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Transcript

November 26, 2025, 5:28PM

□ **Dardy Chen** started transcription

Dardy Chen 3:14

DC
DC

OK, sounds good. Thank you very much.

Alrighty then we will get started today.

Welcome, everyone to the Public Safety Cluster Agenda review meeting for today, November 26th. Calling the meeting to order.

We'll start with the self induction from the from the board offices 1st district.

Martinez, Anabel 3:33

MA

Good morning, everybody and Martinez, supervisor Solis's justice deputy.

Dardy Chen 3:37

DC

Thank you very much. Second district.

Natalya Romo 3:39

NR

Good morning, everyone.

Sally Ramos and Mitchell senior Justice deputy Dante Franklin is on the line and he's our justice deputy and Melody O Philly is our assistant. Just Stephanie.

Dardy Chen 3:49

DC

Thank you very much and 3rd district.

Edwards, Steven 3:53

ES

Good morning, everyone. Steve Edwards.

Dardy Chen 3:55

DC

Alrighty and 4th district.

CK Coates, Kyla 3:59

Good morning, Kyla.

Chloe and Alley are here for the 4th.

DC Dardy Chen 4:02

Thank you very much.

Just wanna double check again for 5th District.

Does anyone here from 5th district?

All right. So we'll get started then.

There are no information item this week, so we'll jump right into board motions
board motions.

There are two.

First one is from. They're both actually from the 4th district.

First one is ensuring all eligible youth are screened for the Pine Grove Youth
Conservation Camp.

When requested, just want to let everyone know this meeting is being transcribed, so
I'll hand it over to the 4th district.

CC Cheney-Rice, Chloe 4:37

Thanks dardie.

Hi everyone.

So as as Derdi mentioned in the title mentions, this motion relates to Pine Grove
Youth Conservation camp. As a reminder, this is the only juvenile youth conservation
Camp fire camp in California, and it's an option.

CU Chidinma Ume 4:54

No.

CC Cheney-Rice, Chloe 4:56

It's an option for.

CU Chidinma Ume 4:56

Hello.

DC Dardy Chen 4:58

Hold on.
Let me mute everybody again, sorry about that.
I'm here yourself again, Chloe. Thank you.

CC Cheney-Rice, Chloe 5:06

OK.
Yeah. So Pine Grove is an option for young people to complete their sentence or step down to once they've been adjudicated by a judge.

DC Dardy Chen 5:08

The.

CC Cheney-Rice, Chloe 5:16

And So what we've recognized is that there have been challenges with successfully referring youth and screening youth for Pine Grove, especially over the past six months. We know that.

No youth has been referred to screen for Pine Grove and step down to Pine Grove. So this motion.

Helps or the goal of this motion is to make sure that probation has a process for ensuring that screenings for pine growth happen.

In a way that's timely, that they happen when the judge requests them.

And so we are directing the department to identify appoint person at both Los Padrinos and Barry J to be in charge of these pine Grove screenings and to help make sure that once again that they happen when a judge requests them via a minute order.

And that they're happening in a timely way.

Ideally, once one of youth is still at their predisposition facility.

And we also I think it's it's been made pretty clear that there.

There is a culture of not really recommending or encouraging use from to participate in Pine Grove.

And so we're hoping that the the portion of this motion that has probation work with Pine Grove to conduct quarterly kind of presentations at.

Our facilities will help both staff and youth learn about the program.

Learn about the benefits of the program and since it is a voluntary program, we're hoping that will help get more youth interested in participating in Pine Grove as well. So I'm happy to go through any details. I know the motion preamble is very detailed and a bit long because the process is a bit long, but we spoke with.

The intake coordinator at Pine Grove, through CDCR.

CDCL runs the program.

So we spoke with him and got a rundown of how these pre screenings and full complete pine Grove screenings work.

So those are laid out in the motion.

And I believe we have.

I'm not sure if we have anyone from the department.

I know Shalon Joseph is here from the public defenders.

Office because she was instrumental in helping us get this motion ready.

So thank you.

Thank you for that, Shalon.

The public Defender's office plays a role here because.

Attorneys often request that judges make orders for screenings for Pine Grove, so that's why that's why they're playing a role in this motion.

So I think that's all I'll say for now, but please feel free to ask any questions and I will do my best to answer.

DC Dardy Chen 8:01

Right, they're pretty.

CK Coates, Kyla 8:01

And I do just want to add that the Pine Grove person also looked at this motion and helped us with it.

CC Cheney-Rice, Chloe 8:06

Yes.

CK Coates, Kyla 8:07

So they've already looked at this. Everything in there is according to how they do things.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 8:12

Yes, and probation also got a chance to look at it and.

Were were supportive of the motion.

So we appreciate that, Natalia.

NR **Natalya Romo** 8:24

Thank you. I had A and thank you for sharing kind of how you all got to this point because that's super helpful and I like the detailed preambles because it tells a story.

So my question is particularly it's it's really concerning that there were no and appreciate the motion kind of seeking to solve this, but there were no.

I I recommendations or referrals to Pine Grove in the last what month?

I think was in there.

So my my question is, I know you clearly talked to probation about it.

Was there anything that they shared on?

Like why that was the case and how did that influence some of these directors? Or how does the the directives kind of meet that if they share that?

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 9:12

Yeah. And I see Curtis Miller is here.

I I'll say real quick I what we've heard.

Mostly from the department is that there's not as large an interest in attending Pine Grove.

And and so the portion of the motion that I mentioned that has to do with making sure youth know about it, that they are screened as soon as possible.

And that they receive these informational kind of presentations from Pine Grove directly will hopefully help to address that issue.

But Mr. Miller, if you wanna add to that or share anything, feel free.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 9:50

Good morning.

Hi everybody.

NR **Natalya Romo** 9:52

Good morning.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 9:52

Hey.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 9:53

So just to give a little want to give a little context on that, so that you guys understand that two things that have happened.

So we did just recently have two young men that we put up for screening actually went through the the process.

They were disqualified, one for health reasons. The other one decided not to go through with the process because.

He his his commitment time. He's gonna be done in a year.

So he didn't see the point in going to Pine Grove at this point. He decided not to go.

I will say that since the beginning of this year we we had two informational.

And I think they were, as in March now as Medina's here as well in office. But I believe it's in March and in April we actually did one in person where we had personnel from Pine Grove come and some graduates gentlemen that have successfully completed the program.

They spoke to our our young men.

We canvassed the population to see what the interest was.

And so even with that.

The one of the drawbacks and just have to be honest is, is the the the location, the the, the how far the the you know it is from their home.

So that's one of the hesitations and drawbacks.

So they have said, you know, we talked to Pine Grove and they're willing to, you know, increase the the number of times that they're able to have visits and all those things.

We have communicated that with our young people, we also did.

1 via Zoom with a group of seven that it expressed when we did that survey, they expressed that they were really interested and then for various reasons they all had fallen off.

But I want to just make it clear that my caseworkers are not discouraging anyone from Pine Grove.

It is something that we are pushing and that we ask almost every kid that comes in to excuse me, to gauge their interest because we do understand and see the value in

the program. But there are, you know, some.

Our young men are just hesitant and mainly because of the distance, so that's something that we have to overcome.

I do agree.

We we can look at doing, you know, if we do them, you know, quarterly interest meetings or something to increase.

You know, kind of just to get the word out, but we are on board to do whatever we have to do to help in this. You know, I don't want anyone to feel like we're oppositional or that we haven't been putting in the work to try to make.

These things happen.

However, you know, like I said, there are our young men, especially once they get to Barry J.

They're, you know, they get settled, and then they're a little hesitant to to make that step.

We've even discussed and hopefully I'm not speaking out of turn, but even discuss trying to do implement and we don't know how we'll be able to do with staffing, but to try to get a kind of a pre Pine Grove unit that would actually be geared towards you.

Know the physical fitness part and the discipline that it would take.

So we've discussed that, but that's all gonna be contingent upon.

Staffing and and some of those things, but that may help.

We also did back in May, April and May.

We did pre screenings with the predispos.

At at Los Padrinos, and I think we screened somewhere about 50.

Was it 50?

Close to 50 young men, a lot of them expressed interest.

Some of them just looking, you know, going through the criteria of what we know, they were qualified, but they're still in the, you know, predisposed stage.

So we have to kind of wait.

To see what happens, but we still have that information in the data and and you know we are keeping close track of it so that we can, you know start boosting numbers. But we do hear the call we understand.

You know what the board is is asking and and definitely we're on board. But I do want to just make it very clear that at least since I've been supervisor over the caseworkers that no one from my team is discouraging and actually is the opposite.

You really have.

Been trying to encourage the young man.

And we have to think outside the box to get over that hurdle of the distance, because that's the number one thing that they're honestly fearful of. And the physical, you know, is physically demanding.

So I think we can kind of combat that by doing something on our end where we can create maybe like I said, a unit or something where they're doing the physical exercise and doing some of the things that will prepare them.

So that's something further down the line, but we're definitely on board, so.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 14:29

Thank you, Mr. Malika.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 14:29

Can I add something? Yeah. Thanks, Claire.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 14:30

Yeah, go ahead, Kayla.

NR **Natalya Romo** 14:31

And thank you.

Thank you, Chloe, for that was my question.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 14:34

Wait, wait, Natalia, I also want to address your question and thanks, Mr. Miller, because a lot of what you were talking about, Mr. Miller, is happening at Barry J, right?

I know that's where you're located.

I know that's where the youth are. And so part of our motion seeks to address the predispos part, which has caused a lot of confusion around probation.

And so that's why we spoke so closely to CDCR and Pine Grove intake specifically and our motion addresses a pre screening process.

That is allowed, and that's an official pre screen.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 14:59

Right.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 15:02

There's a one page document that a judge can request.

So the lawyer, which is why we have the public defenders involved, can request of a judge.

My youth is in a transfer hearing.

You know, we want to see if they would be maybe qualified for pine Groves. We want to prescreen. The judge can request it.

Probation can fill out A1 pager, send it directly to Pine Grove and Pine Grove, then would send to the judge.

Yes, preliminarily.

This youth there nothing precluding them from coming to Pine Grove.

Then they go.

They finish their disposition portion and then you have this period of time where they are post dispo because they've been dispositioned, but they're still at Los Padrinos, right?

They haven't gone yet to camp or to not camp.

Sorry to SYTF to Barry Day and in that time period there's actually also an opportunity for the youth to get fully screened.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 15:47

Correct.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 15:54

And they can be sent directly to Pine Grove.

They don't even have to go to Barry J.

And so that's what also part of our motion is is in this like you said, Curtis.

Mr. Miller, sorry, in that, you know, when they get to Barry Day and they get settled, maybe they're like, oh, this isn't too bad. You know, I can stay here. I do.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 16:04

Curtis is fine.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 16:09

I really want to change it up now, but when they're still in Los Padrinos and they've been thinking about Pine Grove and talking about it to their lawyer for a long time, they might be more, you know, down to go directly to Pine Grove. So this motion address.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 16:19

Alright.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 16:20

That can we, while they're still while they're still at Hall, but their post dispo get that screening process done and directly place them in pine if they want to.
So that's why this motion does try and address some of the struggles that we've had specifically predispos before they get to Curtis and Mr. and Barry J.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 16:38

So 1 caveat that we have to oh, sorry, I just, yeah.

NR **Natalya Romo** 16:38

For that can you also?

Sorry, Mr. Miller, but can I ask?

Just a clarifying question too, like on the in that kind of low area where there's that extra screening that can happen.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 16:46

Yeah.

NR **Natalya Romo** 16:53

It sounds like you know, everyone's kind of on the same page on where what the goal is. Do we see?

Probation. Really moving forward with that screening, doing that like it sounds like everyone wants to, but just wanna know.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 17:09

So. So we're gonna have to have a point person. And so I think that, yeah, I don't.

NR **Natalya Romo** 17:09

Like, are we gonna run into some challenges there?

That's, that's where.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 17:14

Yeah, we need a point person at Los Padrinos, which we don't have, right?

NR **Natalya Romo** 17:17

Right. Which I think that's on the motion, right?

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 17:17

And that's that's an emotion.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 17:19

Yeah, I either a point person that Los Padrinos or even she's gonna kill me. 'cause. He's sitting right next to me.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 17:19

It is in the motion.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 17:20

Yes.

NR **Natalya Romo** 17:21

Good.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 17:26

But even if if we can somehow have Miss Medina will, she's already in the chain.

So it'd actually be easier, even though she's at Barry J, we can.

It's it's a matter of getting an e-mail.

So if they know she's the point person in this and she gets that information.

It may be easier for her because she's gonna handle the process once they're here anyway, so just something to consider and that that'll be something on our end to figure out. The only thing I would say, I just wanted to add and I know I saw you. Mr. Franklin, I'm gonna take up your time, but we do have to be mindful that if they have more than 72 months on their commitment, they will. They have to have less than 70 to 72 months or less, so if they some of our kids that have more serious crimes like murder, they will receive a seven-year commitment. So they're not gonna qualify initially, so they're gonna have to wait a year. That's Pine Grove's policy. They have to have between six months and 72 months left on their commitment.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 18:19
Yeah.

KM **Kurtis Miller** 18:21
So I just wanted to make that clear that that a kid that does have a seven-year commitment, that the judge would have, that's something the judge may want to think about when they're sentencing, you know, committing them that they make sure that they stay within those par.
So.

NR **Natalya Romo** 18:39
Thank you.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 18:39
Thank you, Curtis.

NR **Natalya Romo** 18:41
And then I I was gonna say to Kyla and Chloe, I I mean on general too. But like, I think that's part of the education piece right where it's like telling people or telling kids in the front, youth on the front end of my kids youth on the. Front end. You know what the expectations are? What? What they can expect like understanding the full scope of the picture and being more mindful of that.

CK **Coates, Kyla** 18:56
Is it?

NR **Natalya Romo** 19:05
So appreciate that the motion speaks to that.
So thank you all.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 19:10
Thank you, Dante, did you solve a question? Yeah.

FD **Franklin, Don'te** 19:13
I think it was.
It was answered.
It was kind of just initially wanting to know what their current kind of length of time is for that pre screening report to happen or screening was part to happen after the judge requested it.
But it sounds like a point person would kind of saw for that and allow for that 14 days to happen.
The other thing I was I was just wondering about the kind of family engagement, especially for the young person that decided that maybe it's not the best time for them or for those that are concerned about the location, what that family?
It looks like too.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 19:47
Mr. Miller, do you have a experience with that at at this point?

KM **Kurtis Miller** 19:49
Right. Well, I mean, we can.
I mean, that's definitely, you know, part of our our program is that you know, is the family reunification and and keeping the family involved throughout the process.
So definitely would be something that we, you know, caseworkers, they're always, they're in constant contact with parents.
And so that wouldn't be a problem at all. You know, like I said, it's the the just getting over the barriers.

There, there are some young men that will, unfortunately, they will say they want to go to Pine Grove because they think that's going to get them less time on their commitment. And then when they get here, they're like, ah, I don't.

I don't really want to do it.

So you know, there's a few things that we're combating and but like I said, I think this approach will be good.

And and and getting them while they're at Los Padrinos will help as well.

Like I said, when we went to do the the kind of that survey and spoke to the the population, there was a lot of interest there.

But they're just kind of in a holding pattern right now because they're going through transfer hearings and and those types of things.

So hopefully we can, you know, at some point we have two that just came from Los Angeles that are interested that are about to go through the process of screening.

So we're we're working on it.

CC Cheney-Rice, Chloe 21:02

Thank you. And Donte, I don't know if if you were asking specifically about family involvement at the probation facilities, but I do also just want to note that Pine Grove does have visitation and and it sounded like courtesy were saying they're hopefully going to be able to expand.

Opportunities for visitation, but they have both virtual and in person visitation.

And a lot of supportive services for youth.

It seems like a really.

Really incredible.

Program, but the young person does have to be the right fit for it.

But I just wanted to know that family visitation is is obviously something that happens at Pine Grove.

FD Franklin, Don'te 21:41

Thank you.

That's that's helpful to know.

I think I was asking.

Occursent thing definitely got it. What I was, what I was interested in knowing about kind of like how does family also speak to that larger kind of campaigning or advocacy to get young people to consider this as an option of like knowing that

they're gonna go from 1:00?

Place to another is gonna be far from the family.

Like just wondering about how do they also, how are they also involved in that decision that they're making too?

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 22:10

Shalonda, did you wanna say something?

Not to put you on the spot, I thought.

SJ **Shelan Joseph** 22:16

Good morning.

CC **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 22:16

It's like a *****.

SJ **Shelan Joseph** 22:17

No, it's OK.

Good morning.

Thank you for bringing this motion forward.

I just wanted to highlight a couple of things that are in the motion but are going to what Mr. Miller is saying about motivating our young people to look at Pine Grove as an option.

I do think that with assembly Member Brian's legislation, now that the young people will get paid to fight fires while they're at Pine Grove as a as an incentive for sure.

And also that this is the only.

Only place where a young person is going to go from serving their time to actually being employed. And so I think there's things that we're we're missing all of us in terms of educating our young people of the benefits of actually going to Pine Grove that it's more.

Than just serving their time, but actually that it results in employment. It will result in being paid an hourly wage if there's.

God forbid another Eaton or palace fire while they're there, and those and those young people were critical, critical and and I think most of you on this call know that we were personally affected by the Eaton fire and we saw them at the Rose Bowl really working hard.

To save our community and do what they can, and now they're going to be paid for that.

So I think there are some shifts in legislation and in and in job opportunities now that the the youth will really benefit.

From if this option is really portrayed to them in the light that it should have, it should be. That's number one and #2 to your point, Dante, we, you know, we believe that family involvement is critical.

We know that arc is very involved, their credible messengers with the young people that go to Pine Grove and even offer transportation to families.

From here to Pine Grove to keep that connection going.

So I think just to under score what Chloe is saying is saying it's such a great opportunity if our our youth are told everything about about it and the the program is laid out in a way that they understand that this is more than just serving their time it.

Actually going to result in hopefully potential job opportunities and and making a living wage for themselves and contributing back to the community when they're released.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak on that.

 **Cheney-Rice, Chloe** 24:43

Thanks so much, Shawn.

Yeah. Thank you for highlighting that.

That's a huge, huge benefit of of Pine Grove that I think the the bill that's mentioned in the motion really highlights the value that I think the state is putting on our incarcerated firefighters and and young people can really benefit from the program on many levels. So yes.

I'm I'm excited that the public defender's office and probation pine Grove are going to work together to to kind of message that clearly to our young.

People. Any other questions?

 **Martinez, Anabel** 25:21

And I guess we can move on to public comment.

 **Dardy Chen** 25:24

Are there any public comments online?

Please raise your hand and we'll start your one minute.

OK, Helen, if you unmute yourself, we will start with your one minute. We start speaking.

HE

helen eigenberg 25:36

Good morning, Helen eigenberg.

I'm a resident and Supervisor, District 3, and I just want to thank Supervisor Han and the staff in four for this motion.

We've been talking about Pine Grove forever.

The fact that it's just so frustrating.

But we're here now, and this is a really good thing.

And I think Shalon is right.

It's really about educating the benefits about this program to the kids. This is another amazing opportunity for certain kids and we must be doing everything we can.

To give these kids every chance that they have.

So thank you for bringing this motion forward. And please, let's make this happen.

It's been going on too long. We've talked about it forever, so thank you.

Appreciate you all.

DC

Dardy Chen 26:17

Very much.

All right.

Any other public comments?

OK.

See, now we move to the next motion.

Next motion is from 4th District, insuring youth at put Los Padrinos have equal access to the facilities, amenities and programs.

4th district.

PA

Perez, Alexandra 26:34

Thanks darde.

Hi everyone.

So this motion is directing probation to collaborate with the Parks and Recreation department and the County Library to report back in 60 days, with an analysis on

how to ensure that all youth at Los Potadinos can access the resources and amenities in the facilities with a specific focus.

□ started transcription

PA **Perez, Alexandra** 26:49

The resources and the resources with the specific focus on access to the pool library. On access to the pool library, so in Supervisor Hans many visits to LP, the youth and units R&S, which are located in a separate locked area within the campus, have said that they don't have access to the library.

So in Supervisor Hans many visits to LP, the youth and units, R&S, which are located in a separate locked area within the campus, have said that they don't have access to the library and the pool and all youth should be able to experience the beautiful little.

□ **Dardy Chen** stopped transcription