

TEAM JUSTICE MINUTES
July 8, 2022 (In-Person & Via Zoom)

Members Present:

In Person: Mark Masterson (Chair), Sonya Miller, Judge Kellie Hogan, Shantel Westbrook (arrived at 11:35), Jason Stephens, Karen Dunlap

Zoom: Kristin Peterman

Members Absent: Terri Moses (Vice Chair), Peter Shay, Amanda Kingrey, Jose Sambrano, Bach Hang, Taishma Owens-Council, Clayton Barth

Guests:

In Person: Jordan Knox, Carrington (CJ) Bruce

Zoom: Kay Burnett, Nicole Hoyt, Elisa Nevarez, Donna Longsworth, Chad Childs

Staff:

In Person: Chase Tipton, Abigail Lessman, Steve Stonehouse, Stacy Garrett, Jodi Tronsgard

Zoom: Chris Morales, Karla Seymore, Stacy Bell

WSU Consultant: Stormy Malone (Zoom)

I. Introductions and Announcements:

- a. New Director of Corrections Update - Abigail Lessman announced that Steve Stonehouse has been named the new Director of Corrections. Members were given an opportunity to offer their congratulations.
- b. Card for Taunya Rutenbeck & Karen Countryman-Roswurm - Chase Tipton informed the board that Taunya's term on Team Justice had expired and she would not be seeking reappointment. The board was also notified that Karen had resigned from Team Justice. "Thank You" cards for both Taunya and Karen were made available for members to sign and were mailed after the meeting.
- c. Teen Team Justice Member update – Abigail informed the board that an application was received for the Teen Team Justice member position with an interview likely being conducted within the next week.
- d. Sedgwick County General- County Commission positions – Abigail updated the board that with Karen's resignation, Team Justice now has 4 positions to fill. Interviews with applicants are being coordinated and will likely take place within the next week. Any board members currently serving in an expired term were encouraged to continue to attend meetings in the interim.

II. **ACTION ITEM: Approval of Team Justice Minutes from the 6/3/22 Meeting. Quorum was not met during this Team Justice meeting; this Action Item was tabled until the August meeting.**

III. Block Grant and Evidence Based Funding Update – Abigail updated the board that all award letters have been received from the KDOC approving funding for both the Block Grant and Evidence Based funding. Included in the award letters, was additional funding allocated for pay enhancements for grant-funded positions beginning in the fourth quarter of SFY22. Moving forward, both correctional officers and ISOs will be on a separate pay plan and received sizable pay increases. Evening Reporting Center (ERC) staff were not included in the KDOC's pay enhancement plan as their funding comes from the Regional and Reinvestment grants. In order to keep ERC's pay consistent with other ISOs, a program provider position will be held unfunded. Steve added input that all other Sedgwick County employees received either a 2% or 1% pay raise as of July 1st, depending on length of service. Steve addressed questions from the board about unbalanced pay raises affecting moral, and said that the County will continue to address pay and compression issues with a larger anticipated pay raise in January 2023 for all staff. Steve informed the board that the staff vacancy rate has improved by 3%.

IV. Untamed Athletes Presentation – Jordan Knox and CJ Bruce delivered a presentation about their community based program and was available to address questions from the board. Beginning in SFY23, Untamed Athletes will be dually funded with both Evidence Based and Crime Prevention funding allowing them to work with a broader range of youth. Untamed Athletes addressed a question from the board on whether they could serve youth in the outlying

areas of Sedgwick County. Due to transportation being offered to youth as a way of removing barriers, Untamed Athletes is unable to serve youth outside of the USD 259 district at this time.

V. Data and Program Updates:

- a. Data Update – Steve provided the board with data updates and was available for questions from the board.
- b. Juvenile Residential Facility/alternatives to detention – Steve provided an update to the board that the Juvenile Residential Facility (JRF) remains temporarily closed due to staffing issues. It was determined that, due to continued staff vacancy rates, JRF did not have sufficient staff to operate safely and therefore currently has been closed and the license is on hold.
- c. Juvenile Field Services Relocation – Steve provided an update to the board that while Sedgwick County explores permanent options for the relocation of Juvenile Field Services (JFS) /Evening Reporting Center (ERC), JFS will move into the current Criminal Justice Alternatives (CJA) offices. Staff currently in the CJA office space will be moved to either 622 E. Central or the 905 N. Main location, while the ERC program will utilize space at the Juvenile Residential Facility. Board members were informed that future Team Justice meetings will be held in an alternative location with further discussions occurring during the next meeting.

VI. Data Request Update - Chase informed board members that included in their packet was information pertaining to Fentanyl use amongst youth in Sedgwick County, provided by the Sedgwick County Sheriff's Department. Jodi Tronsgard provided information related to gun related intakes at JIAC. Cpt. Stephens provided a supplemental handout on 2021 Wichita Firearm Violence. Both Jodi and Cpt. Stephens were available to address questions from the board. The supplemental handout was provided electronically to all members directly after the meeting.

VII. Community Task Force Recommendations – Steve provided information to the board regarding the Community Task Force that reviewed the circumstances around the death of Cedric Lofton. The board had been previously provided with the recommendations made by the Community Task Force. The County is currently working on revisions to the JIAC 'Use of Force' policy that must be approved by Team Justice before approval by both the BoCC and the KDOC. The County will also address Task Force recommendations by offering a training on Individual Justice Plans (IJPs) and updating video equipment with audio capabilities in both JDF and JIAC.

- a. Developing a list of grass roots organizations – Abigail and Chase shared a draft of a list containing different local organizations. The list, once finalized, will be made available on the SCDOC website and also utilized to publicize future grant opportunities. Team Justice members were encouraged to provide input.

VIII. Other Business: None

Meeting Adjourned

The next meeting will be held on August 5, 2022