

Meeting called by: Kelly Vernon, Chief Probation Officer

Type of meeting: SB 823 Subcommittee Meeting

Facilitator: Kelly Vernon, Chief Probation Officer **Note Taker/Writer:** Gina Rizza, Staff Services Analyst

Attendees: Kelly Vernon, Chief Probation Officer, Probation
Honorable John Bianco, Judge, Tulare County Superior Court
Janet Wise, Assistant District Attorney, Tulare County District Attorney
Francena Martinez, Director of Human Services, Tulare County HHSA
Joseph Hamilton, Mental Health Clinic Administrator, Tulare County HHSA
Joseph Andrade, Principal, Tulare County Office of Education
Galen Quenzer, CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of the Sequoias, Community Member

Absentees: Honorable Sylvia Hanna, Judge, Tulare County Superior Court
Ron Westphal, Assistant Public Defender, Tulare County Public Defender
Mary Escarsega-Fechner, Executive Director, Community Services & Employment Training
Adam Peck, Executive Director, Tulare County Workforce Investment Board

Guests: Mike Santos, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Probation
Brian Kern, Division Manager, Probation
Karishma Fazalbhoy, Supervising Staff Services Analyst, Probation
Mireya Anaya, Division Manager, HHSA, Child Welfare Services

Meeting Purpose: SB 823 Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan

MINUTES

Agenda Item: Approval of the Meeting Minutes from 10/4/23 Meeting

Presenter: Kelly Vernon

Discussion:

The meeting was called to order by Chief Vernon at 12:18 p.m. A roll call was made, and there was a quorum of the subcommittee members present. Joseph Hamilton made a motion for the approval of the 10/4/23 Meeting Minutes with a second by Joseph Andrade. There were six (6) members who voted aye, and one (1) member abstained from voting.

Agenda Item: Approval of the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan (FY 2024-25)

Presenter: Kelly Vernon

Discussion: Chief Vernon asked if there were any questions or concerns the subcommittee members had about the Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant Annual Plan (JJRBG) for FY 2024-25, which was previously sent to the members for their review. She mentioned that the plan is due to the Office of Youth and Community Corrections (OYCR) on May 1, 2024. There were no questions or concerns noted. Galen

Quenzer made a motion with a second by Joseph Hamilton to approve the plan. There were six (6) members who voted aye, and one (1) member abstained from voting.

Agenda Item: Review JJCPA-YOBG Annual Plan (FY 2024-25)

Presenter: Kelly Vernon

Discussion: Chief Vernon asked if there were any questions or concerns the subcommittee members had about the JJCPA-YOBG Annual Plan for FY 2024-25. Chief Vernon mentioned that the subcommittee members are not required to vote on this plan, but it was sent out as a courtesy for their review. There were no questions or concerns posed.

Agenda Item: Discuss Subcommittee Co-Chair Process

Presenter: Kelly Vernon

Discussion: Chief Vernon asked if there were any subcommittee members who were interested in serving as co-chair of the subcommittee. Francena Martinez asked if Chief Vernon thought that there should be one appointed and Chief Vernon replied that a co-chair is optional, not required. Joseph Hamilton said that he did not believe that a co-chair was necessary, and the other subcommittee members concurred.

Agenda Item: Questions

Presenter: Kelly Vernon

Discussion: Chief Vernon asked if anyone had any questions about any of the items discussed. Galen Quenzer asked what Probation's perspective is on how things are going as a result of the closure of DJJ due to SB 823. Chief Vernon responded by saying that things in Tulare County are going relatively smoothly, especially in comparison with some other counties. She mentioned that there have not been issues with the juvenile offenders who have been adjudicated in Tulare County for local commitment for offenses that would have previously resulted in DJJ commitment but noted that there had been some issues with some of those who were returned to Tulare County from DJJ. She said that these offenders brought prison mentality and behaviors with them that have resulted in these offenders being sentenced as adults and are now serving time as adults in the Tulare County jail. Joseph Hamilton mentioned that this is too bad and that these offenders missed out on a good opportunity.

Agenda Item: Subcommittee Meeting Schedule

Presenter: Kelly Vernon

Discussion: Chief Vernon asked the subcommittee members if the current biannual meetings should continue or if the meeting schedule should be revised to quarterly meetings. Joseph Hamilton said that the current schedule is fine and that any major updates between the meetings could be communicated to the subcommittee members. The other members concurred, and the next biannual meeting is scheduled for October 2024, with the actual day TBD.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 p.m.