

# JJAG Minutes 09/20/2024 DRAFT

**Members Present:** Ned Chester (Chair), Jill Ward (Vice Chair), Morgan Hynd, Chris Bicknell, Bonnie Porta, Tessa Mosher, Regina Phillips, Abeir Ibrahim, Tanya Pierson, Kelly Rackler, Atlee Reilly, Christine Thibeault (DOC), Bobbi Johnson (OCFS), Christopher Northrop, Melissa Martin (for Elizabeth Ward Saxl)

**Members Absent:** Judge Sarah Churchill, Page Nichols (DOE), Samantha Fenderson (DOL), Aaron Turcotte (DPS), Renee Bernard, Brody Haverly-Johndro, La Michael Gildersleeve, Jonathan Shapiro, Jacinda Goodwin, Sierra Dana, Ladi Nzeyimana, Jay Philbrick, Zubeyda Shute, Megan Anderson

**JJAG Staff Present:** Linda Barry Potter (JJ Specialist), Douglas Sanborn (Compliance Monitor), Anwar Whiting (RED/DOC Credible Messenger Coordinator)

**DOC Staff Present:** Heidi Strasburg-Bersani (Juvenile Support Specialist), Steve Labonte (RCA, Region 3)

**Public Attendees:** Jon Solomon, Alice Preble, Emma Schwartz, Ana Hicks, Jennie Michaels, Doran Wright

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**Call to Order:** 9:05am (via Zoom)

**Welcome & Introductions (Ned Chester)**

**July Meeting Minutes (Jill Ward):** Motion to approve by Ned Chester; Chris Northrop seconded. **Adopted 10 Yeas 0 Nays 3 Abstentions** (Tanya Pierson, Tessa Mosher, Morgan Hynd)

**JJ Specialist Report (Linda Barry Potter):**

*Budget & Grants Update* – FY18 and FY19 grants are now closed. FY20 is almost done. Extension was granted so we have until Sept. 2025 to spend down.

*CJJ Racial & Ethnic Disparities (R/ED) Conference:* October 16-17, 2024 in Seattle, WA. Linda Barry Potter, Anwar Whiting, Heidi Strasburg-Bersani and Chris Northrop.

*OJJDP National Conference:* November 19-21, 2024 in Washington D.C. OJJDP Conference “Celebrating 50 years of the Juvenile Justice Reform Act (JJRA)”. Registration fee of \$150 per person. DSA/SAG will be in the first tier for registration and states are requested to limit their delegations to 10 or less. Maine’s work (Tribal/RCTs) will be featured at workshop. Board supportive of sponsoring youth to attend. Christine, Tanya and La Micheal are interested in attending. Please let Linda know if you want to be added to the list.

**Compliance Monitoring Presentation (Douglas Sanborn):** Presentation on the role and activities of the compliance monitor. [See slide deck for details.](#)

**Guest Presentations**

**Regional Care Teams Year Three Report: Emma Schwartz, Catherine Cutler Institute, USM.** [See slide deck for information.](#) Link to the report is here: [https://placemattersmaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/RCT\\_2023\\_web.pdf](https://placemattersmaine.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/RCT_2023_web.pdf)

**Overview of Youth Serving Programs: Ana Hicks, Policy Director, Children’s Cabinet.** [See slide deck and related spreadsheet](#) for information about the presentation.

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## Committee Reports:

### *Executive Committee (Ned Chester & Jill Ward):*

Need to determine whether we will schedule a visit to Long Creek for the end of the year. Regular monthly meetings would be November 15 and December 20. Discussion about at a minimum having a tour and the opportunity to talk to staff. Hold off on meeting youth until we have a plan for how to do that best. No update from OJJDP on status of our Title II application and new 3-year plan.

*R/ED Committee (Regina Phillips & Chris Northrop):* R/ED data collection, analysis and report is the priority, per the 3-year plan. Center for Juvenile Justice Reform has been helping us design what is needed for the report and has identified a data partner to work with us.

- Motion by Chris Northrop to allow R/ED Committee to move forward on a sole source contract under the guidance of CJJR to get that process going. Seconded Bonnie Porta. **Adopted 10-0.**

*Governance Committee (Ned Chester & Bonnie Porta):* Ned presented an update on pending appointments that will help us meet our State Advisory Group requirements. A letter has been sent to the Governor's office asking for decisions by November 30.

*Systems Improvement Committee (Jill Ward & Luc Nya):* Update was given on the Probation Transformation project. Awards for the BIPOC and marginalized youth RFA have been awarded. In order to provide full awards to the 5 organizations that scored highly on the solicitation, the Board would need to authorize and additional \$4,000.

- Motion by Jill Ward to approve the additional funds to provide full funding on all five awards. Seconded by Bonnie Porta/Christine Thibeault. **Adopted 9-0.**  
Awardees: *MidCoast Youth Center & Skate Park, Juvenile Community Review Board (OOB), Out Maine, RJ Project of Maine, Smooth Feather*

*Legislative Committee (Atlee Reilly & Tanya Pierson):* Recap was provided on the last legislative session. A summary of major juvenile justice bills can be found here. Committee requested more time to discuss planning for next legislature at the October meeting.

*Youth Council (Jay Philbrick):* No updates.

Next meeting is October 18, 2024, at 9am at the Augusta Teen Center, 244 Water Street. Parking behind the building. Zoom option will be available.

**Adjourned 11:01am**