



SIERRA COUNTY
JUVENILE JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL
JUVENILE JUSTICE REALIGNMENT BLOCK GRANT SUBCOMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2025

1. **Call to Order:** Chair Chuck Henson at 3:30 p.m.
2. **Roll Call / Introductions**
 - Loyalton** - Chairperson Chuck Henson (Chief Probation Officer), Sharon Dryden (BOS), Lori McGee (Interim Director of Public Health), Christopher Fellini (for Director of Behavioral Health), Vickie Clark (Family Resource Center), Mike Fisher (Sheriff), Derrick Koch (Community Based SUD).
 - Downieville** - Sandra Groven (District Attorney), Teia Miller (Probation Specialist), Amber Holmes (for Court CEO).
 - Online** - J. Lon Cooper (Public Defender), Scott McCallum (Public Member).
3. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion to approve made by Mike Fisher. The motion was seconded by Lori McGee. No further discussion. All ayes motion carried.
4. **Approval of Minutes:** 4/16/24 (JJCC and JJRBG Subcommittee) and 9/11/24 (JJCC). Motion to approve made by Scott McCallum. The motion was seconded by Mike Fisher. No further discussion. All ayes motion carried.
5. **Public Comment:** No public present.
6. **Review/Discussion/Action to approve the JJRBG Annual Plan for Fiscal Year 2025/2026, describing the facilities, programs, placement, services, supervision and reentry strategies that are needed to provide appropriate rehabilitative services for realigned youth as developed.**

Chief Henson informs the team that there will be no action to approve the JJRBG Annual Plan because of legislation that forces us to have at least two meetings to approve the plan and allow ample time for public comment. Our first plan was submitted in May of 2021. Current law requires us to review and update the plan on an annual basis. The updated plans are submitted to the newly formed Office of Youth Community Restoration (OYCR) due to WIC 1995. The annual plans are posted on the OYCR website. In Sierra County, we take the annual plan before the Board of Supervisors which is not required but best practice to show transparency to the public.

Chief Henson states that the plan was developed using input from the team members. The target population is those that were in the division of DJJ (prior to their closure) or youth state prisons and this realignment brought it back to the counties. We are given a total of \$250,000.00 a year as a minimum county. There are very tight expenditure regulations on that funding, and it must be used on youth that are under the section (b) of 707 or 290.008 PC. These are very violent youth offenders or certain sex offenses for juveniles. Sierra County has not had many of those youth. When we do, we will have to house them in a Secure Track treatment facility, tentatively with Shasta County. The daily rate is \$600-800 and these youth could be in our custody until the age 21, 23, or 25 depending on the type of offense. Sheriff Fisher asks if the money received annually is accumulative. Chief Henson states that the money goes into the account and is held until it is needed. The current balance is about 1,250,000.00. The hope is that there will be a way to loosen the regulation so some of these funds to be used as preventative measures.

Chief Henson further explains that we contract with two outside counties, Butte and Placer, since Sierra County does not have its own juvenile hall. Last Fiscal Year we were able to keep youth out of the hall, but we have a youth that recently left placement and is about to have a warrant. Sharon asks if we currently have a contract with Shasta for the Secure Track, Chief Henson explains that he does not want to waste funding on an MOU with Shasta until it is needed. Any contract that is brought forward will take into consideration the location for parents to be able to visit. Sheriff Fisher adds that if we had a 707(b) or 290.008 youth, they would be sent to Placer Juvenile Hall until a disposition is complete on the case and then moved to a Secure Track facility. Our Butte County contract is for the older youth because it is a little more specialized. They have academic and vocational classes offered by the college to help youth prepare for release.

Chief Henson lays out what our funding can do, and our intention is to enter a contract later. This will allow us to hold onto the funds for specialized mental health needs, intense drug and alcohol needs, or arson and sex offender classes for the youth. We could also have a pregnant female youth that could be in the facility long term. At the time of the need, we will shop around and find the location that best fits the needs of the youth.

The Community Based Organization (CBO) section of the plan includes the High Sierras Family Resource Center which has been a long-term partner. We are always looking for other community partners. Family engagement programs are with Social Services and Behavioral Health. Reentry plan and specialized services with the wrap around model and collaborating with each other.

In summary, since the plan went into effect in 2021, we have not had any eligible youth, so we have no statistics to report. We have not allocated any funds since we need to keep the funds flexible and address the needs as they come.

No data or progress because once again we have not had any eligible youth. Sharon inquired about how many wards the probation department is supervising. Chief Henson explained that we have two active wards and three informal. Over the past three months we have had about half a dozen reprimand and dismisses.

Chuck makes motion to make the next JJRBG meeting on April 15, 2025. The motion was seconded by Mike Fisher. Discussion on the time, consensus is 3:30pm. All ayes, motion carried.

7. Discussion/Action/Review of programs directed to youth that “have been demonstrated to be effective in reducing delinquency and addressing juvenile crime for any elements of response to juvenile crime and delinquency, including prevention, intervention, suppression, and incapacitation (30061(b)(4)(i)GC).

See discussion under item 8.

8. Discussion/Approval of 2025/2026 JJCC Annual Plan and Budget.

Chief Henson explains that the Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG) and Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funding streams are the statutory requirements. There are other juvenile justice funding streams that are included in the plan to give full transparency to the team and the public. The JJCPA allows

\$4500.00 for the juvenile hall. Friday Night Live (FNL) run by Derrick Koch is a very effective program and his survey findings have been proven effective year after year. We will continue to fund this \$4500.00 program. An email was sent to the Auditor Van Maddox regarding the resignation of our juvenile officer and the YOBG funding that usually covered the salary for that position. Other existing staff will be pulled over to fill the void. Officer Duncan, who has been doing our Pre Trial work has shown an interest in the Juvenile side. Since pretrial work is paid 100% by the court, only 25% of the YOBG funds (\$30,533.00) will go toward salary and the remaining \$91,000.00 will be held in reserve for recruitment or retention. Or we may be able to hire a new Juvenile Officer.

Scott made a motion to approve the 2025/2026 JJCC Annual Plan and Budget. The motion was seconded by J Lon Cooper. No further discussion. All ayes, motion carried.

9. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 4:08 p.m.