

Minutes of the  
Interagency Steering Committee  
January 29, 2007

CALL TO ORDER:

John Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., on Monday, January 29, 2007, in the ICOE Board Room, El Centro, California.

Roll Call: Present: John D. Anderson, Sam Couchman, Mark Gilmore, Jose Guillen, Robin Hodgkin, Mike Horn, Mike Kelley, Sandy Liera (for Ray Loera), Mike McFadden, Dr. Stephen Roeder, Jim Semmes, Warren Sherlock

Absent: Robertta Burns, Bruce Coon, Ralph Cordova, Jr., Judge Barrett Foerster, Norma Jauregui, Ray Loera, Gilbert G. Otero, and Paul Pai

Others in Attendance: Rita Duarte, Anne Mallory, Janet Thornburg and Theresa Bonillas

APPROVAL OF  
MINUTES:

Motion by Mike Kelley, second by Jim Semmes to approve the minutes of December 4, 2006. Motion carried unanimously.

OVERVIEW OF  
BRAWLEY FRC:

Rita Duarte, Coordinator, gave an overview of the Brawley FRC. She reported that the FRC is in its eighth year of operation. Some of the services provided by the FRC are:

- Information and Referrals - provide information regarding services and support groups
- Case management – drug and alcohol abuse prevention, anger management, parenting classes
- ROP – youth development and job placement
- Drug and Alcohol treatment
- DSS – eligibility work on site

Rita explained that the FRC receives three funds from three different sources:

- Community Challenge Grant with Alternative Education
- California Department of Education – CAL-SAFE Program
- Brawley Elementary District

Rita distributed data regarding the CAL-SAFE program at the FRC, the Drug and Alcohol Program and Student Referrals.

**INTERAGENCY YOUTH CONFERENCE:** Janet Thornburg reported on the Interagency Youth Conference held November 15. Attendance at the Conference was 102 participants. Staff received praise for the selection of topics, which focused on youth issues and concerns. Overall evaluation of the Conference indicates the attendees rated the conference as successful with an understanding of youth issues and good use of their time. The complete Evaluation Report will be posted on the ISC webpage.

**PROBATION DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:** Mike Kelley gave an overview of the Probation Department. He explained the difference in handling of juvenile and adult criminal cases. He also touched briefly on the Peer Court for first time juvenile offenders.

**ISC RANKING OF HEALTHY START APPLICATIONS:** Motion by Jim Semmes, second by Mike Horn that the ISC support the Heber Healthy Start Application and submit a letter to the State Healthy Start Office indicating that Heber should be given the highest priority for funding. Motion carried unanimously.

**ISC PRIORITIES/FOCUS FOR NEXT 12 MONTHS:** Janet Thornburg reported that she had received the Sheriff Department's priorities. They are: the FRC in Heber; supporting school resource officer programs and addressing the meth problem presented by the Chiefs of Police.

Janet asked the Committee if they thought the ISC priorities for the coming year should be:

- The development of the Heber FRC
- Drug and alcohol abuse prevention and a collaborative approach on meth issues
- School Resource Officer on school campuses/school and student safety (programs to address school safety)

The Committee asked that the issues be written up for the next meeting.

**LCC/ISC REPORTS:** ISC

Janet Thornburg reported on the results of the California Healthy Kids survey. It contains national data compared to local data. The results are posted on the ISC webpage under "Compiled Data".

LCC

Presentation on the mentoring program which targets Children of Promise. Janet also reported that the Groundhog Job Shadow Day will be held February 21 and Student Well Being is looking for job sites. Probation and Public Health volunteered to serve as additional sites.

Update from Heber

Janet read an update from Jaime Silva, Heber School District Superintendent, regarding the joint use facility. The MOU-partnership between McCabe School District and the County of Imperial does not include a county contribution. She explained that the County collects all of the developers' fees. The McCabe area developers have agreed to excess contributions for McCabe development, the excess fees are then County's contributions to McCabe's project.

The estimated cost of the Heber gym/joint use facility is \$6.7 million dollars with the state maximum contribution of \$1.5 million. Heber will have to look for partners to share the cost of the facility.

MEMBER  
ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sam Couchman reported that loan officers from the US Small Business Administration are in his office at the One-Stop to assist non-agriculture related businesses that have been impacted by the recent freeze in applying for loans. They may be here for about six months.

Mike Horn reported the Mental Health Services Act Plan was resubmitted with corrections. It is a \$2.5 million dollar grant and they expect to know if they are awarded in about a month.

Mike Horn will present on Behavioral Health at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to bring before the Committee the meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.