

MINI-CASSIA JOINT JUVENILE PROBATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
June 14, 2022

The Mini-Cassia Joint Juvenile Probation Committee met this day with Kent R. Searle (Cassia Commissioner) chairing the meeting.

7:30AM The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Searle.

Present: Jeremy Pittard (Juvenile Judge), Dixie Tate (Juvenile Probation), Kent McClellan (Minidoka Commissioner), Kent R. Searle (Cassia Commissioner), Dave Pinther (Minidoka Sheriff), Jarrod Thompson (Cassia Undersheriff), McCord Larsen (Cassia Prosecutor), Lance Stevenson (Minidoka Prosecutor), Trent Bodily (Juvenile Detention Director), Renee Waite (IDJC Liaison), Tonya Page (Minidoka Clerk), Mitzi Ramsey (Minidoka County Deputy Clerk), Joe Larsen (Cassia Clerk), Michelle Wallace (Cassia County Deputy Clerk) present.

The Mini-Cassia Joint Juvenile Probation Committee Minutes for May 10, 2022, were discussed. A motion was made to approve said minutes by Undersheriff Jarrod Thompson, seconded by Commissioner Kent McClellan, followed by a unanimous yeas vote.

Reports:

Juvenile Judge - Jeremy Pittard

Judge Pittard discussed the public defender's office being short staffed. That office is currently down two attorneys and Cindy Campbell will be retiring in October. Due to this shortage it is putting a strain on the conflict public defender attorneys. Pittard requested that Cassia County's rate of pay for conflict attorneys be increased from \$65.00 per hour to the same as Minidoka's rate which is \$85.00 per hour.

Searle reported that Cassia County is currently reviewing the conflict attorney cost and are aware of the need to increase the pay.

Juvenile Probation Dept. – Dixie Tate, Chief Probation Officer

Dixie reported 35 attending outpatient state funded drug and alcohol program and three attending inpatient.

Tate stated a total of 63 drug tests were administered in May, 32 were clean, 31 were dirty. A portion of those tests were done to check levels. They had one positive test for fentanyl.

A brief review of the activities of the WILD program was provided.

Dixie reported from January to present Minidoka County had eleven diversions and attendance court cases with a total of 103 citations filed. Cassia County had eleven diversion cases with a total of 39 citations filed. From January to present they had 19 Probation Violations from Minidoka County and ten from Cassia County.

A discussion was brought forward in regards to the use of Cassia County's Juvenile Probation Office to

Altis Youth Therapist. This will be for three hours every Thursday in Ronda's office. McCord did not see an issue with this, but suggested a brief contract be created between Altis and Cassia County. Searle requested that Tate communicate with McCord to further this communication.

IDJC Liaison - Renee Waite

Waite reported funds were received for the use of youth assessments and crisis centers. Youth assessment grants will be awarded this week. The solicitation for youth crisis center should come out this month. They are working closely with the Department of Health and Welfare on funding parameters.

A brief review on the juvenile justice administrators meeting last week in Burley was discussed.

Renee reported on the graduation of the juvenile detention academy on Friday with the largest class of 28 total graduates.

The juvenile justice association conference is this September. A staff member of juvenile probation has received a scholarship for the conference through the juvenile justice counsel. The conference will be in person training.

There are around seven to ten youth in state custody for Mini-Cassia.

Juvenile Detention Center – Trent Bodily, Director

There are currently four juveniles in detention, three from Minidoka County, and one from Cassia County.

Bodily reported staff member Dakota Hansen graduated from POST. In order to maintain adequate staffing, he is only able to send one staff member at a time to the academy. The academy is held once per year, it will take some time for completion as he has a remaining three staff members needing to be certified.

Trent reported that the facility nurse is resigning due to health issues. He is requesting any interested parties contact him.

Clerk Tanya Page – Minidoka Clerk

Juvenile Probation received \$469,426.00 and expended \$497,339.00. Expenses are at 57.1% spent with 70% of the year gone. There is currently \$165,567 in the account.

Page discussed the JPO rental agreement due to the crack in the current facility. This contract will be through Morey's Steak House at \$5,000.00 a month. Cassia County needs to be aware of the cost and discuss it with the BoCC. Further discussion with both counties to follow.

Clerk Joseph Larsen – Cassia Clerk

Larsen mentioned he will include the JPO rental facility in the upcoming budget projections and will support that as the budget officer to both Boards.

A brief discussion regarding Cassia County awaiting Minidoka's proposed budget figures for the completion of the budgets.

It was suggested to McCord and Searle with the vacancy of the juvenile probation office that should be a topic of discussion with the Commissioners.

Larsen mentioned he will make a recommendation to the Cassia County commissioners in support of conflict public defender hourly rate of pay increased to what Minidoka currently pays \$85.00.

Cassia Prosecutor – McCord Larsen

Larsen reported he recently attended the National District of Attorney's conference in DC and the lack of attorney's available is currently being seen nationally not just in state.

Minidoka Prosecutor – Lance Stevenson

Stevenson expressed concerns in regards to the location of the proposed JPO rental facility. Currently the communication between JPO and attorneys is very accessible. With the new facility location he inquired if this would hinder the availability and access for JPO.

Tate reported this was a topic of discussion with some challenges, however changes will be made to ensure availability due to the distance.

Searle inquired if both JPO offices will combine at the new location. McClellan confirmed that was the intent.

Searle inquired as to when JPO would take possession of the rental facility. Page reported the building will be available in January 2023 however, it requires some construction to take place. JPO should be relocating around the first part of summer 2023.

Bodily reported an injury to a juvenile Cassia County resident currently at the detention center. He was injured while playing basketball, with injuries to the knee and wrist that required surgery. Cassia County may be responsible for any medical bills acquired. Clerk Larsen requested that all information regarding this case be forwarded to him as soon as possible.

Adjournment

Kent McClellan made the motion to adjourn, with a second voiced by Jarrod Thompson. Motion carried at 8:01AM

Next Juvenile Probation Meeting

Scheduled for 7:30 AM, Tuesday, July 12, 2022 by Zoom