MINUTES OF THE JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
January 9, 2018

The meeting of the Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee was called to order at 10:10 AM by the Honorable Angie Schneider, Vice-Chair at the Old Sandoval County Courthouse, 711 S. Camino Del Pueblo, Bernalillo, NM 87004.

I. Call to Order – Judge Angie Schneider, Vice – Chair, 1:11 PM

II. Roll Call for Quorum: Roll call for quorum was done by Cindy Varela, JJAC Grant Manager

A quorum was established with the following (12) members present:

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<th>Members Present</th>
<th>Member(s) Excused</th>
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<tr>
<td>Oscar Gonzalez</td>
<td>Nate Tarbox</td>
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<td>Honorable Alan Kirk</td>
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<td>Shelly Currier</td>
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<td>Faith Cortez</td>
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<td>Alma Cortez</td>
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<td>Craig Sparks</td>
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<td>Douglas Mitchell</td>
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<td>Honorable Freddie Romero</td>
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<td>Honorable Angie Schneider</td>
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<td>Honorable Roshanna Toya</td>
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<td>Sasha Pellerin</td>
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<td>Anthony “Tony” Ortiz</td>
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<th>Members(s) Not Attending</th>
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<td>Helen Cheroimiah</td>
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<td>Tina Harris</td>
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Guests in Attendance
Diana Lopez, Sandoval County JJP
Ted Allen, Lincoln County JJ Board
Bridgette Jones, Otero County Continuum Coordinator
Jessica Jara, CH&WB Director
Des Martinez, Luna County Coordinator
Raymond O’Lesky, RRPD SRO
Diana Good, Dept. of Health, Health Information Specialist
Melissa Trujillo, Rio Arriba County
Becky Jones, DOH/PHD
Nora G. Lovato, Rio Arriba County Continuum Coordinator
Andrea Cunningham, Los Alamos Continuum Co-Coordinator
Richard DeMella, Santa Fe Continuum Coordinator
Ruben Barreras, Valencia County Chair
Nancy C. Sanchez, Valencia County
Lucia Serrano, Chaves County Continuum Coordinator
Sydney Aguilar, Curry Count Continuum Coordinator
Rebecca Ballantine, SCJJC member
Tom Mraz, Valencia County Executive Committee
Diane Irwin, Sandoval County, JJC Executive Administrator
Teresa Mraz, Valencia County, Active Volunteer
Fr. Robert Mundy, Valencia County, JJB Chair
Noelle Chavez, Valencia County Continuum Coordinator
Rose Gordon, Taos County, JJB Program Coordinator
Martha Youts, Minutes Transcriptionist
Kathy Burris, Sierra County JJAC Coordinator
Jenea R. Ortiz, Torrance County Continuum Coordinator
Kirstin Keller, Socorro County Continuum Coordinator
Staff in Attendance
Nick Costales, JJS Deputy Director
Janet Musolf, Special Programs Manager
James Cowan, Office of the General Counsel
Cindy Varela, JJAC Grant Manager
Consuelo Garcia, JJAC Grant Manager
Fernando Corral, Detention Compliance Monitor
Louis Pacias, JCC Program Manager
Steve Brooks, DMC Coordinator
Kim Robinson, Special Programs Unit Executive Secretary

III. Welcome and Introductions
Becky Jones, Sandoval County Co-Chair and Diana Lopez, Sandoval County Continuum Coordinator welcomed the committee.

IV. Approval of Agenda
Sasha Pellerin addressed the need to add an agenda item, her resignation from the Grant Subcommittee and election of her replacement. A motion by Craig Sparks and seconded by Shelly Currier, was made to amend the agenda to reflect the election of a new chair to the grant subcommittee. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

V. Approval of October 26, 2017 minutes
Shelly Currier noted a correction to be made to the minutes regarding membership of the temporary ad-hoc subcommittee, noting that Judge Kirk was not part of the committee; and to add members Jenea Ortiz and Kim Gabaldon. Judge Kirk moved to accept corrected minutes; seconded by Alma Cortez. The amended minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote.

VI. SFY2019 Funding Recommendations — Sasha Pellerin, Grant Subcommittee Chair
Ms. Pellerin gave an introduction of the Subcommittee’s process. She mentioned that the ad-hoc subcommittee had given her a report on the work they did, and she thanked Ms. Currier. Ms. Pellerin was able to review the report and took it to the Grant Subcommittee. It was taken into consideration moving into the Grant Subcommittee review of applications. Ms. Pellerin noted that some of the considerations in the review were year-to-date expenditures as of October, whether or not continuums were functioning under model programs and also that referrals tie into the Strategic Plan. She noted that one thing that they were very clear about now and over the years she has been the Grant Subcommittee Chair, is the continued investment in rural communities. She commented that the committee is aware that there are larger continuums that serve large populations of youth which are able to receive match funds, and those are invested in, but what the Subcommittee continues to be clear on is the investment in rural areas and serving rural youth. In light of that, she noted one area they will be looking at in the future is going to be the 40% match; and that as the funding continues to get smaller it is becoming harder to allocate, as the State expands in how it provides services and as new continuums continue to come on board, this needs to be considered and kept in mind. The Committee discussed quite extensively the amount of money that has been reverted in the past and possible reversions for this coming year. She noted that as the communities continue to revert funding it makes it difficult to allocate funds at requested levels, especially if more funds are requested than the previous year and there was a reversion. She noted the fact that there was a very tight process this year including a JJAC Unit Grant Application Workshop in September, JJAC Unit in person and telephone conferences in October, the JJAC Unit received the final grant applications and sent them to the Grant Subcommittee in November, then the JJAC Unit and the Grant Subcommittee met in December to review. She noted that a complete list of all of the activities and the dates were in the

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Board member’s packets. She submitted the recommendations as proposed and asked for a motion. Motion to accept the report was made by Doug Mitchell and, Judge Kirk asked for clarification of the total amount to be approved, which was given by Judge Schneider, Judge Kirk then seconded the motion. Motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Pellerin thanked everyone for the work and support and then officially tendered her resignation as Chair of the Grant Subcommittee. She then nominated Oscar Solis as her replacement with Shelly Currier seconding. Mr. Solis thanked Ms. Pellerin for her nomination and the honor of being nominated. Mr. Solis’ nomination was passed by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Solis then noted that his goal is to visit every county to get to know the continuaums and their work better.

VII. Updates – Written reports submitted by staff

a. JJAC Unit Update – Janet Musolf, Special Programs Manager

i. Unit Funds and Data:

Ms. Musolf noted that the packet has the funding attachment. Ms. Musolf stated that the Board should have the expenses for the last two quarters. She noted that we are currently spending the Title II FFY2015. They have received the award but have not received access for the FFY2017 award; OJJDP is still reviewing the application that was submitted in May/June 2017. They wanted additional information which was submitted in December.

She stated that the Board members had the data for all of the Continuums. She also noted that the data and expenditures have been reported up until October. Ms. Musolf then stated that on the far right of the printout there is the information regarding youth served year to date, unduplicated youth and then youth for each program. She explained that some youth participate in multiple programs so the numbers may differ.

Mr. Mitchell asked if they were getting the reports from the sites timely, to which Ms. Musolf replied in the affirmative. Ms. Musolf stated most continuaums were up and running, with a few exceptions due issues with subcontractors and new coordinators.

Mr. Sparks asked how everyone was doing on their matches. Ms. Musolf stated that everyone was pretty close on match and there have not been too many issues in that regard.

Ms. Musolf gave an update on the data system stating there had been a request for a meeting with Falling Colors, but that meeting had been postponed due to Falling Colors having a commitment with the Department of Health and closing out the calendar year. New dates for this meeting were being considered and will hopefully take place by the end of January, this will get the process moving again.

Mr. Mitchell asked if the meeting with Falling Colors is going to address some of the concerns of the Continuums regarding data reporting. Ms. Musolf responded that this will once again be an organizational meeting because it has been 6 months since the last meeting. There will be a Data Committee consisting of the JJAC Unit, some Coordinators and one or two service providers, to carefully examine what the expectations are from all angles.

ii. Statewide Juvenile Justice Improvement Initiative (CSG) – Nick Costales

Deputy Director Nick Costales gave an overview of what CSG is and the activity
that has taken place over the past year, stating that Nevada was chosen first and New Mexico second to launch this initiative. He mentioned that a Task Force was created, about 22 people from all areas of the state, to include legislators, judges, prosecutors, and public defenders, areas that work with youth and would be affected by this type of legislation. There were three different meetings with this Task Force which resulted in different recommendations and they are now in the process of crafting a piece of legislation that would address some of these recommendations.

He commented that there had been a detailed analysis of the data that CYFD uses regarding the number of youth on probation, the amount of commitments and for what kind of offenses, etc. There had been a number of interviews with stakeholders all across the State. The result was a set of recommendations that New Mexico should consider. Recommendations included Legislative changes, others were internal policy and procedural changes that CYFD could implement. Six months of work has gone into looking at those changes and making decisions about what recommendations could be put into a Legislative Bill, he noted that it is nice to do internal policy changes, but Secretaries change, Directors change and state government employees change and great initiatives die, and they really did not want those kinds of things to happen. The thought was if some of these changes could actually be put into the statute it would continue the work that so many had been contributing to for years.

Mr. Costales noted that one of the most outstanding points was that New Mexico does not do a good job of collecting data on the kinds of programs that are funded and whether or not they actually make a difference, New Mexico is clearly not alone in that, many States are in the same situation. One recommendation was doing a better job of collecting data to make sure that funding is going to programs that are making a positive impact on youth, while looking at how the programs are funded. Many States over the years have placed all of the emphasis on prevention and intervention and the JJAC Statute regarding Continuum Grants is similar to that kind of wording, but what research reveals is that many of the youth that we currently serve, if left alone, would never come back into the system anyway, and those are not the youth that you want to expend our limited resources on. In light of this, one of the recommendations was to consider language that says at least 50% of the funding that comes through JJAC would be used to address the higher risk/higher need population, through alternatives to detention and diversion programs, which is different from what is being done now. These are the types of things that most States are currently considering.

Other recommendations were more specific to Juvenile Justice work moving away from punishment toward rehabilitation; from supervision to the provision of services and the need to codify some of those things in Statute. He noted the lack of good assessment tools for how to determine which youth should be involved in the system, not just making a "best guess" about which youth should be on probation, etc., that this should really be based on data. He noted that the tools currently being used in New Mexico are outdated and not being used in the way that they were designed. The recommendation is to get some new tools; get something that is really going to help make informed decisions regarding probation as well as in the judiciary. That is not to say we are doing away with discretion or having a tool that "tells" a judge what they need to do, but just provides information to the judiciary to help them make some of these decisions. He went on to explain some of the particulars of these tools and that this is a big process; that the current piece of legislation being worked on is 34 pages long and that this year's legislative session is only a 30 day session. He stated that he feels that this is really going to "move the needle" on how
we continue to work with youth. One item of particular note is that New Mexico does not currently have a minimum age of delinquency and how this dramatically affects children of a very young age being reported as delinquent, and part of this legislation will establish a minimum age of delinquency. Mr. Costales commented that this is a very comprehensive bill that touches many different areas of the current statute and there are high hopes that it will be passed, but if not the work on this will continue and may be reintroduced in the 60 day session next year. He stated that there is a real need to keep the momentum in New Mexico moving forward and part of that involves continuing with the kinds of changes that individuals have been working for tirelessly for the past 10 years.

He stated that these are just the major pieces of the bill and they are really in alignment with the same kinds of things that the Committee has been doing over the past 5-10 years.

Mr. Mitchell asked about whether the issue of competency was addressed, and Mr. Costales stated that competency “per se” was not addressed. Mr. Mitchell noted that competency was addressed in part based on the issue of minimum age of delinquency, but that some of the youth who have created the most problems are the ones that are constantly found incompetent and released back into the community. Mr. Mitchell noted this is a particular problem for the judges who have to dismiss those types of petitions time and time again. Mr. Mitchell also commented that he does not know what the answer is for this, but it is something that as a system needs to be addressed. Mr. Costales agreed with this and stated that it is an area that was crafted onto the analysis that the CSG Justice Center did.

Judge Kirk asked about specific tools being suggested. Mr. Costales replied that there are some timelines built into the legislation to make sure that the right tools are set up and in place. Mr. Costales explained that a tool can be selected as of January 1, 2019, and once a tool is selected another year is used to validate the tool for the State, so it will be January 1, 2020, that probation and the courts would start using any selected tool. He also noted the use of experts to help decide what the right tool for New Mexico would be.

Mr. Mitchell asked about the post-legislation mandate that it become pre-dispositional. Mr. Costales explained that there were several pieces to this in that there are some that are nothing more than a diversion screening tool in order to guide a decision by diversion, there is a risk assessment similar to the current structured decision making tool, there is also a mental health screening tool to help make informed decisions about more in-depth mental health assessments. These tools would all be part of one packet available from a single provider.

b. Juvenile Community Corrections Update – Louis Pacias, JCC, Program Manager – Printed Report

Mr. Mitchell asked if it was known how many of these youth are re-offending and noted the completion rate. Mr. Pacias stated that he did not know the answer to this question “off the top of my head”, but he did have that data and could forward it to Mr. Mitchell.

Mr. Mitchell then noted that an “unsuccessful discharge” would not necessarily mean return to a facility and Mr. Pacias acknowledged that that was correct. Mr. Mitchell then asked if they were capturing how many youth actually were going back into a facility, and if youth could go back as the result of a parole violation. Mr. Pacias stated that yes on supervised release, youth could go back on a parole violation. Mr. Pacias also noted that in Bernalillo County they get quite a few, in Dona Ana there are some, while in other counties they are not.
following their youth that well, but they are working on it.

Mr. Mitchell asked if they were not following this because the reporting system is not in place. Mr. Pacias stated they were missing youth on supervised release because there is sometimes a breakdown in communication with the facilities actually knowing that a JCC client can go to Grant County, San Juan, Colfax, or any other county. JCC is working closer with the facilities and they are getting better information on all the youth in county facilities.

Mr. Mitchell asked if there was any consideration of tying their funding request to their ability to report that data. Mr. Pacias stated that they are capturing the data on the youth that are out on supervised release, there are not a large number.

Mr. Mitchell noted that this is because not that many youth are being put on supervised release. Mr. Pacias noted that a lot of supervised release youth will be sent to Reintegration Centers and that those youth have a transition coordinator and are not handled by JCC because it would be a duplication of services.

Mr. Mitchell asked if youth that actually make it into the community are not also supervised by a probation/parole officer, but solely supervised by Community Corrections. Mr. Pacias stated that they are not supervised by Community Corrections as that service is no longer provided, these youth are supervised by a probation officer in the community. What Community Corrections does is provide services for these youth; by tracking them and providing life skills, educational support and job development. Mr. Pacias noted that they are getting better at providing evidence based life skills curricula, but they are no longer doing supervision.

Mr. Mitchell asked what the statute requires in terms of Community Corrections, in terms of supervision. Mr. Pacias responded that the Statute does not require Community Corrections to provide supervision, that is Probation/Parole, Community Corrections is charged with providing that service.

c. Detention and Compliance Monitory Update – Fernando Corral & Steve Shaw Compliance Monitors

Mr. Corral introduced himself as the new Detention Compliance Monitor, he started in early December. The report submitted reflects the information provided to him for the time period prior to December and that he has since picked up the daily counts.

d. Continuum Coordinator Update – Diana Lopez, Sandoval County Coordinator

Ms. Lopez introduced herself and that she is also part of the Statewide Coordinator Leadership Team. She reported that they had had a very successful meeting this morning, which was very well attended. She noted that it was an extremely positive meeting with a very energetic momentum with the attitude of being there to help one another. One of the main topics was about the Statewide Coordinator Leadership Team, the Leadership Team which began about 4 years ago, with 6 coordinators, 2 from the North, 2 Central, and 2 South, in order for new coordinators to reach out to established coordinators to ask questions and bounce information off of. She added that this Leadership Team had not had too many duties in the past, all came to an agreement that they want this Team to develop as an action oriented, goal oriented Team and a voice between the coordinators and CYFD Program Managers. The Leadership Team has agreed that it is imperative to have an open communication with the Program Managers and with JJAC. She reported that the Team has identified specific things that they hope to work on in the future and that there is good momentum behind this, which is empowering and exciting. They hope to meet regularly, either in person or via telephone, to talk about a Strategic Plan for the coordinators, in order
to ensure that their initiatives and goals align with CYFD and JJAC Strategic Plans. She noted that there are 6 members who have been on this Leadership Team for a while, but coming out of the meeting this morning there are now 11 members, there are now several new Leadership Team members who have shared resources, particularly Los Alamos and Bernalillo Counties. They also talked about Board structure and history of the Continuums, which is something they hope to continue. They also discussed resource mapping, which Mr. Ted Allen is helping with, and he has requested information from all coordinators, which would include other funding sources, what programs they are using, what kinds of roadblocks they are seeing, etc. This is something the Leadership Team hopes to compile into a cohesive report to share with Program Managers, JJAC as well as CYFD staff. Ms. Lopez stated that the Leadership Team feels very strongly about working together as coordinators and come to the table with abundant resources to share.

Mr. Solis commented on the need for JJAC Board Members to endeavor to get more in contact with the individual coordinators in their geographic regions, noting that there is much to be learned by doing so.

Ms. Pellerin commented that this was part of the original reasoning for having the JJAC meetings held in different locations around the State. She noted that what Mr. Solis is suggesting is having some more intense meetings of JJAC members with some of the coordinators, but expressed the need for it to be structured.

Judge Schneider noted that she chairs the Continuum in Otero County and Judge Romero chairs the Continuum in Chaves County, so there is some direct contact with the Continuums there, but obviously it is very diverse across the rest of the State. Judge Schneider agreed that it is very important for the Committee to know what the Continuums are doing and what they are dealing with. Judge Schneider than asked if this was a suggestion for some other role for the Board or just to have the meetings continue to travel as they are doing now, or somehow have more interaction than is happening now.

VIII. Board Sub-Committee Reports:

a. Youth Subcommittee – Annelies Cortez, Chair

Ms. Cortez reported that at present there are about four youth members and this is a very productive group. They are in the process of rebuilding and are currently working on their charter. Continuums Coordinators were encouraged to send her their youth members and were asked to contact her after the meeting to get more information.

b. DMC/JDAI Subcommittee – Judge Freddie Romero, Chair

Judge Romero also commented that several people went to the model site in New Jersey, it was very energizing and they came back with good ideas about how to take JDAI to scale. He explained that "taking it to scale", sort of follows Bernalillo's model site program. The goal of the Statewide Leadership group that is involved with JDAI taking it to scale is to take it to every part of the State. They brought back the information from New Jersey and have also had the assistance of people from the Burns Institute to give technical assistance to help with that. The project in San Juan County has been re-energized and they seem to be moving along very well. He reported that in their view it is very hard to divorce the idea of DMC from JDAI, DMC being Disproportionate Minority Contact; there is a lot of overlap in terms of things such as detention, the things that Mr. Costales was talking about with regard to the Juvenile Justice Improvement Initiative and the things that CSG has been trying to deal with in legislation in terms of policy and also perhaps in terms of rules that will come out of the Supreme Court. He noted that there will be a presentation Thursday afternoon on JDAI, with Mr. Costales and others speaking to give some input in terms of what JDAI is and how it is
hoped to take it to scale around the State. He wanted to report to the Committee that there is a group that is extremely energized in terms of doing this and the goal is that the only children who should be in detention are the ones that should be in detention. He stated there are two major hurdles to “due process” and doing things right; 1) Inertia, doing things the way they have always been done, and 2) Expediency, which is doing things the easy way, just because it is easy. JDAI is trying to avoid these approaches. The whole idea of JDAI is to get people in each community to focus on the issue of detention. Why are youth in detention? Is there something we can do to ensure that if they should not be in detention that they are not in detention? He stated that this is difficult. He commented that the one thing they are really going to spend a lot of time on is the criteria regarding substantial risk of harm to self. He noted that if a child is at substantial risk of harm to others that is more easily recognizable, but the issue of substantial risk of harm to self can be stretched beyond any view of what people think about to get a youth into detention.

c. Ad Hoc Grant Subcommittee – Judge Freddie Romero, Chair

Judge Romero recognized the Continuum Coordinators for their responses and for being engaged and answering the survey. He wanted to let the coordinators know that a great deal of work went into the survey and that Judge Charles Currier was heavily involved in drafting the questions, the number of questions and what questions would be appropriate. Judge Romero thanked the coordinators for their response to the survey, with response from 19 out of 21 coordinators, their responses were honest and overall very positive with regard to the work they are doing as well as their understanding and working with JJAC.

Shelly Currier and Sasha Pellerin reported on the work of the committee. Ms. Currier noted that the anonymous responses to the survey were positive for the most part and complimentary to Ms. Musolf, and her team, Mrs. Varela and Ms. Garcia, but that clarity was needed in a number of areas, such as the amendment procedure. Varied responses reflected understanding of some processes. Results to go to the JJAC Unit office and then to the Board members and coordinators.

Ms. Pellerin expressed her thanks to Ms. Currier and the subcommittee for their work on this project.

Roshanna Toya asked about specific function of the subcommittee. Ms. Currier explained the focus of the subcommittee and the survey was to see what the understanding of the process was from the Continuum viewpoint and also with regard to transparency and/or problems that the Continuums might need more assistance with.

Judge Kirk asked about the outline in the packet regarding the budget process. Ms. Musolf explained that Judge Currier had asked at the last meeting for a simplified explanation of the budget process and this outline/flow chart was put together for that purpose.

Shelly Currier asked about the Amendment process. Ms. Musolf explained that an Amendment changes the scope of the Grant Agreement, so in most cases an Amendment is not required. Amendments cannot be retroactive. Amendments take effect the day the last signature is on the Grant Agreement. The Grant Agreement becomes effective when the last signature is obtained.

d. Executive Subcommittee – Honorable Angie Schneider, Vice-Chair

Election of Vice-Chair:

Judge Schneider reminded the Committee that the Vice-Chair nor the Chair can be a full-time government employee so nominations will be taken to fill the role of Vice-Chair and she...
(Judge Schneider) will continue to fill the role of the Chair until the Governor appoints a new Chair. She then asked for nominations for Vice-Chair.

The question was asked, “Who on the Board are full-time government employees?”

Ms. Musolf read a list of eligible board members. Judge Schneider asked again for nominations or volunteers. Doug Mitchell was nominated by Craig Sparks, seconded by Sasha Pellerin. Judge Schneider asked for discussion. Nomination approved by unanimous voice vote.

IX. Public Comment

Jenea Ortiz, Torrance County Coordinator, asked about the discrepancy in the number of youth to be served noted in contracts and the actual number being served and how to rectify this; contract stated they were to serve 90 youth but they were only funded for 75, in her case she wondered if it was perhaps a typo, but they just went with the 75, although they had signed a contract that stated they were to serve 90 with the funding for 75. She asked if some of this might be due to a mistake with the Contract Department and asked what their process is for these types of corrections. She noted that there were two discrepancies in her contract. Ms. Musolf noted that any discrepancies in the future need to be noted before the contract is signed. Unfortunately this did not happen in Ms. Ortiz’s situation with her current contract.

Nancy Sanchez, from Valencia County, agreed with Mr. Solis’ suggestion regarding the need for positive effect and heightened engagement of the Board members with coordinators. She noted that Board membership is mandated to come from different sectors, it would be beneficial for coordinators to understand why Board members are selected from specific sectors, what they signify and how they add value, and coordinators should understand how they contribute to the Board.

Judge Romero announced his departure from the Board in the next 1-2 weeks, noting that he had been on the Board for almost 12 years. He commented that serving on the Board has been an absolute privilege. He stated, “I don’t know how any judge in the State can do Juvenile Justice without understanding what happens on this Board, and also without understanding the work that everyone does. Any judge that does Juvenile Delinquency cases cannot do their work without having a robust Continuum in their County. They just can’t, and that is part of what JDAI is about, too.” He noted that the State needs more resources for the youth that are the most at risk, the ones that judges would like to release from detention but have difficulty releasing because of the danger to themselves, this is the reason for needing more resources. He commented that this is a hugely important Board, but it is just as important that there be transparency and discussion with the Coordinators, they are the ones on the front line. He reiterated his appreciation for the questionnaire that went out, his appreciation for Ms. Musolf and her staff’s work, and everyone’s efforts as they work together and focus on the mission, which is “kids”. He noted that there has been a lot of work done, but there is more to be done and that it has been his pleasure to be on the Board. He then thanked the Board.

Doug Mitchell asked for a schedule of the 2018 meetings as soon as possible; the dates as well as the locations.

Rose Gordon, Taos County Coordinator, asked for clarification of the definition of “at risk youth” in the JJAC Strategic Plan to help redefine this as this can change everything that they will be doing for their next Strategic Plain in Taos County. She asked for collaboration on what that definition means regardless of what is being done in other places. Nick Costales referred to the future search of a more useful tool for validation or reassessment of “at risk”. Mr. Costales further commented that finding the balance is the ultimate goal. He also noted the need to look at it from a big picture approach and on how to best serve these youth.

Craig Sparks commented that this has been a really good discussion and the need to continue the
conversation. The Continuums have been creative over the years in developing programs, the majority of which are at the very front end and even in the pre-referral phase. He further noted that this is indeed a difficult population to serve and that we need the creativity within the communities to step up and take on that population. It is a population that people do not want to deal with and then probation officers get tasked with supervising this youth on a maximum level. They have all these creative ideas, creative brains working with the much younger, lesser involved youth, that is not to say this is not appropriate or not necessary, but the shift needs to move in the other direction, at least partially. We are talking about the youth that are then potentially dangerous to the community if left unaddressed and then individuals end up in long-term CYFD commitments, or on the news, or in adult prisons. He noted that, again, this is not an easy population to deal with, but there is enough creativity within the Continuums that he believes with the focus being placed there it will force attention to this population that has been getting pushed farther and deeper into the system.

Tom Mraz, from the Executive Committee of the Valencia County Juvenile Justice Board, expressed concern that some counties and Continuums are not represented on the Board. He gave his opinion that every county should have one representative stating, “We are being taxed but we are not being represented.”, and this is not right and for some counties to have two or three members is not equitable, not fair, not right. Judge Schneider encouraged Mr. Mraz to look at the Governor’s website for the place to apply for the Board, and that the Governor appoints. Mr. Mraz responded that he had heard that it takes six months to two years for that process. He noted that it should be part of the By-Laws of the Committee that everyone gets equal representation. They should not have to go to the Governor to do something like that.

Judge Schneider commented that the Board did not have that power, and that she appreciated Mr. Mraz voicing his concern.

Mr. Sparks noted the problem of an inherent conflict of interest if Continuum Coordinators were on the Board and voting to fund their Continuums.

Oscar Gonzalez commented regarding the overall discussion of how to best serve youth and how to determine those most in need and getting youth the resources they need; he stated that there is not enough focus being placed on how these youth are being raised, parenting, etc. There is a need to help juveniles focus on what they are doing, he noted that there are programs and resources that are not helping juveniles. He noted the need to re-evaluate programs for their effectiveness and possibly eliminate some existing programs and institute new ones.

X. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Craig Sparks, and seconded by Sasha Pellerin to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

The next meeting to be held on Thursday, April 19, 2018 in the City of Raton.

Minutes Approved on April 19, 2018:

\[Signature\]

Douglas Mitchell, Chair