



**Minutes of the Meeting of the
Juvenile Committee
10:00 a.m.
March 2, 2022**

via Zoom

Committee Members Present	Committee Members Absent	Others Attending	NMSC Staff
Bob Cleavall (NMSC), Chair		Lisa Bourgeois (UNMSOL)	Linda Freeman
Marit Andrews (PED)		Secretary Barbara Vigil (CYFD)	Douglas Carver
Cindy Aragon (State Bar)		Bridget McKenney (AODA)	Jamey Cook
Diana Garcia (NMDAA)		Eva Buchwald (NM Coalition for Fair Sentencing of Youth)	Keri Thiel
Sheriff Glenn Hamilton (NM Counties)		Tamar Ginossar (UNM-ISR)	
April Land (UNMSOL)		Robert Mitchell (AOC)	
Angela "Spence" Pacheco (Speaker)		Javier Rojo (NM Voices for Children)	
Hon. William Parnall			
David Schmidt (Pro Tem)			
Hon. Fred Van Soelen (DMCJA)			
Ron West (Senate Minority)			
Jeff Young (CYFD)			

I. Welcome and Introductions. Bob Cleavall, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes for the January 11, 2022 meeting. The minutes for the previous committee meeting were approved by consensus.

III. Staff Report.

Linda Freeman, Executive Director, New Mexico Sentencing Commission (NMSC), gave members an update on the status of the NMSC budget after the conclusion of the Legislative Session. There is two million dollars for crime reduction grants, pending the Governor's signature on House Bill 68. This is in addition to the increase of \$150,000 in the NMSC base budget.

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

Hon. Barbara Vigil (ret'd.), Secretary, Children, Youth and Families Department (CYFD), presented her vision for the department to the committee. She discussed her long background being involved in juvenile justice issues, from her time as a practicing attorney through her career on District Court and the Supreme Court. She informed the committee that the three pillars of her leadership at CYFD are transparency; collaboration and inclusion; and accountability. She wants the department to be as transparent as possible under law in its work, especially to those who call for improvement. She wants the department to continue to collaborate across government, with law enforcement, education, and treatment providers, as well as looking at data and working with grass roots advocates. And finally, it is important for the department to be accountable to taxpayers and a good steward of resources, particularly with its large budget; she wants to make sure that the department grows in a way that makes sense in the 21st century.

On juvenile justice, Secretary Vigil informed the committee that the department was committed to ensuring that juvenile justice dollars reach to the community level; identifying opportunities for juvenile justice collaboration; working with the Department of Health, the Human Services Department, and the Behavioral Health Collaborative to restore the system of behavioral health care; making the juvenile justice system trauma-responsive; working on issues connected to the closure of most of the state's juvenile detention centers, including Camino Nuevo; working to support older teens and young adults who are caught up in the justice system, including work on transitioning juveniles into housing and work opportunities.

Members of the committee asked questions about and discussed the closure of the detention facilities and issues surrounding transportation of juveniles; the use of virtual hearings; Juvenile Justice Continuum Grants; the closure of Camino Nuevo and how that might impact young women who had been incarcerated there; the need for dialogue with community advocates; mobile health care for crisis intervention; the drop in referrals to juvenile treatment courts and the use of screening tools for assessments; the revisions to the probation agreement that juveniles are required to sign; how judges might ensure that treatment that they order for a child is actually implemented; blended sentencing; and the proposed re-write of the Children's Code.

Chair Cleavall informed Secretary Vigil that the committee would be happy to assist her in her work in any way possible.

V. Possible Juvenile Justice Legislation for the 2023 Legislative Session.

No specific legislation was proposed.

VI. Committee Work Plan for 2022.

Chair Cleavall noted that the committee had discussed looking at the issues surrounding transportation of juvenile detainees due to the closure of so many juvenile detention centers, and the confidentiality of juvenile proceedings. Members also discussed second chance/another chance legislation to provide for accelerated parole review for juveniles sentenced as adults.

VII. Next Meeting. The committee scheduled its next meeting for April 19, 2022. A poll will be sent to see whether members would prefer an in person or Zoom meeting.

VIII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:38 a.m.