

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, March 23, 2015

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

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

Members Present:

Chris Allen
Dave Aronberg
Rosalyn Baker
James Barr
Jeffrey Colbath
Carey Haughwout
Joseph Ianno*
Randolph Johnson, Sr.
Nellie King
Bryan Kummerlen
William Kramer
Christina Morrison
Valentin Rodriguez
Chuck Shaw
Brian Smith
Gregory Starling
Priscilla Taylor
Lee Waring

Members Absent:

Nelson Berrios
Sharon Bock
Ric Bradshaw
Barbara Cheives
Michael D'Alonzo
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Rolando Garcia
Dave Kerner
Barry Krischer
Kathleen Kroll
Duane Little
John McKenna
Gerald Richman
Robert Shirley
E. Wayne Gent, Ex-Officio Executive
Committee (School Superintendent)

Guests Attending:

Angela Bess, Palm Beach County School District
Michael Edmondson, State Attorney's Office
Brian Fernandez, State Attorney's Office
Michael Gauger, PBSO
Pam Gionfriddo, Mental Health Association of PBC
Amy Karpf, Office of Financial Management and Budget
David Kerschner, West Palm Beach Police Department
Danny Kreshak, PBC Public Safety
Jenise Link, Pretrial/PBC Justice Services
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
Richard Markoe, Clerk and Comptroller
Stephanie Sejnoha, PBC Public Safety
Meagan Rappatta, Magellan Complete Care

*Pending approval by the PBC BOCC

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Jacquelyn Esposito, Criminal Justice Analyst
Arlene Griffiths, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Katherine Hatos, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Shahzia Jackson, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Rosalind Murray, Criminal Justice Program Development Specialist
Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant
Craig Spatara, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

Temporary Staff:

Pamela Williams

- I. Chairman William Kramer called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chairman Kramer invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The Agenda for the March 23, 2015 meeting was unanimously approved after a motion by Mr. Lee Waring and second by Chief Brian Smith.
- V. The Minutes with corrections of the February 23, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Lee Waring and second by Mr. Chuck Shaw.
- VI. Chairman's Comments - Chairman Kramer welcomed and asked the new economic council nominated member, Mr. Joseph Ianno, Jr. to introduce himself and give his background information. Chairman Kramer officially created the Behavioral Task Force which will appoint Co-Chairpersons Dave Aronberg and Carey Haughwout, the first meeting to be held directly after the conclusion of this meeting. Ms. Haughwout gave a brief overview of the general goals of the new Task Force.
- VII. Executive Director's Comments - Mr. Michael Rodriguez announced the second session of the Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy to directly follow the completion of the current session, and thanked those involved with the Academy for their services. He outlined five grants that CJC staff is currently working on, notated on the grant worksheet included in agenda packet, along with news articles, and thanked collaborators for their assistance. Last week representatives from the Council of State Gov. met with the Reentry subcommittee to discuss the Reentry Pilot program and employment strategies.
- VIII. Business Consent Items - there were no items for discussion.
- IX. Old Business - there were no items for discussion
- X. New Business –
 - A. Mr. Rodriguez discussed the topic of the Domestic Violence Trust Fund (DVTF) to provide training for domestic violence for law enforcement officers, or to

offset costs of incarceration; an RFP proposal was received from the National Family Justice Center Alliance through the Domestic Violence Council of Palm Beach County. The proposal was presented to the CJC Finance Committee as substantially reduced to \$20,840.00 from the original grant request; there will still be \$250,000 in the DVTF after this proposal is approved. The Finance Committee asked the CJC Staff for additional vetting on the National Family Justice Center, and to date have received financial reports, certifications, and possible outcome scenarios. There is still a need for the PME committee to develop strategies to vet this and future proposals. This proposal is now ready for the CJC to approve this project, pending PME approval.

Mr. Waring further explained the importance from a fiduciary responsibility to provide a standard for vetting. After some member discussion, Mr. Waring made a motion for approval of the proposal, subject to finalization of contract and PME committee approval, seconded by Mr. James Barr. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Mike Rodriguez added that he spoke with Mr. Todd Bonlarron about the possibility of altering the state statute to use the DVTF for more than law enforcement training and offsetting incarceration costs; the hope is to be able to broaden the scope of use of the funds. Mr. Bonlarron said in the conversation this idea was not warmly received in Tallahassee as there was an indication not to impact fees/fines being used for these purposes. Further suggestions on an approach to this issue are needed.

B. The CJC Finance subcommittee budget allocations worksheet included in the agenda packet was reviewed for projected fiscal breakdown, pending grant awards. The Finance subcommittee will meet again when actual amounts are known. After a general review of the worksheet by Mr. Waring and Chairman Kramer, the request was made for a motion to approve the projected budget allocations. A motion was made by Mr. Randy Johnson, seconded by Mr. James Barr. Motion passed unanimously.

C. Mr. Mike Rodriguez requested to permanently change the date of the Annual Planning Meeting to November to align CJC priorities more with budget deadlines. A motion was made by Commissioner Priscilla Taylor, seconded by Ms. Rosalyn Baker. Motion passed unanimously. The next APM will be held the week of November 16, 2015.

XI. CJC Initiatives – Ms. Nellie King provided the Commission members a Court Systems Task Force update regarding the statutory change which removed DCF oversight over the batterer's intervention programs statewide in 2013. This led to the individual communities having to self-police and develop oversight of programs.

The Task Force is exploring initiatives to develop oversight, and Ms. King outlined a program initiated in Orange County Florida as a good model. This group is now looking to provide services for other counties statewide, for a \$30.00 fee, paid from defendant fees that would fund the agency for oversight. The Task Force had voted to issue an RFP, to run a program internally. Batterer's intervention services might possibly meet criteria for funding from the DVTF; the Task Force welcomes insight from the CJC on how to proceed.

Ms. Rosalyn Baker agreed the program run by Orange County was excellent. She has asked to have the representatives come to PBC; from the State Attorney's perspective, Mr. Aronberg said it was appropriate for CJC to review all alternatives to their program.

There was a lengthy general discussion among the members on whom and how to effectively monitor these programs, what criteria would be needed to assess providers, and creation of the type of contract to ensure programs meet goals for services provided. Ms. Nellie King will return to the Court Systems Task Force next meeting to clarify issues surrounding creating a working model either locally or join in an existing program, and bring back to the CJC with recommendations on how best to proceed.

XII. Member Comments - Mr. Valentin Rodriguez discussed the topic of the League of Cities municipalities using DEA forfeiture funds to benefit Drug Court. The state statute restricts the use of these funds to crime/drug abuse prevention or other law enforcement purposes deemed appropriate, and community projects within the scope of the statute. Mr. Valentin Rodriguez stated that educating the municipalities on the Drug Court program and its impact might encourage them to contribute some of this money as a renewable source of funding to benefit Drug Court. He wants to create a dialogue with federal/local agencies and the county attorney to retrieve funds for that purpose. There was a general discussion among members relating to how best to approach the topic and to create interest.

Judge Colbath agreed to present Drug Court to the League of Cities meeting. A motion to support Mr. Valentin Rodriguez's mission was made by Commissioner Taylor, seconded by Mr. Chuck Shaw; the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Chuck Shaw mentioned Representative Dave Kerner is working on House Bill 369 Human Trafficking pending in house, and asked that CJC staff monitor the progress of the bill to see if CJC needs to take a position on it. Mr. Dave Aronberg commented the bill was unlikely to pass this session.

Chairman Kramer announced the CJC Executive Committee meeting scheduled for April 13, 2015 to discuss permanent funding for CJC programs and priorities.

With no further business to be discussed, meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.