

MINI-CASSIA JUVENILE PROBATION MEETING MINUTES

January 8, 2019

Mini-Cassia Juvenile Probation Office in Rupert, Idaho.

Present were: Lance Stevenson, Doug Abenroth, Commissioner Paul Christensen, Commissioner Bob Moore, Sheriff Jay Heward, Sheriff Eric Snarr, Connie Uriguen (for Joe Larsen), Dixie Tate, Judge Mick Hodges, Renee Waite, Dr. Todd Shumway, Trent Bodily, Kent Searle, and Charlotte Reedy.

Meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m. by Commissioner Moore.

Lance Stevenson moved and Sheriff Snarr seconded that the minutes from the meeting held December 11, 2018, be approved as printed. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

JUDGE MICK HODGES

Judge Hodges thanked Commissioner Moore and Commissioner Christensen for their service and asked them to share the insight they've gained.

Judge Hodges discussed the Partnership for Success program. He said they will be meeting with the person who has been hired in the 5th District. Judge Hodges said they will be working with District Health for Mental Health and Substance Abuse programs. He said they used to be able to go into homes and work with families, but that program has been cut. Judge Hodges said the Mental Health Court has just about been killed and there are no PSR workers. He said they will talk about it at the board meeting tomorrow. The new manager, Julia O'Meara, will be meeting with Judge Hodges and Dixie. Judge Hodges said hopefully they will be getting more providers for services they say we need. He said the YES program was to get more providers in the community.

It was mentioned that the Suicide Prevention program is not limited to kids and it is being reorganized. Judge Hodges said the SPAN program was organized, they raised money for the program, and then the program was disbanded. He said he has met with Lance Loveland who said the program is being reorganized under another name. Judge Hodges said we will have a local suicide prevention program.

Judge Hodges said a diversion program has started in Cassia County. Doug said the first meeting was held last week. Judge Hodges said these are low-level cases which they're trying to head off in the early stages. He said they are trying to keep these juveniles out of court and trying to keep them from having a record. It was mentioned that the diversion program worked well before; however, it does slow things down some. He said that could be an issue since it's felt that consequences need to be immediate or they're not effective. Judge Hodges said the State guys say it's more important to get treatment than to impose punishment.

DIXIE TATE

Dixie said the majority of Juvenile Probation cases are drug and mental health related. She said the mental health cases are the toughest.

Dixie said the YES program is rolling out, but they are slow at developing resources.

Dixie said probation fees will no longer be collected by Odyssey. She said her department will start collecting the fees, but she's not sure when it will start. Dixie will keep the board informed.

Dixie said there are about 12 juveniles in drug and alcohol programs. Three are in Drug Court.

Dixie said Strengthening Families programs will be starting in January and February.

Dixie said she has applicants for the Project TND grant program.

Dixie thanked the State for providing DVD's for the Strengthening Families Program. She said they have more Spanish speaking participants than English speaking participants. Dixie said she couldn't do the program without Elva's support and ambition.

Dixie said she's working on staff evaluations will have them done and to Kay within two weeks.

Dixie said both WILD programs have been busy.

Dixie said there were 171 juvenile petitions in Cassia County and 122 juvenile petitions in Minidoka County during 2018.

Dixie said staff are attending trainings and things are going well.

Judge Hodges mentioned that juveniles cannot be held in detention on status offenses. He said we've lost money in the past for violations. Trent asked if law enforcement understands. Sheriff Heward said he feels they do, but don't have anyone to release the juvenile to and can't lock them up in the holding cell. He said it takes an officer off the street to babysit. Judge Hodges said that it's rare that the juvenile isn't disturbing the peace which is a charge for which they can be detained. Lance said there's a lot of cases where parents don't want to parent anymore. He said he's had to go the route of threatening parents with a misdemeanor charge if they don't parent their child and take care of him/her. Renee said it's not just law enforcement, but juveniles placed in custody on discretionary time with an underlying status offense. Commissioner Christensen asked if we were doing enough to get kids out of bad home situations. Dixie said they're mandatory reporters. She said her Officers make a lot of home visits and they do report.

RENEE WAITE

Renee said there's not much change in the number of juveniles in State custody. She said there's six from Cassia County and eleven from Minidoka County.

Renee said Monty Prow has been hired as the new director of the Department of Juvenile Corrections. She said it was an internal promotion.

Renee said the Detention Administrators / Mental Health Clinician training is coming up next month. She said there will also be a Developmental Trauma training this year.

Renee said they're waiting to see how the government shutdown will affect funds. Dixie has received a \$1300-\$1500 grant for a computer. It was mentioned that Dixie will be sending Rhoda to a grant writing class in March.

Renee said she's working on putting together annual data and hopes to have it done next month.

TRENT BODILY

There are 8 juveniles in Juvenile Detention this morning; 5 – Cassia County and 3 – Minidoka County. Trent said most in attendance have received a report from the recent inspection stating the Juvenile Detention Center is in compliance.

Trent said the Juvenile Detention Center will be out of its PREA corrective action period in about two weeks. He said there was a slight issue that has been rectified and the facility will be PREA certified.

Trent discussed a situation where a juvenile with an ankle monitor was placed in detention on Discretionary Time. The JPO insisted that the ankle monitor had to be charged or the juvenile would be charged with a violation. Trent said an extension cord was run into the resident's room so the monitor could be charged. Trent said the detention center will not charge ankle monitors in the future. Dixie agreed that it was not safe and asked Trent to contact her should a Juvenile Probation Officer make demands. Trent was advised to contact the Adult Misdemeanor Probation Department to determine if the monitor should be removed or just let it die.

SHERIFF HEWARD

Sheriff Heward asked about attending Cassia County school's administrators meeting to explain the diversion program. Doug said it would have to be put on the agenda. Dr. Shumway said there will be another meeting in about two weeks. Sandra Miller or Dr. Shumway should be contacted to make sure it is on the agenda.

Sheriff Snarr moved and Sheriff Heward seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 8:08 a.m. Motion passed.

The next Mini-Cassia Juvenile Probation Meeting will be held at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, February 12, 2019, at the Mini-Cassia Juvenile Probation Office in Rupert.