

**ADVISORY BOARD  
OF THE  
SALT LAKE COUNTY CHILDREN'S JUSTICE CENTER**

**DRAFT Meeting minutes**

**Prepared by:** Meaghan Marks, Office Coordinator - Victim Support Services Division

**DATE OF MEETING:** Monday, November 13, 2023

**LOCATION:** District Attorney Office, 35 East 500 South, Salt Lake City  
Webex

**PRESENT:** Carol Verdoia, Asha Parekh, Susanne Mitchell, Ryan Woodmansee, Tyler Ackerman, Angela Martindale, Crystal Painter, Tracy Mills, Brandon Turner, Annie Deming, Annette Jan, Todd Mitchell

**GUESTS:** Dustin Schumacher, Cristina Hudak-Rosander

**EXOFFICIO:** Meaghan Marks

**EXCUSED:** Kris Ownby

1. Carol Verdoia called the meeting to order at 12:08.
  - A. Carol welcomed all participating in today's meeting. With multiple new members to the board, Carol invited all in attendance to introduce themselves to the board.
2. Roll Call - Meaghan Marks
3. Approval of the minutes – Carol Verdoia
  - A. Ryan Woodmansee motioned approval of the minutes at 12:12pm. Todd Mitchell seconded the motion. All in favor, minutes approved.
- 4.. Public Comment
  - A. No public in attendance.
5. Business Items – Susanne Mitchell
  - A. Susanne informed the board that Vice Chair James Bigelow recently departed the board due to reassignment within his agency.
  - B. Susanne introduced six new members to the board. Brandon Turner, Kelly Colopy, Tyler Ackerman, Crystal Painter, Annie Deming, and Rachel Miller.
  - C. Nominations for three vacant board positions have been reviewed by the Nominating Committee and are ready for vote by the full board. Motions were made and passed, all in favor for each, for Eric Stott, Dr. Tagrid Ruiz-Maldonado, and Dr. Jen Plumb to fill vacant roles.
  - D. Susanne motioned at 12:19 for Ryan Woodmansee to fill the vacant Vice Chair position, noting that Ryan has the most tenure on the board and would be willing to serve. Todd Mitchell seconded the motion with all board members in favor.
  - E. There is one vacancy on the Executive Committee. Susanne motioned for Asha Parekh to fill the vacancy with Todd seconding. All board members in favor.
6. Survivor and Victim Services Items – Asha Parekh
  - A. Asha informed the board that the District Attorney's office has renamed the Victim Support Services Division to the Survivor and Victim Services Division.

- B. Asha briefed the board on County-wide budget cuts this year. The District Attorney's office has decided to cut funding for food items as an easy way to address budget concerns, therefore precluding lunch being provided at board meetings this year.

7. CJC Program Items – Susanne Mitchell

- A. Susanne detailed the National Children's Alliance reaccreditation process which occurs every five years. NCA personnel will conduct a two-day site review in June wherein there are ten competencies which will be evaluated. An additional update regarding reaccreditation and the site visit will be provided at the February board meeting.
- B. Full utilization of CJC North by agency partners has been challenging. The CJC would like families in the north end of the valley to travel to CJC North in order to better serve them, as well as to take pressure off of CJC South Valley. Susanne detailed events leading to the relocation of CJC Avenues and the extensive soundproofing retrofitting done to create CJC North which caused a delay in opening that location and MDT members became accustomed to using CJC South.
- C. It is time for the MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) with agency partners to be renewed. The MOU is an agreement with agency partners where all agree to collaborate and work together on child abuse cases per the statute and established protocol document. An updated protocol was recently developed with the input of agency partner representatives and has been distributed for review and signature. The protocol is focused on the best interest of the child. The MOU document will be circulated to agency partners in early 2024 for signatures.
- D. Susanne shared national data demonstrating the effectiveness of the CAC model which results in increased coordination between agencies, increased medical exams and therapy services provided to children, and increased satisfaction of families.
- E. Susanne encouraged discussion and asked for advice regarding increasing utilization of CJC North. The board members were supportive. Ryan suggests having CJC staff help steer cases to CJC North at time of scheduling based upon best fit with families' needs. Dusty and staff have been networking with agency professionals to understand concerns and increase usage. Feedback includes a hesitancy of driving downtown and parking concerns, which can be mitigated by free LYFT transportation for clients arranged by CJC staff. Additional input is that MDT may have preferences now, but the goal should be on serving the family and not on the preference of the MDT.

8. Friends Nonprofit Report – Angela Martindale

- A. The Friends will be present at Riverton HS for an assembly at the end of November to present how the funds raised for the CJC by the school last year were utilized. The Friends have used funding for salaries and rebranding of the Friends Nonprofit, bringing in a marketing director and rebranding. A new website will be launched, likely in January.
- B. The Friends have four new board members and their future board meetings will be held at Adobe. Colby Wilcock is stepping down as President with Kalab Cox replacing him.
- C. Angela paused events in 2023 upon coming onboard to assess the organization, events, and benefit to sponsors and donors, and is excited for two big events planned in 2024. The Friends have approved a 2024 budget with Asha. At least half of the budget is already in place with donors and sponsors ready to fill additional requests.
- D. The Friends are currently utilizing Instagram and LinkedIn, primarily, for social media and asks for the board to share their posts. The current campaign is called Rise to Thrive, providing positive messages to survivors and victims.

9. Other Business – All Members

- A. Ryan introduced a new model called FAM – the Family Action Model – which will be utilized by DCFS for active cases. FAM will bolster safety planning efforts and help keep kids in home by creating robust support for families. The model has been successful in other states. Board members complimented this approach.
- B. Tyler Ackerman asks for additional information related to forensic interview training and availability for School Resource Officers. Dusty provided further guidance related to FIT training and noted his availability for additional inquiries related to forensic interviewing.
- C. Susanne asked for feedback from new members attending their first meeting and their impressions of becoming involved in the board. Rachel Miller is excited for better integration with law enforcement victim advocates. Serving on the board will allow her to better serve victims with clarification of the CJC's role and services provided.

- D. 2024 board meetings will be the second Monday of the month, quarterly, excepting November due to the Veterans Day holiday, and meetings will continue to be held in a hybrid format. There will be a fifth meeting this year for the NCA site visit.

2024 dates

February 12

May 13

June 10 or 11, TBD      NCA Site Review

August 12

October 14

10. Motion to Adjourn

- A. Asha motioned to adjourn at 1:16. Tyler seconded. Meeting adjourned.