



## **AGENDA**

### **VALENCIA COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE ADVISORY BOARD**

### **OCTOBER 2022 MEETING - MINUTES**

To be held in person at:  
The Los Lunas Police Department  
660 Main St SW  
Los Lunas, NM 87031  
Zoom Link for Virtual Attendance:

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85984492856>

**Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022**  
**12:00PM-1:30PM**

- A. Introduction & Roll Call – Quorum Confirmation – **In Person JJAB members:**  
Heather Benavidez, Linda Montano, Cassandra Canyuck, Patricia Gregor, Estevan Gallegos, Kelli Vigil, Phillip Montano (Youth);  
**Virtual Participants JJAB members:** Allen Smith, Jason Rael, Jhonathan Aragon, Joshua Zuni – Quorum Confirmed – Beverly Romer, Randy Gutierrez and Camille Griego did advise Jeremias that they would not be able to attend;  
**Community Members in person:** – Holly Chavez, Jenna Rael, Yolanda Abeita, Kayley Jojola
- B. Acceptance of Agenda – **Revisions to the agenda to include discussion and approval of the bylaws were discussed with a motion by Patricia G and a second by Cassandra Canyuck with no opposition. Agenda accepted.**
- C. Approval of Meeting Minutes – August 26<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting & Retreat – **Chair Heather Benavidez did express thanks for the kind words and nomination of Chair at the August retreat. No changes or discussion on the minutes. Motioned to accept the meeting minutes from Linda Montano and a second by Estevan Gallegos with no opposition. Minutes are approved**
- D. Discussion & Nomination of Vice-Chair – **Jeremias did request open discussion on any potential Vice Chair nominations. Judge Allen Smith did request clear distinction of Vice & Co Chair as they have different authoritative roles. The bylaws were found to have it referenced as Vice-Chair and will be referred to as such moving forward. Cassandra did ask if the JJAB was going to have representation from Isleta Pueblo and was informed on Yolanda Abeita's presence at the meeting. Jeremias did**

state he would like to see more involvement with Los Lunas & Belen Schools. Item was decided to be tabled and further discussed at the December meeting with Chair Benavidez requesting anyone who is interested or wanting to nominate someone to communicate that to the Jeremias.

- E. Discussion & Review of the Bylaws – Revised Agenda Item – Items discussed were the age limit of the youth being dropped from 28 years of age to 22 years of age; Article III section F, Annual membership vote changed from March to December Article IV, section A in an effort to be consistent with the Annual Commission board update in January of each year. Linda did request to have all nominations and any changes to the JJAB have a 30-day deadline before the actual nomination to take place. Future JJAB meeting will now be changed from 3:00pm to 12:00pm but still reflect meeting on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every other month, Article V, section D. Chair Benavidez did request discussion on the change to Article V, section C. This change was to reflect that the meeting minutes are to be provided to CYFD and not the JJAC board. Linda did request that the meeting minutes be sent out to the board prior to being sent out to CYFD. Jeremias did say this request would be accommodated. Motion was made by Allen Smith and second by Jason Rael with no opposition. Amended JJAB Bylaws are approved.
- F. Continuum Coordinator Update
- a. Youth Subcommittee Outreach – Presentation to Lending a Paw & National Honor Society – Jeremias did state youth reach out is actively being engaged and will be conducting a presentation for the Lending a Paw youth organization with LL High School in an effort to educate them on the JJAB Youth Subcommittee and potentially becoming involved and work in collaboration with the JJAB. As a result of an increase to the received program support, the County can now have sufficient funds in place to allow for adequate youth representation by offering stipends. It is intended to obtain a solid list of potential youth subcommittee members who can attend the next JJAB meeting to conduct a presentation to the board for their consideration and nominations. Chair Benavidez did indicate that the Lending a Paw works in conjunction with the Rotary Club and did advise on what they do. Yolanda did ask on what are the requirements to be a youth member and was informed by Jeremias on the requirements. Estevan did mention that youth currently involved in the existing programs offered could also make a huge impact, but genuine interest should definitely be a determining factor. Linda did agree and feels that the youth who do participate can then have conversations amongst themselves and their shared interests. Disengagement amongst youth was further discussed and Yolanda did express how they interact with youth from Isleta Pueblo and did mention resources that could be further utilized. Jeremias did make himself available to speak at any Isleta related youth forums.
  - b. CYFD funding for program shortfalls or implementation of new evidence-based programs – The County is anticipating notification from CYFD as to when this additional program funding may be ready. H2 Academics did state that RAC is a heavily utilized and at the end of the quarter Valencia County will do an assessment to determine if any unused coordinator funding can be reallocated to other existing programs. Samantha Rendon from CYFD did concur but will follow up to see if the RAC program is maxed out with the available days per the contract.

- c. JJAC Outreach Listening Session Outcome – Jeremias did inform the board that the listening session with Mr. Lindahl went smoothly and conveyed a solid working relationship between Valencia County and CYFD. Continuum coordinator decrease in pay was discussed and the County did voice concerns as to this being a potential precursor to having lost the 2 previous continuum coordinators.
- d. Grant Funding Availabilities
  - o National Institutes of Health – Gun Violence Prevention – This opportunity was discussed in detail with questions being raised on how can the engagement and data collection would be envisioned. The grant is to fund and assist with data collection and as further information is received as it relates to the solicitation, Jeremias will convey that in email correspondence. This can be further discussed at the December JJAB meeting. Kelli did ask if there should be data provided at the next December meeting and Jeremias did state absolutely. Linda did also state that if the JJAB does want to move forward with this, there should be a commitment and everyone provide data and information.

G. H2 Academic Solutions

- a. Program Update – Jenna Rael did go over the monthly numbers of youth served, but did mention they are at the moment short staffed. H2 Academic Solutions has partnered with Belen High for a mass JIFF assessment and is working closely with LL High School with data sharing. All programs are operating on a weekly basis with the exception of Restorative Justice at approximately 1 case per month. Jeremias did mention that of the 86 referrals received in August all but 1 were referred for mental health. Holly did mention that it seems that society is moving into a real crisis point with the mental health among youth. Yolanda did agree and did voice the concern for parents needing to step up to the plate and become educated on how to recognize what issues children may be going through.

- H. Juvenile Probation Office & Attendance for Success (Update) – Kelli did provide an update on the conference attended at APS training center on school attendance initiatives. Community did have many questions on truancy and how it correlates to the law. Yolanda did also mention how schools can reach out to tribes of students who may be needing services.
- I. Teen Court (Update) – Victoria Flores was not present to provide update. Item tabled until next meeting
- J. McKinney Vento (Update) – Camille Griego was not present to provide update. Item tabled until next meeting
- K. Youth Sub-Committee (Update) – Phillip did provide an update on donation boxes to collect various donation including gloves, jackets, etc. that can be distributed to those in need. Locations of proposed locations to be provided within the next 2 weeks.
- L. Other business
  - a. Outreach to Facebook and Amazon for opportunities – Jeremias to follow up on potentially reaching out to Facebook and Amazon on any opportunities to assist with the JJAB or the youth subcommittee. Cassandra did also mention

previous projects that youth had proposed to implement that being a fishing pond as an example and really obtain feedback from youth on efforts they would like to see implemented in the community.

M. Adjournment – Linda did make a motion to adjourn and second by Cassandra.  
Meeting is adjourned at 1:27pm