

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice Advisory Board

November 19, 2013
Northwestern School of Law
375 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, Illinois 60611-3069

Meeting Minutes

Board Members

Present in person: Julie Biehl, Director Bishop, Jerry Butler, Mark Hassakis, Dave Olson, Rick Velasquez, Jennifer Vollen-Katz, Annetta Wilson

Present by phone: Walter Brandon

Others Present in person: Era Laudermilk, Beth Compton

Others Present by phone: Mary Reynolds

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting began at approximately 10:10 a.m. with a quorum present. Meeting conducted by Chairperson Jenny Vollen-Katz.

Approval of Minutes

A correction was noted in the proposed draft minutes that Walter Brandon was present by phone instead of in person at the September 17, 2013 meeting. Motion made by Walter Brandon and seconded by Dave Olson to approve the minutes as edited. Motion carried 8-0.

Director's Report

Director Bishop provided a handout outlining reform efforts underway in the Department. Era Laudermilk, Chief of Staff, noted that a number of recommendations from Dr. Kathleen McChesney's report received in October have been initiated and that there is expected to be overlap with the RJ v Bishop consent decree that is under negotiation. Era Laudermilk also provided a brief update on the grant from the MacArthur Foundation.

Discussion of Legislation Impacting DJJ

DJJ supported legislation to establish the Office of the Independent Ombudsman as House Amendment #1 to Senate Bill 2352. The amendment was acted on in the House during Veto Session but not the Senate. A discussion was held over interest in clarifying DJJ's annual report and performance measures in legislation.

Discussion of Outcome Measures

A discussion was held over the performance measures used by the Department and how they could be improved. Director Bishop noted that DJJ and the Department of Corrections are developing new data systems, Youth 360 and Offender 360, with the intent of improving data capabilities. Julie Biehl noted that the current measures are a good beginning, but more data

needs to be captured such as length of time held, number of revocations, and recidivism rates. She also discussed the difference between snapshots of data and trends. Dave Olson suggested that the data needs to be accurate and objective. He provided an example of those who are in need of a high school diploma, and then examine the future actions of those who received one, and the impact on how many of those youth recidivated. Rick Velazquez offered that measures should include the impact on public safety. Jenny Vollen-Katz pointed out the possible need to redefine certain measures such as recidivism, and look at examples from other states. Dave Olson offered to have his spring class of students in statistics conduct baseline data analysis and look at longer-term trends.

Advisory Board Meeting Schedule

The Board discussed options for meeting dates for calendar year 2014. A request was made to hold at least one meeting at a Youth Center. Dave Olson made a motion to have the Board meet at 2 p.m. on the third Thursday of January, April, July and October in 2014. Julie Biehl seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Other Business

Jenny Vollen-Katz noted that discussions concerning a possible tour of Missouri youth facilities and the Affordable Care Act would be held at the next meeting.

Adjourn

A motion was made by Dave Olson to adjourn, seconded by Jerry Butler. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a.m.