

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ward Loyd at 1:30 p.m. on January 28, 2004 in Room 241-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Nile Dillmore - excused

Committee staff present:

Jill Wolters, Revisor of Statutes Office
Jerry Ann Donaldson, Legislative Research Department
Becky Krahl, Legislative Research Department
Nicoletta Buonasera, Legislative Research Department
Connie Burns, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Denise Everhardt, Commissioner Juvenile Justice Authority

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Chairman Light called the Joint meeting with Public Safety Committee to order.

Chairman Light introduced Denise L. Everhart, Commissioner of Juvenile Justice Authority.

The commissioner stated the vision and the mission statement of the Juvenile Justice Authority. She went over the philosophy and that in 1995; the Legislature enacted SB 312, creating the Juvenile Justice Authority and the Kansas Youth Authority. KYA was charged with designing the blueprint for JJA's functions.

In 1996, the legislature passed HB 2900, and in 1997 House sub. for SB 69 was passed. These two bills are referred to as the Juvenile Justice Reform Act, and in 1997 launched the JJA.

The commissioner went over the correctional facilities that house juvenile offenders. They are:

Atchison Juvenile Correctional Facility – serves male juvenile offenders 10 - 16 years old, the maturity level ranges from age five through 16. 61% of AJCF JOs are violent offenders, 68% of those are sex offenders. 29 % of AJCF JOs are there after committing a first offense, 71% have committed multiple offenses.

Beloit Juvenile Correctional Facility – is for female juvenile offenders 14 – 20 years old. 19% of BJCF Jos are admitted after committing a first offense, 81% have committed multiple offenses.

Larned Juvenile Correctional Facility – serves male juvenile offenders who need mental health or substance abuse treatment and range in age between 14 and 22 years old. 19 juvenile offenders at LJCF during FY 2003 were committed for either serious or violent offenses.

Topeka Juvenile Correctional Facility – medium-security facility, is for older and more violent males and range in age between 14 and 20 years old. 40% of TJCF's current violent offender population are sex offenders. 40% of TJCF Jos are admitted after committing a first offense, 39% have committed multiple offenses, and the remaining 21 percent are parole violators or recommitments.

JJA works with 477 front-line county employees who work directly with core programming, immediate intervention programs, and graduated sanctions. Core programming, operated in each judicial district includes:

Juvenile Intake and Assessment Services (JIAS)
Juvenile Intensive Supervision Probation (JISP)

Community Case Management Agency (CCMA)

Major activities that took place during FY 2003 include:

Introduction of statewide Juvenile Intake and Assessment Standards, and training on these standards.
Revision of the Community Supervision Standards, by which Community Case Management and Juvenile Intensive Supervision Probation operate. This was necessary due to changes in federal regulations as well as agency procedures.

Analysis and survey of the quality of services for juvenile offenders in out of home placement.

Revisions of the financial policies and procedures community-based programs are required to follow in managing, monitoring and reporting of funds downloaded to the from JJA.

Enhancing the oversight and technical assistance to communities in the development of outcomes-based prevention programs and measurement of these programs.

Implementation of the Juvenile Justice Information Systems (JJIS), a comprehensive information system for community and facility-base programs that track data on all youth in the custody of the commissioner.

The commissioner went over the prevention/intervention state block grant programs award history by judicial district. She also went over the 2003 allocations of Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grants and federal grants awarded

The JJA training academy and annual training requirements for facility staff insures professionalism of juvenile correctional officers. (Attachment 1)

The commissioner covered the current population trends and the roles of the juvenile correctional facilities. The Kansas Sentencing Commission projections for juvenile offenders incarcerated in Kansas juvenile correctional facilities. The forecast covers the period from January 2004 to December 2013. As noted in these charts, there is an expected steady increase in the overall juvenile correctional facility population. More important is the expected steady increase in the serious and violent male population. (Attachment 2)

The commissioner requested the introduction of several legislative proposals. Several of the requests for bills is clean up language only. (Attachment 3)

Representative Ward made the motion that this request be at the discretion of the revisor as to how to draft the bills and should be introduced as committee bills. Vice Chair Owens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The committee adjourned at 3:15 PM. The next scheduled meeting is on January 29, 2004.