

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, July 11, 2011 – 8:00 a.m.

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

McEaddy Conference Room
12th Floor, 301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Members Present:

Rosalyn Baker
Peter Blanc
Barbara Cheives
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Feirmon Johnson
William Kramer
Gerald Richman
Clarence Williams

Members Absent:

Carey Haughwout
Marti LaTour
Michael McAuliffe

Bill Malone
Ex-Officio Executive Committee

James Barr
Ex-Officio Executive Committee

CJC Member Attending:

Lee Waring

Guests Attending:

Michael Gauger, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Beth Ann Hanney, Public Defender's Office
Un Cha Kim, Clerk & Comptroller's Office (for Clerk Bock)
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
Paul Zacks, State Attorney's Office (for State Attorney McAuliffe)

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Arlene Griffiths, Administrative Secretary
Katherine Hatos, Criminal Justice Analyst
Jenise Link, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst
Rosalind Murray, Program Development Specialist
Brenda Oakes, Youth Violence Prevention Planning Coordinator
Jyota Snyder, Temporary Professional
Craig Spatara, RESTORE Initiative Program Manager
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

- I. Chair Barbara Cheives called the meeting to order at approximately 8:03 a.m.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chair Cheives welcomed members and invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Elmore and second by Mr. Barr.
- V. The minutes of the June 13, 2011 Executive meeting were approved after amended to correctly list the members present at that meeting.
- VI. Chairman's Comments:
There were no comments.
- VII. Under Executive Director's Comments, Mr. Rodriguez announced the second public budget hearing and the CJC's presentation on the YVP and the sunshine law at the July 19th Board of County Commissioners meeting.
- VIII. Business Consent Item
There were no business consent items.
- IX. Old Business:

A. Finance Committee Update

Committee Chairman William Kramer presented the committee's recommendations based on the total dollars (\$1,456,000) available which represented a reduction of \$106,000 as follows:

- \$229,000 Existing CJC staff (reduced by \$10,000)
- \$318,000 JAC Security (reduced by \$85,000)
- \$395,000 Drug Court Treatment (reduced by \$5,000)
- \$514,000 Countywide Reentry Initiatives (reduced by \$6,000)

Mr. Rodriguez noted that the amount could be changed before September 30th if the projected amount for FY2011 is not spent, which would result in some extra dollars for FY2012. He also reported on his meeting with the Sheriff's office regarding the JAC security contract which is currently administered through G4S. He said that the contract amount for fiscal year 2010 was \$454,000, but that the actual expenditure was \$424,000, and that there is still a shortfall \$65,000 - \$85,000 to keep the same level of service from the existing company. He said that the Law Enforcement Planning Council (LEPC) was advised of the reduction in funds and the possibility of the municipalities contributing to the JAC security. He also noted that the Department of Juvenile Justice Secretary will be contacted for possible funding.

Chief Deputy Gauger added that changing the current vendor was one option discussed with the CJC, but noted that this is a very critical position. He highlighted the importance of having two staff on duty at all times and noted that the job entails not just security but include booking, printing, photographing and processing of the required paperwork which

are all done by the officers. He reported that an attempt to speak with the vendor's regional director regarding possible renegotiating the current contract was made, but said that he was out of office. Chief Deputy Gauger will contact him on his return.

Other options including the possibility of finding other vendors in the county that are able to provide security services were discussed.

Chief Deputy Gauger remarked that there are other security agencies, but cautioned about putting out the service for bid as the department would want to hire a caliber of officers with law enforcement/military experience.

Chair Cheives commented on the effectiveness of the JAC in Palm Beach County which she said we would hate to lose, but noted that the major issue is financing the Center.

Chief Clarence Williams stated that there have been no discussions beyond the executive level among the chiefs who participate in the program, but said that the alternative of spreading the cost among those municipalities would be discussed at the next Chiefs Association's meeting. He commented on the reality of the budget and the need for the facility to be maintained, and gave his commitment as president of the Chiefs Association to push this option.

Following a discussion about the recent 3% reduction in staff salary that is being contributed to the retirement plan, Mr. Elmore suggested that it be explored and additional information provided to the CJC in this regard.

After further discussion, the Finance Committees' recommendations were unanimously approved as presented.

B. Youth Violence Prevention Project Evaluation

Chair Cheives expressed her satisfaction for the excellent work by staff on the YVP evaluation. Members, especially law enforcement partners who work directly with the project were asked to take a keen look at the evaluation and provide feedback.

Ms. Brenda Oakes thanked all the partners and staff who not only helped with the evaluation, but with collection and submission of data on a monthly basis.

Her presentation began with a video project produced by the youths at the Boynton Beach and Northwood youth empowerment centers. She noted that the equipment for the digital imaging class at both centers was purchased with grant or ad valorem dollars through the CJC. She said that kids are usually on a waiting list to get into the digital imaging program.

Ms. Oakes provided a brief history of the project which consist of prevention, corrections, and law enforcement and courts components, and outlined a summary of its accomplishments for 2010. She noted that

the five centers collectively provided a total of 2,844 structured program sessions including tutoring, audio visual and life skill programs to 864 participants, and that 94% of those participants were not rearrested. The average age of participants was 14 and 95% of these were listed as black.

In the area of prevention, Ms. Oakes highlighted the zip codes of the participants that were referred by DJJ with Riviera Beach accounting for the highest followed by West Palm Beach. In terms of the corrections component, she reported that the Riviera Beach Justice Service Center began an initiative called the R², providing training and support to a wide range of ex-offenders from ages 15-69. A total of 181 ex-offenders received services through the center during the year. For the law enforcement and courts component, she reported that the Office of Statewide Prosecution and the Office of the State Attorney collaborated on gang racketeering cases, an increased number of staff were trained to use forensic technology to solve firearm related crime, gang related homicides reduced by over 50%, and the Community-Based Anti-Crime Task Force initiated prosecution of 526 individuals.

The correlation between the YEC's and the reduction of crime in the cities were discussed, and Mr. Waring suggested that Chief Williams and Chief Deputy Gauger provide feedback in this regard.

Chief Williams attested to the effectiveness of the YEC in Riviera Beach and reported a 45 percent reduction in overall crime throughout the city since the inception of the program. He commended the CJC, law enforcement and other criminal justice partners for the tremendous work done, saying that it is attributed to the efforts made in the targeted areas.

Chief Deputy Gauger echoed the sentiment expressed by Chief Williams and stressed the importance of keeping the centers open. He spoke about the importance of a role model in the lives of youth that are raised in a dysfunctional environment and are able to succeed and become productive citizens.

Ms. Oakes reported that significant changes have occurred that will likely impact the project and youth violence in Palm Beach County. These include the decrease in juvenile and gang related crimes, available grants that will enhance prevention and corrections strategies in the county, as well as funding cuts.

Members provided valuable feedback for inclusion in the report before presenting to the BCC. Chair Cheives asked members if they have additional suggestions and/or questions to submit them to the CJC before the BCC meeting.

- C. Due to time constraints, the review of items under consideration by CJC and its taskforces/committees was tabled for a future CJC meeting.

- X. Under new business members unanimously:
- A. Approved submission of a grant application in the amount of \$50,000 for the OJJDP FY 2011 Second Chance Act Juvenile Offender Reentry Program for Planning and Demonstration Projects. The funds will be used to complete a reentry strategic plan for the juvenile population, and requires a 50% match which would be provided through various CJC staff.
 - B. Granted permission to staff for receipt and file of a Grant submission to the US Department of Justice for a \$2000,000 grant for the Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program with a match requirement of 25%.

XI. CJC Initiatives / Updates

The following documents were included in the agenda packet for information:

- Drug Court data
- Reentry 2010 report
- Weed & Seed Survey

XII. There were no member comments.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 a.m.