathy.

Public Comment

The members heard from the public.

2024 GJJC Quarterly Meeting Dates

- Tuesday, August 13, 2024
- Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Adjourn

Commissioner Rondini asked for a motion to adjourn.

Motion to Adjourn

Motion was made by Commissioner Sharlen Moore and seconded by Commissioner Charles Greer to adjourn the meeting.

Motion approved.

The vote was: 15 Ayes, 0 No