



OHIO

CRIMINAL SENTENCING COMMISSION

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor, Chair • Sara Andrews, Director

Juvenile Justice Subcommittee

May 14, 2015

Meeting Notes

Attending:	Representative Pelanda	Jim Cole
	Representative Craig	Paul Dobson
	Senator Thomas	Jill Beeler-Andrews
	Director Reed, DYS	Whitney Pesek
	Judge Delamatre	Dustin Calhoun
	Aaron Montz, Mayor	Kyle Petty
	Erin Davies	John Ryan

Staff Liaison: Jo Ellen Cline

The meeting was called to order by staff liaison Jo Ellen Cline. Following brief discussion, Mr. Dobson was unanimously selected as Chair of the committee and Erin Davies was unanimously selected as Vice-Chair.

The committee discussed other individuals they believe should be invited to take part in the committee. The members would like to have another juvenile judge (it was noted that Judge Jamison was just appointed to the Commission and would likely join the committee) and a common pleas judge to provide a link to the adult system. Other groups the committee thought should be included were: a community provider (e.g. county behavioral health), someone from education, Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, mental health community, law enforcement, ODRC, guardians ad litem, and victim services. It was also suggested that State Representative Rezabek and State Representative Greta Johnson be asked if they would like to participate in the committee.

The committee discussed the issues on its pending issues list. The committee ultimately decided that extended sentence review and juvenile court costs would be the first priorities for the subcommittee with the goal of presenting proposals on those two issues to the full Commission in August.

1. The subcommittee discussed juvenile extended sentence review. Jill Beeler Andrews gave background on the issue describing that many juveniles have de facto life without parole sentences but that the United States Supreme Court has stated that they need a “meaningful opportunity for relief”. Vice Chair Davies discussed that there are many juveniles in the adult system serving time and that solutions need to account for those that have several felonies running consecutively, those convicted of homicide with a life tail on their sentences, and, potentially, serious youthful offenders. The committee discussed that California and Nevada both have statutes or proposed statutes that the subcommittee could utilize as resources. The committee stated it would like to hear from common pleas general division judges and the ODRC and would like to get information from other states. Jill Beeler Andrews will gather the other states information for dissemination to the committee. On motion of Rep. Pelanda and second by Rep. Craig, this issue was determined to be a priority for the committee and will be on the committee’s agenda for a meeting in July. Ms. Beeler-Andrews also agreed to be the point person for this issue.
2. The committee held extended discussion on juvenile court costs. The questions to be answered include: 1) what constitutes court costs; 2) should there be limitations on court costs; and 3) how are court costs collected? Judge Delamatre indicated that he has done a presentation on juvenile court costs and will provide his outline or power point presentation to the committee. On motion of Sen. Thomas and second by Ms. Beeler Andrews, the issue was determined to be a priority for the committee and will be the subject of the next committee meeting in June. Judge Delamatre agreed to be the point person on this issue.
3. The committee discussed clarifying the juvenile confinement credit. Vice Chair Davies said it is unclear what counts toward the credit. HB 337 (130th General Assembly) was discussed. The committee agreed that consistency in what is counted toward the credit is paramount. Director Reed agreed to serve as point person for this issue and the committee plans to have a proposal for the full Commission in November. The committee decided to take up two issues (mandatory bind-overs and mandatory sentences) together. Vice Chair Davies will gather some preliminary information for the committee.
4. The committee discussed sentences for sexting as a potential issue for the future.

The committee requested that tent cards be available for future meetings and also requested that someone from the Legislative Service Commission be invited to attend meetings as well.

The committee set two future meeting dates: June 15, 2015 from 12 p.m. until 2 p.m. at which time juvenile court costs will be discussed and July 16, 2015 from 10 a.m. until 12 p.m. at which time the committee will take up extended sentence review.