

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, September 24, 2012

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

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

Members Present:

Rosalyn Baker
James Barr
Peter Blanc
Steven Burdelski
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Feirmon Johnson
Randolph Johnson
Nellie King
William Kramer
Kathleen Kroll
Gerald Richman
Valentin Rodriguez
Chuck Shaw
Priscilla Taylor
Carmen Veneziano
Lee Waring

Members Absent:

Peter Antonacci
Mack Bernard
Sharon Bock
Ric Bradshaw
Mike Driscoll
Rolando Garcia
Carey Haughwout
John McKenna
Susan Yoffee

Barbara Cheives
Ex-Officio/Past Chair

E. Wayne Gent
Ex-Officio Exec. Cmtee

Guests Attending:

Kristi Del Rey, Correctional Healthcare Company
Pamela Eidelberg, County Attorney's Office
Michael Gauger, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office (for Ric Bradshaw)
Lawrence J. Leon, School District Police Chief
Jenise Link, Justice Services - Department of Public Safety
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
Gregg Lynk, Correctional Healthcare Company
Robert Mangold, Atlantis Police Department/MPSCC
Pat Sheffield, JADI
Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller's Office (for Clerk Bock)
Dorrie Tyng, Drug Court

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Arlene Griffiths, Administrative Secretary
Katherine Hatos, Criminal Justice Analyst
Damir Kukec, Research & Planning Manager
Rosalind Murray, Criminal Justice Program Development Specialist
Brenda Oakes, Youth Violence Prevention Planning Coordinator
Craig Spatara, RESTORE Initiative Program Manager
Mike Szakacs, Financial Analyst II
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

- I. Chairman Douglas Duncan called the meeting to order and welcome extended to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chairman Duncan invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Mr. George Elmore and second by Mr. Lee Waring.
- V. The minutes of the May 29, 2012 meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Mr. James Barr and second by Mr. George Elmore.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Chairman Duncan:
 - A. Expressed condolences on behalf of members and staff to Barbara Cheives on the passing of her mom, provided information on the memorial services, and information regarding donations in lieu of flowers to the TAB Development Corporation for the U B Kinsey Educational and Cultural Center.
 - B. Extended welcome to Chief Vincent Demasi of the West Palm Beach Police Department. Chief Demasi was absent from the meeting. Welcome was also extended to Mr. Lawrence Leon, newly appointed Police Chief of the School District.
 - C. Congratulated Nellie King on her recognition for Leadership. Ms. King, immediate Past President of the Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (FACDL) was presented the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, Virginia.
- VII. Under Executive Director's comments, Mr. Rodriguez:
 - A. Announced the recent awards of two federal grants from the United States Department of Justice totaling nearly \$1 million. One he said is a Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program: Planning and Implementation Grant in the amount of \$249,955 which will enable the Juvenile Drug Court to increase support of co-occurring mental and substance abuse disorders, and the other a Second Chance Act Adult Offender Reentry Program for Planning and Demonstration totaling \$750,000. He also mentioned a \$750,000

implementation grant for juvenile reentry that the CJC was unsuccessful in obtaining despite the positive feedback from the Justice Department, which also highlighted minor negatives identified in the grant process including the lack of limited statewide data and outcomes. He noted that there were only four awards given out of 18 throughout the country.

Mr. Rodriguez further noted that a synopsis of the CJC grants will be compiled and distributed on a quarterly basis beginning in October 2012.

- B. Announced the youth violence prevention project workshop scheduled to take place on Tuesday, September 25, 2012 in the commission chambers. Members were encouraged to attend if possible.
- C. Advised of the positive outcome of the MPSCC \$12.50 issue that was discussed at the recent Board of County Commissioners meeting

Chief Robert Mangold of the Atlantis Police Department thanked the CJC for its continued support of the MPSCC which resulted in the decision for the County's continued reimbursement of the \$12.50 funds for inoperable expenses to all municipalities.

VIII. Business Consent Item

There were no business consent items.

IX. Old Business

There were no old business items for discussion.

X. New Business

A. Program Monitoring and Evaluation

Program Monitoring and Evaluation subcommittee Chairman, Lee Waring commented on the draft report provided in the agenda packet. He noted that the committee has been working not just on the activity levels, but on methodologies and independent evaluations to determine the effectiveness of the CJC dollars spent.

MR. Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager and staff of the subcommittee added that the approach used was the process service statistics which looks at the number of persons served, how many left the program, the treatment received etc. He noted that the sub-committee focused programs and areas that were identified as priorities of the CJC, and tried to compare these programs with others. He commented on the outcomes evaluation section which described the local programs and evaluation findings, noting that the local programs were impressive when compared with similar programs. In terms of the reentry component, Mr. Kukec highlighted the .08% recidivism rate compared to a 33% recidivism rate at the Florida Department of Corrections (DOC).

Mr. Kukec also noted the proposed outcome measures by priorities which include drug court, reentry and juvenile issues.

Mr. Waring further noted that while the process will be refined over a period of time, this was a fair comparison of the local programs with other programs. He noted that the proposed outcomes listed will be provided to the vendors in order to qualify them for recommendations for funding.

Chief Judge Blanc inquired about the definitions of recidivism varying across local and comparison groups as state in the report, and whether a study to compare what the CJC is doing with no programs. Mr. Kukec responded that a comparison of that nature will be carried out.

Commissioner Taylor inquired about the Civil Drug Court not maintaining reliable outcome statistics. Mr. Kukec noted that it was based on a template of quarterly report (a spreadsheet with a running total) provided by the program, and emphasized that the CJC built a case management system using Microsoft Access to better help Riviera Beach Civil Drug Court, and spent over two months coding and entering all of their clients since 2007. This he said, will be used for an in depth study of the Riviera Beach Civil Drug Court, which will include the treatment group and a non-treatment group. He remarked about the cooperativeness of the Civil Drug Court in getting the data.

Mr. Rodriguez added that the drug courts will be funded for the upcoming year, and that accurate data will be available.

Judge Kroll suggested that the information be shared with the leaders of the programs namely reentry and drug courts. She also wondered why the youth empowerment centers and domestic violence programs were not covered in the report. Mr. Kukec said that the focus was on the programs identified as 2012 CJC's priorities. Mr. Rodriguez also added that the youth empowerment centers are currently funded by competitive grants only, and that the domestic violence \$147,000 was dedicated funding solely for training of law enforcement.

Mr. Valentin Rodriguez stated that he has been asked by the members of the League of Cities about where to obtain the numbers to determine how many people are recidivists because of a new drug arrest versus other types of arrest. He also remarked about how hard it is to get into drug court. Mr. Kukec said that it will be a part of the in depth study, but noted that it becomes challenging if they are no longer clients of the court since there is very little that can be done unless they participate voluntarily. He further noted that the historical trend for drug court is 64% completion rate.

Mr. Kukec thanked the subcommittee for their continued support and for members input.

Commissioner Taylor requested that an age breakdown be included in report.

Chairman Duncan concluded that in light of Judge Kroll's suggestion that was concurred by Chief Judge Blanc, the item will be deferred until to next month's meeting while input is sought from Judge Alvarez and Judge Marx, as well as Public Defended Carey Haughwout.

B. Violent Crime

Executive Director Michael Rodriguez advised of a recent discussion with Mr. Waring who brought with regards to the many shootings in the county, which he has also discussed with Commissioner Taylor, and wondered if there was something that the CJC could do. He said the City of Riviera Beach is independently pursuing some social justice issues and would be happy to invite them sit with the CJC.

Commissioner Taylor commented that she sees it as a problem that the CJC can possibly identify solutions for. She has also spoken with the Chief Judge and Colonel Michael Gauger of the Sheriff's Office in this regard.

Mr. Kramer pointed out that while the CJC can identify solutions to this problem, there has to be a commitment and require a

Chief Kroll cited prevention as the key to fixing the problem as it needs to be dealt with at the juvenile schools before they get to the adult stage, stating that this is the prime time to do this with a new school superintendent, new school police chief and soon to be new state attorney.

Colonel Gauger noted that this was just a law enforcement issue, but a societal issue that is all related to culture, poverty, lack of youth programs, alternatives to keep kids in school among other things. He referred to the Dyson Circle in the 1980s which was the chief drug distribution point in Palm Beach County. He said that it took time to change the culture but that if the money is not put in front it will be put at end with housing inmates the courts and all other costs. He also indicated the need to keep up the enforcement techniques.

Mr. Chuck Shaw added that the school police is still active with the gang task force and that School District recently revised all the of the student conduct codes for elementary and middle and senior high schools, and that the revisions include efforts to provide interventions to reduce the number of suspensions. Mr. Shaw said that he would like to see the CJC obtains enough data on the impact of gang activities in the county, to help determine where the resources should be channeled.

The issue of parent accountability was also discussed.

Judge Kroll reported that 650 kindergarten students were suspended last year and that we all have to take responsibility. She said that the School District has been working with the courts but CJC also needs to get involved.

Ms. Rosalyn Baker suggested that the CJC also obtain an age range of the recent shootings.

Chairman Duncan asked that the CJC be provided with an update on gang activity.

Mr. Rodriguez advised of a juvenile justice committee that was chaired by former School Police Chief James Kelly, which he would like to see continue.

Chief Lawrence Leon was suggested to chair the committee.

XI. CJC Initiatives/Updates

A. Sunshine Law Sub-committee

Mr. Gerald Richman reported that the members of the sub-committee met with some county commissioners and that Randy Shultz of the Editorial Board is willing to meet as soon as a bill is available. A sponsor is now being sought for the bill and while waiting for a response from the First Amendment Foundation in Tallahassee regarding their support, after which it will go before the Editorial Board.

B. JAC Update

Mr. Feirmon Johnson advised that the move has been rescheduled since July but he is hoping that it will take place by the November 1, 2012. He said that construction of building #2 which will house administration is complete and he is hoping that total renovation will complete by mid October. He noted that the State has taken over the security but that the security contract with G4S will continue for the fiscal year and will be reviewed thereafter.

XII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 9:10 a.m.