STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES PROBATION OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

Thursday, March 11, 2021

12:00 PM

AUDIO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING (21-1339)

Attachments: AUDIO

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order. (21-1142)

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. Roll Call. (21-1143)

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, conducted the roll call:

Present: Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

3. Approval of the February 22, 2021 meeting minutes. (21-1145)

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Yamashiro, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the February 22, 2021 minutes:

Ayes: 8 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

Attachments: Supporting Document
Public Comment/Correspondence

4. Report by Adolfo Gonzales, Chief Probation Officer. (21-1148)

Brandon Nichols, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, introduced himself and provided a brief overview of his training and experience. Mr. Nichols conveyed that he will serve as the primary contact for the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) and reported on the following:

- **The three main branches in the Probation Department: Adult Services, Juvenile Services and the Central Administrative branch;**
- **Statistics on the number of cases handled by the Probation Department;**
- **Locations of active juvenile halls, camps and area offices in Los Angeles County; and**
- **A general overview of the department's staffing, budget and its priorities.**

Kruti Parekh and Oscar Canales addressed the POC.

In response to questions posed by the POC, Mr. Nichols commented that the Probation Department has worked with the juvenile courts to release certain categories of youth from the camps and halls, which has resulted in a population decrease. Mr. Nichols noted that he could provide an update at a future meeting on the specific protocols and which categories of youth have been diverted.

In addition, Mr. Nichols provided statistics about the current number of employees for juveniles, adults, and number of vacancies. He also highlighted that he would obtain additional information to clarify whether staffing had been downsized, as the number of current employees reported show a decrease since October 2020. Further, he provided brief comments that the County is preparing for the population of youth that are being transferred from the Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) back into the County; and concluded that they are assessing various possibilities in preparation for their return.

Mr. Nichols responded to Commissioner Carrillo in relation to where DJJ youth will be placed noting that this is under active discussion, and presently a location has not been determined.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, this item was received and filed:

Ayes: 8 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

5. Presentation of the Commission Nomination Slate and Election of Officers:

A. Chair
   a. Commissioner Franky Carrillo
   b. Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

B. Vice Chair
   a. Commissioner Franky Carrillo
   b. Commissioner Esché L. Jackson
   c. Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

C. Secretary
   a. Commissioner Dolores Canales (21-0858)

Commissioners Carrillo, Yamashiro and Jackson addressed the commission and provided brief remarks on why they would like to serve in a leadership position on the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC).

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, directed the commissioners to cast their vote for the position of Chair.

Commissioners Canales, Carrillo, Garcia-Leys and Nong cast their votes for Commissioner Carrillo.

Commissioners Jackson, Meredith, Saltzman and Yamashiro cast their votes for Commissioner Yamashiro.

Due to a tie in the votes, and not all nine members were present, the election for the positions of Chair and Vice Chair were continued to the next meeting.

On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC continued the election of Chair and Vice Chair to March 25, 2021:

Ayes: 8 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

Commissioner Canales addressed the commission as to why she would like a leadership position as secretary of the POC.

On motion of Commissioner Garcia-Leys, seconded by Commissioner Carrillo, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC elected Commissioner Canales for Secretary of the POC:

Ayes: 8 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

II. RECOMMENDATIONS

6. Recommendation: Approve the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission's bylaws with the amendments presented at the February 22, 2021 meeting. (21-0839)

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Canales, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the Commission's bylaws:

Ayes: 8 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

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7. Recommendation: Approve the logo for the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission as presented by the Ad hoc Committee. (Continued from the meeting of 2/22/2021) (21-0840)

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

Commissioner Jackson provided a brief overview of the two potential logos for the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC); and clarified that the selected logo would be the permanent logo for the POC. Discussion ensued in relation to whether the logo should have the County of Los Angeles Seal.

Commissioners Canales, Carrillo, Jackson, and Meredith cast their votes for a logo with the County of Los Angeles Seal.

Commissioners Garcia-Leys, Nong, Saltzman, and Yamashiro cast their votes for a logo without the County of Los Angeles Seal.

Due to a tie in the votes, Commissioner Canales reconsidered and selected the logo without the County of Los Angeles Seal.

On motion of Commissioner Yamashiro, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC approved logo 3b, which does not have the County of Los Angeles Seal:

Ayes: 8 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Esché L. Jackson, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

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III. DISCUSSIONS

8. Discussion and take appropriate action pertaining to the education of youth in Probation halls, camps, and Los Angeles County Office of Education community schools.

Presenters:

Education Justice Coalition
- Alaina Moonves-Leb, Alliance for Children's Rights
- Betty Fang, Children's Defense Fund
- Megan Stanton-Trehan, Loyola Law School, Youth Justice Education Clinic
- Stephanie Horwitz, National Center for Youth Law
- Victor Leung, ACLU of Southern California
- Mainor Xucanx, Arts for Healing and Justice Network
- Elida Ledesma, Arts for Healing and Justice Network
- Kevin Rodas, Arts for Healing and Justice Network

LA County Office of Education
- Debra Duardo, M.S.W., Ed.D., Superintendent (21-1150)

Members of the Education Justice Coalition presented a PowerPoint presentation to discuss: the importance of education; how the role of the Probation Department and education are linked together; and, the role of the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) in ensuring that youth in the halls and camps are set up to succeed in their lives through education. During the presentation, Mainor Xucanx and Kevin Rodas also provided personal accounts of their educational experience as a youth in juvenile facilities.

Stephanie Horwitz, National Center for Youth Law, shared that a complaint from the California Attorney General's Office, that led to a recent settlement with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), found deficiencies regarding the conditions of confinement of youth in juvenile detention facilities and inadequate educational services to justice involved youth.

Alaina Moonves-Leb, Alliance for Children's Rights, provided recommendations to the POC of actions they can take, which include making education one of the POC's priorities, agendizing education as a standing item or creating a standing committee.

Following the presentation of the Education Justice Coalition, Dr. Debra Duardo, Superintendent of LACOE, introduced herself and members of LACOE. Dr. Duardo provided a brief overview of her experience and gave a presentation on the online educational platform that was created to provide direct live instruction to students in the camps and halls. Maricela Ramirez, Chief Education Officer, shared stakeholder feedback, which included parents, students, Probation, LACOE staff and community partners. Ms. Ramirez shared that feedback from surveys and focus groups conducted in July and August of 2020 showed that stakeholders felt that juvenile facilities are in need of improved technology, technology training, more instructional time, and enhanced one-on-one support.

Dr. Jason Hasty, Executive Director of Educational Programs, presented LACOE's current virtual instruction process and data showing distance learning participation; and talked about student counseling support. In conclusion, he highlighted a list of groups and measures that monitor and provide oversight of LACOE's actions.

Milinda Kakani, Oscar Canales, Jael Ovalle, Fernando Ruiz, Nicole Brown and Kruti Parekh addressed the POC.

Discussion ensued that education should continue to be a subject of discussion beyond this meeting; and it was noted that previously Commissioner Dupuy volunteered to take a co-leadership role in further investigation of LACOE's education of youth in juvenile facilities. (Commissioner Esché L. Jackson left the meeting at 2:25 p.m.)

On motion of Commissioner Carrillo, seconded by Commissioner Nong, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC received and filed the presentation and established a standing Subcommittee on Education with Commissioners Carrillo, Dupuy and Garcia-Leys as members:

Ayes: 7 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

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9. Discussion and take appropriate action on setting short- and long-term goals for the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission through a strategic planning retreat, establishing standing and Ad hoc subcommittees, and delegating duties to staff. (21-1163)

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, suggested to continue this item to the next meeting; and in the interim, requested the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) delegate Ms. Julien as the authority for reporting back to the POC on the Probation Department's grievance policy.

On motion of Commissioner Canales, seconded by Commissioner Nong, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC approved to continue this item to March 25, 2021 and delegated the authority to Ms. Julien to report on the grievance policy of the Los Angeles County Probation Department:

Ayes: 7 - Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Esché L. Jackson

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

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10. Discussion and take appropriate action to establish a regular meeting schedule. (21-1185)

No members of the public requested to comment on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Nong, seconded by Commissioner Yamashiro, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) continued this item to March 25, 2021; and, until a regular meeting schedule can be established after the March 25, 2021 meeting, the POC approved to schedule a meeting on April 8, 2021 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.:

Ayes:	7 -	Commissioner Dolores Canales, Commissioner Franky Carrillo, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro
Absent:	1 -	Commissioner Esché L. Jackson
Excused:	1 -	Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

11. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested), placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the authority, of matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (21-1164)

There were no matters to be placed on a future agenda.

Public Comment

12. Opportunity for members of the public to address the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) on items of interest that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the POC.

You may submit public comment by e-mail to CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov <mailto:CommServ@bos.lacounty.gov>.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled meeting. Please include the Agenda Item and meeting date in your correspondence. Correspondence received shall become part of the official record. (21-1165)

Thomas Bell and Krista Newble addressed the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC).

Commissioner Meredith commented that the POC is committed to listening to all stakeholders and every effort is being made for continued outreach. He also welcomes any suggestions or ideas the public may have.

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, also provided the following information for the POC: website: poc.lacounty.gov; and, email address: info@poc.lacounty.gov.

Attachments: Public Comment/Correspondence

Adjournment

13. Adjournment of the regular meeting of Thursday, March 11, 2021. (21-1166)

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.