



PROBATION DEPARTMENT



**Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention
Commission Meeting Minutes**
March 22, 2023
1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced CA 95341

Kalisa Rochester
Chief Probation Officer

Attending

1. Joe Hoffar, Chairperson
2. Jermaine Paster, Commissioner
3. Linda Levesque, Commissioner
4. Sheri Campbell, Commissioner
5. Chris Henn, Deputy Chief Probation Officer
6. Ben Rodriguez, Division Manager

Absent

7. Kelly Bentz, Vice-Chair

Guests

1. Anthony DiBella
2. Armando Moreno
3. Noemi Kollmann
4. Olivia Coleman
5. Sylvia Rendon

Call to Order

Joe called the meeting to order at 5:39 pm. Sheri took roll call. Roundtable introductions were made. Joe informed everyone that Lori Minor resigned as commissioner.

Approval/Additions to Agenda

Joe asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were no additions. Sheri motioned, and Jermaine seconded. The agenda was approved.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2023

Joe asked for a motion to approve the minutes with the spelling correction note on the second page. Linda motioned to approve, and Sheri seconded. There being no opposition, the minutes were approved.

New Business

- Youth and Parent Survey – the commission had a workshop recently to create a youth and parent survey. Linda read the questions out to everyone. The survey has three questions and is in English and Spanish. It will be used on the Saturday outreach event in Los Banos. This is the first survey the commission has done. Linda will compile all the survey results which will be shared at the May meeting. The commissioners acknowledged that services available are vastly different in Los Banos versus Merced.

Legislative Updates

Deputy Chief Chris Henn reported that Chief Rochester is currently on the Title 15 committee with the state. They'll be reviewing the Title 15 regulations that govern certain areas of the juvenile hall facility. Advocates will have the opportunity to speak about their concerns at these committee review meetings. He thinks the rollout of updates will be around the summer after revisions are finalized.

The BSCC had its pre-inspection in February and expects to do its inspection in May.

SB823 Update

The Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) closing will be official on 6/30/2023. With the closure of the California Youth Authority (CYA), Probation had to create a Secure Track. They'll be able to hold youth until they're 25. Probation will have jurisdiction over those clients. Currently, three youths are on Secure Track in Merced, and four in the DJJ will have a hearing to determine if they're coming back to Merced. He believes three will come back, and the fourth youth is supposed to be paroled and go to a program in Sacramento.

Old Business

- **Focus Areas** – the three focus areas the commission agreed to at their workshop were attending the Board of Supervisors (BOS) meetings, developing a resource handbook, and getting involved with local service clubs. The commission can accept funds from any entity. Now that they've identified focus areas, out of those three Joe asked the commission what they'd like to do. Kelly will send out a calendar for the BOS of who will attend the meetings. Jermaine suggested a PowerPoint about the JJDPC and what they do and add how the BOS can help the commission. Jermaine said he could work on a PowerPoint. Linda believes having two representatives go every time vs. a different person each time would be better. She is also not opposed to helping with PowerPoint. Joe stated the PowerPoint presentation should be used as an introduction. Linda doesn't see an issue rolling out all three focus areas concurrently. She also suggested Ronald and Anthony work on the manual since they expressed interest at the workshop. Kelly and Jermaine will attend the BOS meetings. Anthony will connect with Ron to work on the manual.
- Sheri will get the service club meeting times – Kiwanis, Rotary, Lions, Soroptimist, Elks, etc.

Events

Merced County Week of the Young Child Event is hosted by First 5. Joe shared copies of the Youth Resource Directory which will be handed out at their table together with the brochures they have.

- Pacheco Park, Los Banos 3/25/23, 9 am-2 pm – Linda and Sheri will attend.
- Applegate Park, Merced 4/1/23 – Joe and Anthony will attend. Jermaine will contact Joe later regarding his availability.

Open Discussion:

The commissioners will also hold elections for Chair and Vice-Chair at the May meeting.

Ron will be sworn in on Friday, 3/24/23.

Closed Session

Sharing Critical Incidents Update

- DC Henn reported on the critical incidents for the last month.

Grievances Filed

- The grievances were reviewed by the commission.

Stars

- The Stars were reviewed by the commission.

Adjourned

The next meeting will be on May 24, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at 1880 Wardrobe Ave, Merced.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

Minutes by Priscilla Martin, Secretary III