

**MINUTES OF ORANGE COUNTY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
August 3, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Orange County Juvenile Justice Commission was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Perring. The meeting was held remotely via video conference.

**COMMISSIONERS**

**PRESENT:** Marcy Garfias  
Cheryl Hart  
Judy Johnson  
Silvestre Lopez  
Wyatt McClean  
Lynda Perring, Chair  
Robin Rounaghi  
Michael Schumacher  
Steve Winder  
MaryLou Vachet  
Dolores Yost, Vice Chair

**COMMISSIONERS**

**ABSENT:** Amy Crowley  
Jan Sturla

**STAFF:** Susan Korean, Executive Administrative Assistant  
Jessica Esquivel, Legal Processing Specialist

**GUESTS:** Melissa Del Rio, Juvenile Unit Manager, Juvenile Court  
Kimberly Doyle, Assistant District Attorney  
Dana Stits, Supervising Deputy, County Counsel  
Chief Daniel Hernandez, Probation Department  
Commander Jerrod Dahl, Orange County Sheriff's Department  
Christine Snapper, Division Director, Social Services Agency, CFS  
Kristi Fiskum, Deputy Director, Social Services Agency  
Mahonri Sapiga, Administrative Manager, Social Services Agency, OCFC  
Alicia Lemire, Program Manager, HCA Children & Youth Behavioral Health  
Joan Eugenio, Licensed Nurse, Health Care Agency, Juvenile Health Services  
Ann Valenzuela, Licensing Program Analyst, California Community Care Licensing  
Vern Burton, Assistant Superintendent, Access Schools, DOE Institutional Schools  
Raina Lee, Coordinator, Youth Services, OC Department of Education  
Hether Benjamin, Chief Program Officer, Waymakers  
Jenny Leon, Chief Program Officer, CASA  
Nazly Restrepo, Social Director, Project Youth Orange County

**COMMENTS BY JUVENILE COURT**

Melissa Del Rio, Juvenile Unit Manager, provided an update on the new Executive Administrative Assistant for the Juvenile Justice Commission.

**COMMENTS BY DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Kimberly Doyle, Assistant District Attorney, stated they are currently down 91% on truancy filings.

**COMMENTS BY COUNTY COUNSEL**

Dana Stits, Supervising Deputy, congratulated Chief Daniel Hernandez on his new position with the Probation Department.

**COMMENTS BY PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

Chief Daniel Hernandez, Probation Department, reported they will proceed with building youth transitional center on north side of the Juvenile Hall campus.

**COMMENTS BY ORANGE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

Commander Jerrod Dahl, Orange County Sheriff's Department, provided an update on the preparation for the new school year. This summer, OCSD participated in the July Training Summit where 60 School Resource Officers (SROs) participated in an active shooter drill.

**COMMENTS BY SOCIAL SERVICES AGENCY (SSA)**

Kristi Fiskum, Deputy Director, announced that An Tran is the new director for SSA. Christine Snapper, Division Director, was also in attendance.

Mahonri Sapiga, Administrative Manager, Orangewood Children & Family Center (OCFC), provided an update on the summer activities for youth. The activities included visits to: Disneyland, Raging Waters and the Segerstrom Center for the Arts.

**COMMENTS BY HEALTH CARE AGENCY, CHILDREN & YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

Alicia Lemire, Program Manager, provided an update on positive parenting interventions for parents who currently have children in Juvenile Hall.

**COMMENTS BY HEALTH CARE AGENCY, JUVENILE HEALTH SERVICES**

Joan Eugenio, Licensed Nurse, reported on the fulfillment of Narcan distribution.

**COMMENTS BY CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY CARE LICENSING**

Ann Valenzuela, Licensing Program Analyst, reported no new updates.

**COMMENTS BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, INSTITUTIONAL SCHOOLS**

Vern Burton, Assistant Superintendent, Access Schools, reported on the promotion of Ruth Ramirez to Principal at Area 3.

Raina Lee, OCDOE Coordinator, reported the preschool enrollment rate for foster youth has increased by 86%.

**WAYMAKERS**

Hether Benjamin, Chief Program Officer, reported no new updates.

**CASA**

Jenny Leon, Chief Program Officer, reported they will be having their CASA Picnic on Saturday, August 6, 2022. They are expecting 500 attendants, including youth and volunteers.

**PROJECT YOUTH – ORANGE COUNTY (OC)**

Nazly Restrepo, Social Director, announced they will be having their 50 Year Celebration in September 2022.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**The July 20, 2022 minutes were approved by unanimous consent.**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was reviewed.

**ACTION ITEMS**

An update on the recruitment for the Executive Administrative Assistant position was provided to the Commission. Discussion ensued.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES & WORKING GROUPS**

Commissioner Vachet provided an update on the 2022 Essay Contest with Probation youth. The Committee will provide notice to the Commission when the amended schedule is approved.

**REPORTS FROM INSPECTIONS**

Chair Perring and Commissioners Garfias and Lopez provided an overview of the New Alternatives Crisis Resolution Facility (CRF) inspection held on July 26, 2022. Commissioners Vachet and Sturla were also present at the inspection. There are currently 11 youth staying at the facility.

The Olive Crest Malena and Saylor Terrace inspection held on August 1, 2022 is tabled to the next JJC meeting.

**REPORTS FROM LIAISON ACTIVITIES & WEBINARS**

**Foster Care Advisory Board (FCAB) / Quality Parenting Initiative (QPI)**

Commissioner Johnson provided an overview on the FCAB/QPI video conference held on July 27, 2022. There will be a Narcan program and training for resource families and the sheriff's department in September 2022.

**Continuum of Care Reform (CCR)**

Commissioner Johnson provided an overview of the CCR video conference held on July 28, 2022. Daniel Hernandez was announced as the new Chief of Probation.

**Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) Steering Committee**

The CSEC Steering Committee video conference held on July 28, 2022 has been tabled to the next JJC meeting.

**Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Subcommittee**

Commissioner Johnson provided an overview of the SUD Subcommittee video conference held on August 2, 2022. The focus of the meeting was based on babies and pregnant women with drug issues.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS/WEBINARS/INSPECTIONS**

Chair Perring is planning to attend the Child Welfare System Improvement Partnership (CWSIP) video conference on August 4, 2022.

Chair Perring is planning to attend the Quarterly Court Improvement Committee video conference on August 4, 2022.

Commissioner Garfias is planning to attend the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Subcommittee video conference on August 15, 2022.

Commissioners Crowley, Rounaghi, Sturla, Vachet and Winder are planning to attend the Orangewood Children & Family Center on August 15, 2022.

Vice Chair Yost and Commissioners McClean and Vachet are planning to attend the Foster Family Agency (FFA) Forum on August 16, 2022.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

The Commission discussed various topics of interest.

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**CLOSED SESSION**

The executive session was convened from 11:20 a.m. until 11:34 a.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

*Lynda Perring*

Lynda Perring, Chair