

M I N U T E S

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

McEaddy Conference Room & Virtual Participation
12th Floor, 301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL

Members Present:

Dave Aronberg (virtual)
Rachel Docekal (virtual)
Joseph Ianno, Jr.
Randolph Johnson, Sr
Kevin Jones - *virtual*
Nellie King - *virtual*
Krista Marx - *virtual*
Christina Morrison
Gerald Richman (Ex-Officio) *virtual*

Members Absent:

Frank Adderley
Barbara Cheives
Carey Haughwout
Dave Kerner

CJC Full Membership Present:

Marcia Andrews - *virtual*
Michelle Johns - *virtual*
Kathleen Kroll - *virtual*

Guests Attending:

Mike Edmondson, State Attorney's Office - *virtual*
Dave Bernhardt, District 3 BOCC - *virtual*
Arlene Griffiths, PBC Public Safety - *virtual*
Latronda Hayes, PBC Public Safety - *virtual*
Jessica Hidalgo, PBC Public Safety - *virtual*
Tyrell Slagl, PBC Resident - *virtual*
Jean Williams, County Attorney's Office

Staff Present:

Regenia Herring, Executive Director
Brad Allen, Criminal Justice Analyst
Jonathan Hackley, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Damir Kukec, Manager, Research & Planning
Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant
John Port, Financial Analyst - *virtual*
Jacqueline Jackson, FUSE Program Coordinator
Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Jon Van Arnam, PBC Deputy County Administrator
Bert Winkler, Manager, Program Development

- I. Chairman Joseph Ianno, Jr. called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to members and guests.
- II. Chair Ianno introduced the new Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) Executive Director, Ms. Regenia Herring.

- III. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present
- IV. Mr. Randy Johnson, Sr. motioned to approve the Agenda for the July 7, 2020 meeting, second by Dr. Rachel Docekal and unanimously approved by the Board.
- V. There were no Minutes to approve.

VI. Chairman's Comments

- A. Chair Joseph Ianno, Jr. gave a summary of the hiring process for the new CJC Executive Director. Deputy County Administrator Jon Van Arnam commented that Director Herring arrives at an opportune time with the issues surrounding COVID-19 and the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement as a center of attention nationwide.

VII. Executive Director Comments:

- A. Director Herring gave a summary of her professional background. She said this is a challenging time for the CJC because of the national attention on issues of equity, fairness, and racial disparities. Director Herring said it is important now for the CJC to focus on more in-depth data research, to bring to the BOCC accurate recommendations in order to change and improve our local criminal justice system.

VIII. Member Comments:

- A. Chairman Ianno invited member's questions and comments. Members congratulated Ms. Herring and welcomed her.

IX. New Business:

- A. Deputy County Administrator Jon Van Arnam gave a briefing on criminal justice reform matters brought to the BOCC by the group Black Elected Officials (BEO), through Commissioner Mack Bernard. The BEO has created a series of nine recommendations pertaining to the BLM movement. The recommendations focused on issues of reforming policing practices, use of force, body cameras, a citizen's review committee to work with law enforcement agencies, and others. Commissioner Bernard along with Mayor Dave Kerner agreed to ask the CJC to help evaluate and vet the issues, to bring back to the BOCC for future discussions. Mr. Van Arnam said there was also discussion of holding a Town Hall meeting, similar to the Village Square format, to engage the citizens of Palm Beach County in the discussion. CJC staff has been tasked to organize and facilitate a series of these town hall discussions, utilizing the Racial Equity and Community Engagement Teams.

- B. Mr. Van Arnam and Director Herring explained the development of a questionnaire

based on issues brought up by the BEO. It was sent to the police chiefs in Palm Beach County. CJC Staff will collect this information and summarize it for the BOCC. CJC Secretary Ms. Nellie King commented she hopes the CJC takes a strong posture in developing best practices recommendations; she said many groups such as criminal defense attorneys are looking for leadership. Rev. Kevin L. Jones recommended the Town Hall format be held in different areas in the County. He mentioned the “8 Can’t Wait” reform movement and expressed hope that the police address chokeholds and how law enforcement handles public investigative stops. There was member discussion on County staff and agencies receiving training in racial equity. Deputy County Administrator Van Arnam asked Director Herring to report back at the next Executive Committee meeting on the results of the CJC’s Implicit Bias trainings done through the Racial Equity Institute (REI) last year, including groups trained and subsequent results. Director Herring responded she hopes to widen the training to other agencies and has talked to Ms. Garduque at the MacArthur Foundation for future expenditures of grant dollars to support more trainings. Mr. Randy Johnson, Sr. requested a copy of the survey based on the BEO letter be sent to CJC Executive Committee members. Chair Ianno asked for another Executive meeting with the CET/RED team co-chairs in two weeks for further discussion.

XII. Adjourn:

Chair Ianno adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.