



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

Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.

AUDIO FILE FOR ENTIRE MEETING (21-1650)

Attachments: [AUDIO](#)

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. Call to Order and Roll Call. (21-1434)

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and conducted the roll call:

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

2. Approval of the March 25, 2021 meeting minutes. (21-1435)

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

On motion of Commissioner Saltzman, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission approved the March 25, 2021 minutes:

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
 [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

3. Presentation of the Commission Nomination Slate and Election of Officers:
(Continued from the meetings of 3/11/21 and 3/25/21)

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 (21-0858)

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

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, requested the Commissioners to cast their vote for Chair:

Commissioners Canales, Carrillo, Dupuy, Garcia-Leys, and Nong voted for Commissioner Carrillo.

Commissioners Jackson, Meredith, Saltzman and Yamashiro voted for Commissioner Yamashiro.

Ms. Julien proceeded to request that the Commissioners cast their vote for Vice Chair. Commissioner Yamashiro removed himself for the position of Vice Chair. The Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) unanimously cast their vote for Commissioner Jackson.

On motion of Commissioner Meredith, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC approved the election of Commissioner Carrillo as Chair and Commissioner Jackson as Vice Chair:

Ayes: 9 - Chair Franky Carrillo, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, Secretary Dolores Canales, Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong, Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman and Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. REPORT

4. Report by Adolfo Gonzales, Chief Probation Officer. (21-1466)

Brandon Nichols, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, reported on the following:

- **Adolfo Gonzales, Chief Probation Officer, is in the process of hiring staff in the positions of Chief Deputies for Adult and Juvenile Bureaus, and a Deputy Director position for the Adult Bureau. Information on these positions is available on the Probation Department website: <https://probation.lacounty.gov/>;**
- **The Probation Department continues to conduct tours of their facilities for Probation Oversight Commission members and Juvenile Justice Coordinating Committee (JJCC) subcommittee members;**
- **The JJCC subcommittee is continuing to work on the transition plan for youth who will no longer be transferred to the Department for Juvenile Justice (DJJ);**
- **The Probation Department is evaluating the impact of the Humphrey decision where the California Supreme Court ruled that defendants shall not be detained while awaiting trial if they cannot afford to pay bail.**

Jose Osuna and Zoe Rawson addressed the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC).

Commissioner Garcia-Leys requested that the Humphrey ruling be placed on a future agenda to gain a brief overview and its functionality.

In response to Commissioner Dupuy's inquiry on the public's access to resources and public services when youth are released from probation, Chief Deputy Nichols explained that Probation ad hoc committees dedicate time within their communities offering presentations on services their organizations provide for youth and adults released from probation.

Commissioner Meredith acknowledged the Probation Department's transparency and commended the Probation staff who work on ad hoc committees for their dedicated work in identifying resources available.

Commissioner Yamashiro requested a brief report to clarify the extent to which the Probation Department and its field officers are departing from their traditional roles to conduct these services and do proactive outreach with youth who are not yet court-involved, which may informally bring youth into the juvenile justice system.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, the POC accepted Chief Deputy Nichols' report.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

- 5.** Report by Alain Datcher, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Youth Commission. (21-1491)

Alain Datcher, Executive Director, Los Angeles County Youth Commission (LACYC) reported on the following:

- **An overview of the establishment and goals of LACYC, not limited to shaping policy and providing the Board of Supervisors and other departments with tools and information that are youth centered and youth specific;**
- **LACYC membership and selection process;**
- **The creation of standing committees;**
- **Opportunities for partnering with the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) and other initiatives.**

Gloria Gonzalez addressed the POC.

In response to Commissioner Dupuy's inquiry on LACYC's first meeting, Mr. Datcher reported that it is tentatively scheduled for early July. Currently, he is working on developing the membership application and by early May will have the Board of Supervisors' representatives appointed to the LACYC.

In response to the potential partnership between the youth commission and youth who are currently detained in juvenile halls and camps, the goal is to potentially select a commissioner(s) currently and directly involved in the probation system. In addition, ad hoc committees will include young people currently at probation camps.

By Common Consent, there being no objection, Mr. Datcher's report was accepted.

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
 [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. DISCUSSIONS

6. Discussion and take appropriate action on the closure of the State of California Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ): Transition Plan. (Continued from the meeting of 3/25/21)
- Patricia Soung, Consultant
 - Kent Mendoza, Anti-Recidivism Coalition
 - Tshaka Barrows, Haywood Burns Institute
 - Laura Ridolfo, Haywood Burns Institute
 - Brandon Nichols, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, Compliance and Strategic Planning (21-1338)

Brandon Nichols, Chief Deputy Probation Officer, announced that he will be the Probation Department representative and Chair of the JJCC subcommittee for the DJJ Transition Plan.

Vice Chair Jackson discussed the site visits at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall (Nidorf) and Campus Kilpatrick, Camp Gonzalez, and Camp Dorothy Kirby. The intention of the visits was to consider if the facilities were suitable sites for DJJ replacement, based on location, conditions, core values, programming, staffing, title compliance, etc. Vice Chair Jackson referenced her previous question about using a tool kit to evaluate sites as the recommendation cannot be made on the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commissioners' expertise alone; and noted that conditions at each site, and in particular Nidorf, felt prison like, without youth councils in existence and due to the overall attitude of line staff and educators. Commissioner Nong recommended that Nidorf should not be used as a DJJ alternative.

Tshaka Barrow, Haywood Burns Institute, and representative of the DJJ Transition Team, stated that the time constraints caused by the Governor's short deadline for closing state facilities, there is little chance to develop a new facility.

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, read two written public comments on behalf of Kenzo Sohoue and Sophia Cristo.

Gloria Gonzalez, Thomas Bell, Aditi Sherikar, Edin Madrid, Ezekiel Nishiyama, Jared O'Brien, Betty Fang, Marquis Smith, Leah Gasser Ordaz, Eduardo Mundo, Roberta Shintani and Alexia Cina addressed the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC).

Commissioner Meredith added that the population in camps and halls has been reduced and the public seems to be unaware of this reduction.

Commissioner Yamashiro commented that the existing camps are too carceral and requested that the Probation Department and the subcommittee refer to the models outlined in the report submitted by the DJJ Transition Team (DJJTT) along with recommendations on how the County should navigate their transition. He requested DJJTT to highlight the key features of the models they chose and why those features were important. He also referred a question to the Probation Department on how the DJJTT's report impacted their search for a facility and how they are defining security in the process of vetting a location.

Mr. Barrows addressed the issue of security for the DJJ facility, and the recommendation is to abandon a punishment model and create something that at this moment does not exist.

In response to Commissioner Yamashiro's concerns, Chief Deputy Nichols informed that the Probation Department will not make decisions on facilities to be used for housing the DJJ youth, the decision will be made by the Board of Supervisors, based on the recommendations of the JJCC subcommittee comprised of representatives from the Departments of Probation, Mental Health, Public Social Services, Office of the District Attorney, the Public Defender's Office, the Los Angeles County Office of Education, and five community representatives. In addition, due to the Governor's deadline for closing state facilities, an existing site for DJJ youth would have to be considered by July 1st, not as a permanent site but as a temporary one until the process for creating a new and improved site is established.

In response to a concern raised by Commissioner Saltzman's about the possible impact on youth currently in the facilities being considered who could be displaced if a new population is moved into them, Laura Ridolfo, Haywood Burns Institute, clarified that the JJCC subcommittee is charged with developing a plan for the young people who are subject to DJJ, which includes a health first, care first focused approach.

Commissioner Dupuy asked the consultants if they were able to obtain all the data needed for the justice reimagined process. Ms. Ridolfo responded that obtaining data from the Probation Department has been a challenge.

Discussion ensued between DJJ Transition Team members, Probation representatives, and POC commissioners surrounding sharing data and data transparency, and the Probation Department's role in focusing on a reduced population in juvenile facilities. Commissioner Dupuy suggested that there should be further discussion about creating an ad hoc committee to specifically address the collection and sharing of data.

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

Attachments: [Supporting Document](#)
 [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

7. Discussion and take appropriate action on agenda items and the schedule of meetings for the Education Standing Committee. (21-1467)

Commissioner Garcia-Leys briefed the Commission on the Education Oversight Committee, stating that the focus of the committee is rehabilitation, social integration and recognizing that those things will not happen without ensuring students have safety and dignity. He suggested that the committee's four members should be officially selected and expressed an interest in acquiring additional members comprised of impacted people, line staff, probation officers and teachers.

Chair Hilda L. Solis, First Supervisorial District, addressed the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) via video on the importance of having an Education Standing Committee.

Gloria Gonzales, Jael Ovalle, Lupita Carballo, Jared O'Brien, Betty Fang, Jacob Jackson, Marquis Smith and Mel Bailey addressed the POC.

On motion of Commissioner Garcia-Leys, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, and duly carried by the following vote, the POC approved Chair Carrillo, Vice Chair Jackson and Commissioners Dupuy and Garcia-Leys as the members of the Education Standing Committee:

Ayes: 8 - Chairman Franky Carrillo, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson,
 Secretary Dolores Canales, Commissioner
 Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys,
 Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner
 Dominique D. Nong and Commissioner
 Robert M. Saltzman

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Attachments: [Supervisor Solis' Remarks](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

Matters Not Posted

8. 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. (21-1436)

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, opened the floor for items to be placed on a future agenda. The commissioners requested the following:

- **Report back on a more user-friendly platform for virtual meetings other than WebEx**
- **Progress report from the JJCC subcommittee on the DJJ transition**
- **Presentation on the Probation Department's Budget**
- **Report on data collection/transparency**
- **Report back on the Humphrey Decision**
- **Report on maintaining the reduced population in Probation camps and halls**
- **Report on the OC Phase Out Plan for the Probation Department**

Public Comment

9. 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 info@poc.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. (21-1437)

On motion of Commissioner Saltzman, seconded by Commissioner Meredith, and duly carried by the following vote, the Los Angeles Probation Oversight Commission (POC) approved the members of the public to address the Commission for one minute:

Ayes: 8 - Chairman Franky Carrillo, Vice Chair Esché L. Jackson, Secretary Dolores Canales, Commissioner Danielle M. Dupuy, Commissioner Sean Garcia-Leys, Commissioner Donald D. Meredith, Commissioner Dominique D. Nong and Commissioner Robert M. Saltzman

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Cyn Yamashiro

Jose Osuna, Mel Bailey, Jacob Jackson, Jael Ovalle, Tapau Osborne, Krista Newble and Thomas Bell addressed the POC.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

Adjournment

10. Adjournment of the regular meeting Thursday, April 8, 2021. (21-1438)

Commissioner Meredith adjourned the meeting in memory of Arnold C. Garcia, Group Supervisor, who was slain in the line of duty on April 4, 1994.

Wendelyn Julien, Executive Director, adjourned the meeting at 2:58 p.m.