

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the  
Juvenile Services Committee (JSC) and  
Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice (NCJJ)**

January 26, 2023  
9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Webex  
and

Nebraska State Office Building  
301 Centennial Mall South  
Lincoln, NE 68508

**1. Call to Order**

NCJJ Chair Elaine Menzel called the meeting to order at 9:36 a.m., welcomed everyone and asked Adam Anderson to call roll.

**2. Roll Call**

**Juvenile Services Committee**

***Committee Members Roll Call Present (12)***

Nicole Brundo	LaDonna Jones-Dunlap	Tammy Sassaman
Jennifer Carter	Nick Juliano	Kelli Schadwinkel
Marissa Hattab (10:45 a.m.)	Judge Denise Kracl	Vicky Smith
Amy Hoffman	Dennis Marks	Deb VanDyke-Ries

***Committee Members Absent (5)***

Mark LaBouchardiere	Patrick Sailors	Bobbi Taylor
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***Committee Resource Members Present (1)***

Julie Smith

***Committee Resource Members Absent (1)***

Brenda Kastens

**A quorum was established for the Juvenile Services Committee**

**Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice**

***Coalition Members Present (12)***

Roma Amundson (10:00-11:40 a.m.)	Breanna Flaherty	Elaine Menzel
Colleen Barnes	Misty Flowers (10:00 a.m.)	Jill Schubauer
Neleigh Boyer	Monika Gross	Amanda Speichert
Patrick Connell	Amy Hoffman	Tami Steensma

***Coalition Members Absent (6)***

Stanford Bradley	Denise Manthei	Bobbi Taylor
Brian Halstead	Daniel Schleusener	
Janteice Holston	Steve Solorio	

***Coalition Ex-Officio Members Present (2)***

Kari Rumbaugh

**Coalition Ex-Officio Members Absent (1)**

Judge Chad Brown

Judge Joel Jay

**A quorum was established for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice.**

**Guests in Attendance (9):**

Amanda Adams.....	Nebraska Children’s Commission
Adam Anderson.....	Nebraska Children’s Commission
Chris Carlile.....	Nebraska Crime Commission
Renee Dozier.....	Region V Systems
Marisa Harris.....	United States Office of Justice
Tami Soper.....	Boys Town
Jessica Svoboda.....	Nebraska Crime Commission
Erin Wasserberger.....	Nebraska Crime Commission

*a. Notice of Publication*

Administrative Programs Officer for the Nebraska Children’s Commission, Adam Anderson, indicated that the notice of publication for this meeting was posted on the Nebraska Children’s Commission and Nebraska Public Meetings Calendar websites in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act.

*b. Announcement of the placement of Open Meeting Act information*

A copy of the Open Meetings Act was available for public inspection at the sign-in table and on the Nebraska Children’s Commission website.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**A motion was made by Jennifer Carter from the JSC and Amanda Speichert from the NCJJ to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Judge Denise Kracl from the JSC and Pat Connell from the NCJJ.** There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

**Juvenile Services Committee**

**FOR (10):**

Jennifer Carter	Judge Denise Kracl	Vicky Smith
Amy Hoffman	Dennis Marks	Deb VanDyke-Ries
LaDonna Jones-Dunlap	Tammy Sassaman	
Nick Juliano	Kelli Schadwinkel	

**AGAINST (0):**

**ABSTAINED (1):**

Nicole Brundo

**ABSENT (4):**

Marisa Hattab	Patrick Sailors
Mark LaBouchardiere	Bobbi Taylor

**MOTION CARRIED for the Juvenile Services Committee**

**Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice**

**FOR (10):**

Colleen Barnes  
Neleigh Boyer  
Patrick Connell  
Breanna Flaherty

Monika Gross  
Amy Hoffman  
Elaine Menzel  
Jill Schubauer

Amanda Speichert  
Tami Steensma

**AGAINST (0):**

**ABSTAINED (1):**

Roma Amundson

**ABSENT (7):**

Stanford Bradley  
Misty Flowers  
Brian Halstead

Denise Manthei  
Daniel Schleusener  
Steve Solorio

Bobbi Taylor

**MOTION CARRIED for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice**

**4. Approval of JSC and NCJJ July 28, 2022 Minutes**

A motion was made by Judge Denise Kracl from the JSC and Amanda Speichert from the NCJJ to approve the October 27, 2022 minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Amy Hoffman from the JSC and Neleigh Boyer from the NCJJ. There was no further discussion. Roll call vote as follows:

**Juvenile Services Committee**

**FOR (11):**

Nicole Brundo  
Jennifer Carter  
Amy Hoffman  
LaDonna Jones-Dunlap

Nick Juliano  
Judge Denise Kracl  
Dennis Marks  
Tammy Sassaman

Kelli Schadwinkel  
Vicky Smith  
Deb VanDyke-Ries

**AGAINST (0):**

**ABSTAINED (0):**

**ABSENT (4):**

Marisa Hattab  
Mark LaBouchardiere

Patrick Sailors  
Bobbi Taylor

**MOTION CARRIED for the Juvenile Services Committee**

**Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice**

**FOR (9):**

Neleigh Boyer  
Patrick Connell  
Breanna Flaherty

Monika Gross  
Amy Hoffman  
Elaine Menzel  
Jill Schubauer

Amanda Speichert  
Tami Steensma

**AGAINST (0):**

**ABSTAINED (2):**

Roma Amundson  
Colleen Barnes

**ABSENT (7):**

Stanford Bradley  
Misty Flowers  
Brian Halstead

Denise Manthei  
Daniel Schleusener  
Steve Solorio

Bobbi Taylor

**MOTION CARRIED for the Nebraska Coalition for Juvenile Justice**

**5. JSC and NCJJ Membership Update**

Adam Anderson noted the current JSC vacancies. He shared that Judge Denise Kracl has been appointed to the JSC. He noted that DHHS has experienced some management changes and will be contacted to replace Lisa Neeman on the Committee. Anderson noted that he will be in contact with members whose membership terms are coming to an end prior to the February 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Children’s Commission. He explained that process.

NCJJ Chair Elaine Menzel noted that Breanna Flaherty has been appointed by the Governor to fill the County Attorney vacancy left by Judge Kracl. Chair Menzel also noted that there are a couple of vacancy requests that have been sent to the Governor to fill.

**6. Legislative Updates**

Commission Policy Analyst, Amanda Adams shared a [handout](#) with legislative bills that are being tracked by the Children’s Commission and posted to the Children’s Commission [website](#). She specified details regarding the legislation covered in the handout. Jennifer Carter clarified that LB215 is really a clean up bill that clarifies some of the language relating to the duties of the OIG’s Office. She noted that noting has been changed in statute regarding the requirements of Probation or DHHS.

JSC Co-Chair Deb VanDyke-Ries shared that LB54 is a bill that would require racial impact statements to legislative bills and it would be of interest to monitor because of the existing R/ED Workgroup of the JSC.

Members discussed LB473, which would fund a \$12 million treatment center in Lancaster County. Members also discussed LB478, which may create a school district for all youth involved in juvenile justice.

**7. NCJJ Subcommittee Updates**

**a. Executive Subcommittee**

Chair Menzel noted that she had sent out a request for those interested in attending the Coalition for Juvenile Justice Conference in May. She shared that the subcommittee also helped prepare for this meeting.

**b. Community Planning Advisory Subcommittee**

Erin Wasserberger noted that the Subcommittee will start meeting again in February. Wasserberger noted the group added a new member from the Panhandle Partnership and the group is working finalizing a strategic plan and on the community plan layouts for the community-based aid programs starting later this year.

**c. Juvenile Diversion Subcommittee**

Amy Hoffman noted subcommittee hasn’t been meeting recently but they are still working on the Nebraska Screening Assessment Tool. She shared that the tool is complete and the group is working on building it online. She shared that they are hopeful to the first round of training and release the tool in March. Lastly, Hoffman shared that there is a Community Based Aid Juvenile Justice Conference in Lincoln on June 14 and 15.

**d. Grant Review Subcommittee**

Kari Rumbaugh shared that the subcommittee will be meeting on February 13 to review the community based aid grants and the enhancement aid grant program submissions. Erin Wasserberger added that the group had 47 total applications this year: 32 for CBA and 15 for enhancement grants. She noted that the total requested was \$5,458,740. Enhancement requests were \$1,244,571, however, she noted that the group has \$340,760 to award for enhancement.

**e. Young Adult Subcommittee**

Chair Menzel noted that with the help of CCAS, they are hoping to enhance some of the work of this subcommittee.

**8. JSC Workgroup Updates**

**a. Access to Services**

Julie Smith shared updates regarding the Access to Services Workgroup. She noted that the workgroup has been making a lot of progress and meeting twice a month. She shared that the group is looking at how to fill the gap for community based services by revisiting a Medicaid Community Treatment Aide Service and by looking into the utilization of case management services offered by the managed care organizations. She noted that many case management services often come from referrals from probation or DHHS, but rarely come prior to court involvement.

**b. Racial & Ethnic Disparities**

Tami Soper noted that the workgroup had not met since the last Committee meeting, but she hoped that they will meet soon.

**c. Youth Rehabilitation and Treatment Centers**

Amanda Adams shared that this workgroup has not met and is lacking Co-chairs. Adams shared that she will be working to regroup and find someone to steer the group to determine next steps.

**9. State Advisory Group 101**

Cassy Blakely and Chelsea Newton presented a [PowerPoint](#) with information regarding the history of Title II funding in Nebraska and what requirements would need to be met for Nebraska to return as a participating state. Blakely and Newton discussed the upcoming work that the Coalition for Juvenile Justice will need to complete to come back into compliance, including a 3-year plan and implementation of the plan. Newton noted that this is the first in many meetings to discuss the process and work to be done on the process.

**10. Public Comment**

The floor was opened to public comment. There was no public comment.

**11. New Business**

There was no new business.

**12. Upcoming Meeting Planning**

April 27, 2023

**13. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Adam Anderson