

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF JUVENILE CORRECTIONS
JUVENILE TRAINING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 14, 2024

Location:

IDJC Headquarters – Conference Room 3 (954 W Jefferson St. Boise, ID 83702), or; Virtually at:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81536405035?pwd=CUuZGbbb2oBcHz67jDmMab3HCjda53.1>

Time: 1:00PM – 3:00PM MT

Members Present

Voting Members:

- Brent Reinke, Commissioner, Twin Falls County (Chair)
- Sean Brown, Director, SWIJDC (Vice Chair)
- Jay Davis, Captain, Blaine Co. Sheriff’s Office
- Ashley Dowell, IDJC Director
- Jason Stone, COPS Administrator (IDJC Director’s Designee)
- Shawn Hill, Bingham County Probation Services
- Judge Victoria Olds

Ex-officio Members:

- Matt Heuring, IDJC/POST Acad. Coord.
- Leahann Romero, COPS Administrator Assoc.
- Audrey McKay, POST
- Paul Shepherd, IDSC

Others

- IDJC Fiscal Representative (Jeff Armstrong)
- Others: _____

Note: The order of the agenda items is subject to change.

Agenda	Meeting Outcomes/Decisions Reached	Who’s Responsible	Due Date
Call to Order at 1:02PM		Council Chair	
Action Item – Approval of Meeting minutes 08/22/2024	No discussion needed. Motion to approve: Director Dowell Seconded: Captain Davis All in favor – motion passes unanimously <i>Meeting minutes from 08/22/2024 are approved as written.</i>	Council Chair	
Action Item – Approve calendar for 2025	Sean Brown was unable to attend but emailed the JTC members to advise of conflicts with three of the four dates. Matt Heuring conferred with Mr. Brown to identify any other conflicts, but heard none at this time. Matt Heuring proposed moving the proposed dates one week prior to absolve the conflicts Mr. Brown identified. No other conflicts from the group discussed at this time. Motion to approve: Shawn Hill Seconded: Director Dowell All in favor – motion passes unanimously.	Matt Heuring	

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	<p><i>JTC Schedule for 2025 will be as follows:</i> 02/06/25 2:00PM – 4:00PM on POST Campus 05/08/25 2:00PM – 4:00PM at IDJC Headquarters 08/07/25 2:00PM – 4:00PM on POST Campus 11/06/25 2:00PM – 4:00PM at IDJC Headquarters</p>		
Review JCO #2 Academy survey	<p>IDJC/POST Academy Coordinator Matt Heuring reviewed the end-of-academy survey from Juvenile Corrections Academy #2. Generally, the class was positive and successful. Students lauded instructor professionalism and friendliness. Students frequently commented the Academy should be longer, requesting three weeks. Students found Legal and Liability class difficult, wanting more time, but found the instructor to be effective. This instructor earned a number of votes from students for Top Instructor.</p>	Matt Heuring	
Review JDO #48 Academy survey	<p>IDJC/POST Academy Coordinator Matt Heuring reviewed the end-of-academy survey from Juvenile Detention Academy #48. The class was a unique challenge with academic struggles and some ethical/behavioral issues from some students who were eventually sent home at the behest of their agencies. The class began with 21 students, ended with 16, and only 10 of the 16 passed their certification exam. Discussion was held on the challenges of the academy, whether they related to the standard of hires, the difficulty in staffing agencies with the number of failures, and what the staff would do as a result of the high failure rate. Matt Heuring proposed to do an in-depth look at the exam questions the Training Coordinator is responsible for as well as work with the POST Curriculum Department to identify areas for improvement in the curriculum overall and in the certification exam process. Discussion was also held on whether there were any alternative methods for assessing knowledge for students that struggle with standardized true/false, multiple choice questions. There does not currently exist any specific approved method at the POST Academy for assessing knowledge outside of the testing procedures in place. Accommodations can be given for students that have valid ADA needs or struggle academically; Those accommodations were in place for many of the students that failed tests. Captain Davis suggested having some introduction to the testing procedure in order to ensure students are oriented to what tests will look like and feel like. Finally, discussion was held to bring concerns about the testing failure rates to the administrators meeting. It was suggested if that conversation took place, to do so in a</p>	Matt Heuring	

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	tactful way to assess any concerns administrators had with employee's preparedness for the academic rigors of the Academy, what could be done to better prepare students.		
Update on JCO ARCON Proposal	Matt Heuring presented the Juvenile Corrections Curriculum change proposal for ARCON to the POST Training Subcommittee last week. The committee approved the proposal including adding two additional days to the JCO Academies. The next step will be the full proposal before the POST Council on December 5, 2024. Not anticipating any issues at that level.	Matt Heuring	
Update on Detention Officer higher level certifications (if any)	Matt Heuring reported on the status of Adult Detention Higher level certification proposed changes to the matrix; Currently the proposal is before the Idaho Sheriffs Association to gain support and approval. It will then need to be presented to a POST Subcommittee for approval, then to POST Council. Once the Council approves a modified matrix, Detention and Probation administrators can decide if they want to amend the proposed changes they drafted earlier in 2024.	Matt Heuring	
Discussion on merging juvenile detention and juvenile corrections academies	Director Dowell led the discussion on merging Juvenile Detention and Juvenile Corrections officers in a single academy with the intention of Juvenile Corrections adopting the entirety of Juvenile Detention lesson plans. Sean Brown expressed via email his support for the conversations to continue to develop this merged academy. Leahann Romero is forming a workgroup with an number of individuals from IDJC, POST, and Detention partners identified already. Chairperson Reinke noted concerns about significant philosophical differences in the work Detention officers do compared to Corrections officers and asked if that has been in consideration. Matt Heuring reported the belief that the current POST curriculum for Detention and Corrections line up well respective to the objectives for their courses. Similarly, the overlap of instructors that teach Detention and Corrections is significant – that their instruction and philosophies do not differ all that much. Ultimately, Heuring reported the adoption of Detention curriculum for Corrections officers could be bolstered with in-service training within their facility to bridge the philosophical gaps that may be present. Director Dowell acknowledged the eagerness of those who have been brought into these discussions to advance this proposal as it could account for higher quality training for juvenile corrections, additional academy training dates throughout the year for corrections and detention, as well as the potential for the workforce of	Director Dowell	

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		both disciplines to be supplemented by one another. Captain Davis agreed there are a number of benefits to a merged academy, particularly if it will allow for dual-certification. The status of certification is yet to be ascertained, but will be a priority for the workgroup to decide what certification will look like with a merged academy.		
	JTC Roster review	Jason Stone will act as the IDJC Director's designee in the event Director is unable to attend the meeting or circumstances in which the Director would defer to Mr. Stone.	Matt Heuring	
	Budget	Jeff Armstrong from IDJC Fiscal was present to field questions about the budget for POST Academies and training. The amount of money from juvenile petitions is slowly decreasing, but the budget is strong thus far. Care will be taken to assess budgetary needs despite the difficulties in obtaining simple fiscal reports. Jeff Armstrong will be open to feedback on the formatting of the fiscal reports should there be needs identified in the future.	IDJC Fiscal Representative	
	Meeting Adjournment	Prior to adjournment, Matt Heuring updated the group regarding Juvenile Probation Academy #25; There were 7 students on the roster with approximately 3 additional applications needing more information. The deadline for application is December 6 th . There must be 15 students no the roster to continue. Matt Heuring will keep the Training Council updated on the status of this academy. Meeting adjourned at 2:20PM		

Submitted by Matt Heuring 11/15/2024

Next Meeting
February 6th, 2024 2:00PM MT
POST Campus, Plott Conference Room – 700 S Stratford Dr. Meridian, ID (Zoom Available)