



PROBATION DEPARTMENT



Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council  
Meeting Minutes  
April 14, 2022, 9:00 a.m.  
Meeting Via Zoom

**Present:**

Kalisa Rochester, Chief Probation Officer  
Sarah Marsh, Director of Administrative Services  
Zach Robertson, Program Manager  
Beatriz Ramirez, Program Specialist  
Sharlee Fragulia, Staff Services Analyst  
Josh Pedrozo, Supervisor, District 2  
Kimberly Lewis, District Attorney  
Justin Melden, Commander  
Derrek Dean, Principal  
Holly Newlon, Director  
Jeff Sabeau, Division Director  
David Carr, Director  
Corey Gibson, Undersheriff  
Genevieve Valentine, Director  
Jacqui Coulter, Assistant Director  
Ray Framstad, Lieutenant  
Nancy Murillo, Core Program Director  
Michael Coughlin, Deputy Public Defender

Probation Department  
Probation Department  
Probation Department  
Probation Department  
Probation Department  
Board of Supervisors  
District Attorney  
Los Banos Police Department  
MCOE/MC Court School  
MCOE  
BHRS  
Merced Rescue Mission  
Merced County Sheriff's Office  
BHRS  
BHRS  
Sheriff Department  
Aspiranet  
Public Defender

**Not Present:**

Vincent Andrade, Public Defender  
Vern Warnke, Sheriff/Coroner  
Debbie Perez, Attorney  
Gary Brizzee, Chief of Police  
Ivan Mendez, Sergeant  
Alyssa Castro, Program Coordinator  
Steve Tietjen, Superintendent  
Lisa Maples, Deputy Chief Probation Officer  
Joel Daffron, Program Manager  
Iohana Tapia, Program Manager  
Yvonnia Brown, Director  
Mary Whited, ROP Coordinator

Public Defender  
Merced County Sheriff's Office  
Fitzgerald, Alvarez, & Ciummo  
Los Banos Police Department  
Los Banos Police Department  
Youth Leadership Institute  
MCOE  
Probation Department  
Probation Department  
BHRS  
Human Services Agency  
MCOE



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**Opening:**

Chief Rochester welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

**AB 361 Resolution:**

AB 361 Resolution was read aloud and a unanimous vote of yes was confirmed. Derrek Dean motioned to approve the resolution. Genevieve Valentine seconded. The members voted:

- BHRS Yes
- Los Banos Police Dept. Yes
- Alcohol & Drug Services Yes
- Community Member Yes
- MCOE Yes
- Sheriff Yes
- District Attorney Yes
- Board of Supervisors Absent
- Human Services Agency Absent
- Community Based Organization Absent
- Public Defender Absent

A unanimous vote of yes to hold the meeting virtually. This resolution is Brown Act compliant.

**Vote JJCPA Vote:**

- PowerPoint Presentation (attached herewith) provided by Beatriz Ramirez.
  - *Coffee Cart* - Discussion regarding the status of the coffee cart, the \$38,000 price of fixing the deficiencies that Environmental Health identified in their inspection, and whether to have the trailer fixed or shipped back to the vendor in Florida. Sarah will contact county counsel regarding the status of the whole process and have them deal with the breach of contract portion. There was also a suggestion to have a second opinion inspection.
  - *Graffiti Abatement* - Chief Rochester recently learned the community isn't aware that Probation has a graffiti abatement program. Please feel free to spread the word. A request can be made online to have graffiti taken care of through Probation's program.
  - *Stephen Leonard Center* - Chief informed the group she had a discussion with Stephanie Dietz about some possible ideas. These ideas would be part of a collaborative program. The Chief wants to have a Dual Diagnosis Clinician from BHRS at the center part-time. The clinician can do some outreach with the Probation team as well. The Chief is also going to request the subcommittee fund a Probation Program Specialist who would be located at the center. There would be three



- community-based DPOs at the center. She also spoke with the Department of Workforce Investment to have someone from the EMPOWER program at the center. She advised Stephanie that Probation would have five staff located there, BHRS would have one, there would be space dedicated for their staff member, and DWI would have space also. In the daytime, they would run the re-entry portion of youth coming out of the juvenile hall who are transitioning back into the community. Probation would partner with MUHSD and rather than youth attend Valley, they would attend the center. They could have a Peer Support Specialist pick youth up and bring them to the center, where they would work on their studies, receive MH services from BHRS, and for those who have graduated, someone from EMPOWER working with them. MUHSD stated youth would be able to attend programming at Castle as well. More information is located in the plan if anyone wants to read it in more detail. The City is making repairs at the center to get it ready for move-in. This looks to be a promising opportunity for everyone.
- The Chief will be meeting with MCOE about the RISE program. There is some interest in making possible changes to the plan. Holly spoke a bit about the program. They're finding that the youth don't seem to be fully prepared for being in the workplace. Holly believes they need to provide more of a foundation before putting the kids out into the community. They also want to be mindful of protecting their relationship with the various business owners. There is \$58,000 (\$15.00 per hour), so roughly \$60k is allocated for the program.
  - Holly suggested there might be ways to incentivize attendance where students are learning about the soft skills needed in the workplace. Holly believes this would help the kids want to attend. Discussion regarding the pros and cons of trying to incentivize youth and whether this would set them up to be successful in obtaining these foundational skills.
  - The idea to create a bank account for youth working on the coffee cart was shared with the group. The Chief asked the group for thoughts based on what they've heard from Holly.
  - If youth who are transitioning from the hall go to the center, perhaps Toula or one of Holly's staff members could come to do that soft skill training piece at the center, and if the youth are interested at that point, the team could assist with getting youth placed at job sites.



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Jeff moved to approve the plan for 22/23, and Derrek seconded. The members voted:

- |                                |        |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| • BHRS                         | Yes    |
| • Los Banos Police Department  | Yes    |
| • Alcohol & Drug Services      | Yes    |
| • Comm. Member                 | Yes    |
| • MCOE                         | Yes    |
| • Sheriff                      | Yes    |
| • District Attorney            | Yes    |
| • Board of Supervisors         | Yes    |
| • HSA -                        | Absent |
| • Community Based Organization | Absent |
| • Public Defender              | Yes    |

With a unanimous vote of yes, the plan was approved.

### **Adjournment**

The Chief will be in touch regarding the coffee cart, the Stephen Leonard Center, and if there are any amendments to the RISE program.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

Minutes scribed by Priscilla Martin, Secretary III