

MINUTES

MONDAY, JULY 13, 2015

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
Barbara Cheives
Jeffrey Colbath
Carey Haughwout
Randolph Johnson, Sr.
Nellie King
Duane Little (Full CJC member)
Gerald Richman
Lee Waring
Douglas Duncan
Ex-Officio, Immediate Past Chair

Members Absent:

Dave Aronberg
George Elmore
William Kramer
Christina Morrison

Robert Avossa
Ex-Officio, Executive Committee

Guests Attending:

Cristy Altaro, Court Administration
Barbara Dawicke, Court Administration
Michelle Dryer, Career Source Palm Beach County
Bernard Featherman, Chair, Reentry Sex Offender Sub-Committee
Michael Gauger, PBSO
Ted Gonzalez, Director LEX Program
Latronda Hayes, Pre-Trial Services
Amy Karpf, Office of Financial and Budget Mgmt.
Jenise Link, Palm Beach County Justice Services
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office
Richard Markoe, Clerk and Comptroller's Office
Geraldine Nagy, MacArthur Foundation
Brenda Oakes, Youth Services Division
David Shea, FL House of Representatives
Judge Caroline Shepherd, 15th Judicial Circuit
Brittany Thoey, Choice to Change
Don Trapp, MacArthur Foundation
Lynn Trimble, Choice to Change
Dorrie Tyng, Palm Beach County Drug Court

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Jacquelyn Esposito, Criminal Justice Analyst
Arlene Griffiths, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Shahzia Jackson, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Danny Kreshak, Financial Analyst II
Damir Kukec, Research & Planning Manager
Rosalind Murray, Criminal Justice Program Development Specialist
Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant
Craig Spatara, Manager, Criminal Justice Programs

- I. In Chairman William Kramer's absence, Vice-Chairman Mr. Lee Waring agreed to chair the meeting and called the meeting to order at approximately 8:10 a.m.
- II. Roll Call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Vice-Chairman Waring welcomed members and invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Chief Judge Jeffrey Colbath and second by Mr. Randy Johnson.
- V. The minutes of the April 13, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Douglas Duncan and second by Mr. Gerald Richman.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Vice-Chair Waring on behalf of Chairman Kramer:**
 - A. The 27TH Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy held its graduation ceremony on Monday, June 29, 2015. It was well attended; the next Academy will be scheduled sometime in the new year.
- VII. Under Director's Comments, Michael Rodriguez:**
 - A. Mr. Michael Rodriguez announced the MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Challenge Community Stakeholder's Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 12:00 p.m. in the BOCC Chambers, all in attendance are invited and encouraged to attend.
- VIII. Old Business – Regular Item(s):**
 - A. Vice-Chairman Waring asked Executive Director Michael Rodriguez to discuss the latest information on the County Budget process and its relationship to the CJC budget, tying Old Business and New Business agenda items together. Mr. Rodriguez announced the Property Appraiser's office had completed their analysis and there will be nearly \$5

million more dollars to allocate for programs. The \$335,000 that was set aside for Behavioral Health initiatives is not part of the budget, but funds for Reentry in the amount of \$250,000 are included. At this meeting it is hoped to determine how to proceed on this issue with the BOCC, as no programs have yet been determined with the Behavioral Health Task Force (BHTF); although there has been some discussion for a staff person to move forward with the BHTF work plan, the BHTF has not determined if a staff person is necessary at this time. Staff for the Reentry programs are moving to the Public Safety department as of October 1, resulting in three less positions for the CJC, (two grant funded positions, i.e. Arlene Griffiths and Shahzia Jackson; and Craig Spataro). This is in keeping with the CJC mission not to keep but incubate programs and then move to a natural permanent home, which will be best served under the Public Safety department. From a CJC staff perspective, because of losing those three positions, some of Craig's duties regarding grant management and contracts will fall to Damir Kukec or his designee. The CJC needs to determine whether or not to fight for the \$335,000 funds, or, less costly, seek some accommodation with county administration to fund a staff position to help move the BHTF work plan forward, and if the CJC wants to move forward with the BHTF work plan attached for approval in the agenda.

Vice-Chair Waring asked Ms. Carey Haughwout for her input on the needs of the BHTF. Ms. Haughwout sees that funding is not so much the issue, rather than organization, with some support on that; she sees the CJC as having staff shortages and limitations, and there is no specific request for funding at this time. Ms. Haughwout does not see the need for a full time staff for the BHTF, they felt it was not responsible to come forth and ask for "x" number of dollars for a program, they want to be sure they are addressing priorities in a responsible way for the long term. There are specific tasks that the BHTF will undertake assuming the work plan is approved; organization and training, some funding for contract services specifically to address the lack of coordination of services from a user data standpoint, to create a data program all providers can use to establish better communication and eliminate duplication of services. Efficiency and effectiveness can be improved in coordination by an outside agency to identify overall gaps. Vice Chair Waring summarized by saying the BHTF is more at an organizational stage in terms of identifying what needs to be done. Ms. Haughwout suggested

negotiation of the \$335,000 that there could be some kind of 50/50 split in funding that could assist in staff support between BHTF and CJC staff.

Member Comments:

Mr. Gerald Richman inquired on the timing, Mr. Rodriguez said administratively it is already lost because administration is not supporting the CJC request; they have essentially allocated it for Drug Court. The next public budget hearing is on July 21, with final decisions to be made in September; July 21 would be the time to say all or part of the money needs to stay with the CJC. Judge Colbath reiterated Drug Court is not taking the money away, the BOCC has not seen a Behavioral Health plan, but the Behavioral Health initiative has not failed. Ms. Haughwout asked if the county is funding Drug Court, Mr. Rodriguez responded that it is being funded by the county for over \$700,000.00. Future funding for Drug Court will depend on budget improvements. The BOCC is giving Drug Court approximately 1 million dollars; Judge Colbath expressed appreciation that they are getting that, enough to keep it running. Vice Chairman Waring said that from a practical standpoint, there is not enough time to present a case for the money lacking a plan, to continue the process to formulate the plan with cost documentation and present it later. Mr. Gerald Richman stated the CJC should not rush the process, but send a clear message it intends to present a viable plan in the near future. Staff support is needed, and Mr. Rodriguez mentioned what had worked with the Reentry program was a full time staff member. It would possible be able to bring in a Criminal Justice Analyst at approximately \$44,000.00 salary with behavioral health knowledge. Ms. Barbara Cheives asked if there was a possibility of a grant funded position, is there a potential grant available for these staffing needs; Ms. Cheives pointed out the CJC may not have the opportunity to address this later with the BOCC. Mr. Mike Gauger pointed out the SE Behavioral Health Organization has a great track on who is doing what in BH services unit – they work with PBSO Behavioral Health Services now.

B. Criminal Justice Diversion Programs - There was a discussion among the members to identify the staffing needs of both the BHTF and Court Diversion Programs moved forward by the Court Systems Task Force (CSTF). Ms. Nellie King referenced the white paper included in

the agenda packet and the immediate need for oversight for the various programs, most notably theft abatement and BIP, and they believe it could be handled in-house.

Member Comments:

Mr. Gerald Richman asked why there was no mention of getting a staff person or CJC/CSTF to be the monitors for the programs in the recommendations of the white paper. Ms. Nellie King responded there is support within the CSTF in the direction of a staff person. Mr. Damir Kukec clarified that when drafting the paper staff does not concern themselves and that establishing an oversight committee suggests in itself it is utilizing staff resources. Vice Chair Waring suggested that the full time CJA position could be utilized for both, Mr. Rodriguez agreed, depending on how things unfold in both categories. A motion was made by Mr. Gerald Richman to recommend moving forward with the BHTF plan, and request one full time Criminal Justice Analyst be jointly responsible for CJC/CSTF in developing oversight of Court Diversion programs and the objectives of the BHTF, and to inform the BOCC that the plan is in progress and will seek funding at a later date. The motion was seconded by Judge Jeffrey Colbath, motion passed unanimously.

C. County Drug Lab - It was suggested by Mr. Michael Rodriguez that the topic of Ban the Box be deferred to the next meeting, and brought up the County Drug Lab topic requested to be put on the agenda by Ms. Carey Haughwout. Ms. Haughwout discussed establishing a sub-committee to look at the viability of a county drug lab, to reduce costs for all drug courts, and to play a money saving role in other aspects of the county as well. Expansion of drug courts, and county testing being more prevalent, it would be appropriate for the CJC to come up with current standards and savings compared to systems in place, to make recommendations to the BOCC. Vice Chair Waring suggested incorporating this topic into the CSTF, Ms. Nellie King acknowledged it has been discussed before, and can be added to a future meeting agenda with treatment as the focus and money saving ancillary to that. Ms. King asked for a motion to move forward with it, Judge Colbath added the judges are supportive of this, with better controls through the county, and there would be a multi – use function, but cautioned it should not be run through the court system, it is an executive branch function rather than a

judicial branch function. Vice Chairman suggested it be run through the CSTF and move forward with the issue. It was determined no motion was needed.

New Business –

Ms. Haughwout brought members attention to the pink paper included in the agenda packet that is the BHTF work plan, asking a formal adoption of the CJC and approval to move forward, a motion was made by Mr. Gerald Richman to adopt, second by Judge Colbath, motion passed unanimously.

MEMBER COMMENTS: Judge Colbath gave a brief synopsis of the MacArthur Foundation grant process and the purposes of the grant in anticipation of the MacArthur Foundation site visit meeting ongoing this week.

With no further items for discussion, the meeting adjourned at approximately 9:05 a.m.