



**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Juvenile Committee
10:00 a.m.
January 11, 2022**

via Zoom

Committee Members Present	Committee Members Absent	Others Attending	NMSC Staff
Bob Cleavall (NMSC), Chair	Sheriff Glenn Hamilton (NM Counties)	George Davis	Linda Freeman
Marit Andrews (PED)	Jason Rael (LOPD)	Beth Gillia (CYFD)	Douglas Carver
Cindy Aragon (State Bar)	Hon Alma C. Roberson	Hon. John Romero (ret.)	Nancy Shane
Diana Garcia (NMDAA)	Hon. Fred Van Soelen (DMCJA)	Tamar Ginossar (UNM-ISR)	Keri Thiel
April Land (UNMSOL)		Eva Buchwald (NM Coalition for Fair Sentencing of Youth)	Jamey Cook
Angela “Spence” Pacheco (Speaker)		Lindsey Jones (2 nd District Court)	
David Schmidt (Pro Tem)		Mari Martinez	
Ron West (Senate Minority)			
Jeff Young (CYFD)			

I. Welcome and Introductions. Bob Cleavall, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes for the May 18, 2021 meeting. The minutes for the previous committee meeting were approved by consensus.

III. Staff Report.

Linda Freeman, Executive Director, New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC), introduced Keri Thiel, a new staff attorney at the NMSC whose work will principally focus on the Criminal Code update project. She also discussed the budget recommendations for the Commission, and informed the committee that the Commission’s budget hearing was going to occur on the upcoming Thursday. Douglas Carver, Deputy Director, NMSC, gave the committee a quick update of the Commission’s sponsored legislation for the upcoming Legislative Session.

IV. Update from the Children, Youth and Families Department.

Beth Gillia, Deputy Secretary, Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD), and Jeff Young, General Counsel, CYFD, gave the update. Mr. Young noted that CYFD Secretary Barbara Vigil was appointed only in October, he started there shortly thereafter, and Deputy Secretary Gillia came on board even more recently. Some of the early initiatives of the new CYFD leadership team are responding to the *Kevin S.* settlement through work to make a trauma-responsive system of care; support for a state Indian Child Welfare Act bill that would supplement Federal requirements; exploration of a new record-keeping system; working on how to address child fatalities and related procedures; and replacing Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee funds with general fund dollars. Deputy Secretary Gillia added that there is significant effort being put into EMS Corps, with focus on training for those coming out of state custody who have high needs to become EMTs or similar kinds of first responders.

Members of the committee asked questions about and discussed the closure of Camino Nuevo; Covid numbers in detention facilities (low, close to zero) and vaccination rates in those facilities (among staff, around 90%; among those detained, around 60%); gender-specific programming for girls in detention; status of reintegration centers; concerns for children in county facilities; concerns around hearings being held over video; lack of referrals; issues surrounding access to juvenile justice data; diversion programs for juveniles; and competency and juveniles.

V. Juvenile Justice Legislation for the 2022 Legislative Session.

Chair Cleavall noted that four members of this committee were also on the NMSC Legislative Committee, so the committee will be able to be informed quickly if any significant juvenile justice legislation is proposed.

VI. Committee Work Plan for 2022.

Chair Cleavall asked the members of the committee for any initial ideas for the work plan for 2022. Deputy Director Carver mentioned that there has been discussion in past meetings about the issues surrounding shackling of juveniles. April Land, University of New Mexico School of Law, said that was an area where there has been some success in the past, and that there are still problems that might require non-legislative solutions. She also mentioned the continuing issues surrounding travel of juvenile defendants from a detention center to a court, and the need to balance that with concerns about isolation. Dianna Garcia, Children's Court District Attorney, mentioned the issues surrounding confidentiality and juvenile proceedings. Dave Schmidt mentioned the second chance/another chance legislation, allowing for accelerated parole review for juveniles sentenced as adults.

VII. Next Meeting. The committee scheduled its next meeting for March 2, 2022.

VIII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:13 a.m.