

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, April 23, 2007 - 8:00 a.m.

PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETING

6th Floor Chambers
301 N. Olive Avenue
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Members Present:

Moses Baker
Mike Driscoll
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Carey Haughwout
Feirmon Johnson
Harry A. Johnston, II
William Kramer
Barry Krischer
Kathleen Kroll
Andrew Lourie
Carl McKoy
Commissioner Warren H. Newell
Eliasib "Junior" Ortiz
Gerald Richman
Young Song
Richard Staudinger
Carmen Veneziano
Max Davis (ex officio Exec. Committee)
Art Johnson (ex officio Exec. Committee)

Members Absent:

Dave Aronberg
Dale Armstrong
Roselyn Baker
James Barr
Sharon Bock
Ric Bradshaw
Delsa Bush
Barbara Cheives
Frank Davelli
Randolph K. Johnson, Sr.
Wendy Sartory Link
Jay Pickens
Debra Robinson
Roxanna Trinko

Guests Attending:

Pastor Alex Bess, Dominion Ministries Inc.
Carlton Cartwright, The Children's Coalition Inc. (TCCI)
Captain Karl Durr, Palm Beach Sheriff Office (PBSO)
Mike Edmondson, State Attorneys Office (SAO)
Jim Kelly, PBC School District Police Department
Captain Jeff Lindskoog, Palm Beach Sheriff Office (PBSO)
Robert Mangold, Atlantis Police Department
D/S Karl Martin, Palm Beach Sheriff Office (PBSO)
Michael McAuliffe, McAuliffe Law Group
Jay Reavis, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
Felecia Scott, City of Riviera Beach
Lesley Shribert, Palm Beach Sheriff Office (PBSO)
Nicole Alvarez-Sowles, Clerk & Comptroller
Captain Jack Strenge, Palm Beach Sheriff Office (PBSO)
Mike Szakacs, Office of Financial Management and Budget (OFMB)
Christine Thrower, WPB Parks & Recreation
Mike Wallace, Palm Beach Sheriff Office (PBSO)

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Arlene Burton, Administrative Secretary
Candee Carigma, Criminal Justice Analyst
Wayne English, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst
Jenise Gibson, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst
Damir Kukec, Research & Planning Manager
Shairette Major, Financial Analyst II
Faith Martin, Community Justice Service Center Coordinator
Glenna Nowalk, Clerical Specialist
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

- I. Chair Harry Johnston called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chairman Johnston welcomed all guests and invited them to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Elmore and second by Commissioner Newell.
- V. The minutes of the March 26, 2007 Full Commission meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Davis and second by Mr. McKoy.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Chairman Johnston:
 - A. Invited Mr. Davis to speak on the Youth Violence Prevention Project.

Mrs. Walker invited everyone to the grand opening of the City of Riviera Beach's Community Justice Service Center and Youth Empowerment Center at the Dan Calloway Recreation Complex, 1420 W 10th Street, Riviera Beach on Saturday, April 28, 2007 from 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Davis added that it is very important for CJC members to make themselves aware of the Youth Empowerment Centers.
 - B. Congratulated Michael Rodriguez on his confirmation by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) as the new CJC Executive Director.
 - C. Congratulated Jenise Gibson on her appointment as Senior Criminal Justice Analyst.
- VII. Under Executive Director's Comments, Mr. Rodriguez:
 - A. Reported that the 19th Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy held its graduation at the South County Courthouse in Delray Beach on Monday, April 16, 2007 at 6:00 p.m. He thanked Chief Judge Kathleen Kroll, the Keynote Speaker who also presented Certificate of Participation to the 19 graduates.
 - B. Reported that Miami-Dade Criminal Justice Council hosted the second of their Annual Gang Summit at the Signature Gardens in South Miami on April 16, 2007 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. A CJC staff attended the summit. Conference materials gathered at the conference are available to interested members.
- VIII. There were no Business Consent items.

IX. Old Business

- A. With regards to recommendation concerning the use of up to \$75,000 that was approved for the Civil Drug Court from the Drug Abuse Trust Fund to “accommodate referrals” from the Justice Centers and the Youth Empowerment Centers, concerns were expressed about using the said money for staff as well as treatment and as a result the recommendation was put back on the agenda for further discussion.

State Attorney Barry Krischer suggested that other source of funding be identified for staff. He mentioned his prior discussion with former CJC Executive Director Diana Cunningham, about his concern in using the \$75,000 earmarked for beds to fund personnel.

Ms. Felecia Scott from the City of Riviera Beach Civil Drug Court provided a brief overview on the program and its funding requirements based on the contact treatment facilities cost.

Ms. Haughwout questioned the city’s need for a full time employee if the service was being contracted for one person. She also sought clarification on the budget and how it would impact the services to be provided.

Ms. Scott explained that certain clients might not need the 60 days as stated in the statute but might require out-patient treatment. She also said that the city was not aware of the number of persons anticipated as the available data is based on previous years with Civil Drug Court. She pointed out that there are different types of services offered and that the current case load processed by staff is manageable but that additional personnel would be required as the case load increases.

Mr. Kramer added that the dollar amount on the budget sheet presented did not add up and highlighted that both areas need to be addressed in order to accomplish the ultimate goal.

Mr. Rodriguez said although this item has been suspended a number of times, his suggestion would be for CJC staff to meet with the City of Riviera Beach to obtain additional specifics on how the money will be spent and to explore alternative options for staff funding.

Motion for CJC staff to meet with the City of Riviera Beach and return to the CJC for consideration was moved by Mr. Krischer and seconded by Mr. Elmore.

Motion to table the item was also made and unanimously approved.

- B. At the request of Chair Johnston, Mr. Rodriguez reported that at the last CJC Executive Committee meeting, a recommendation for approval to budget for the DNA forensic scientist for three years using Crime Prevention Trust Funds was presented. Due to concerns regarding the source of funds for this project, it was agreed that additional information be obtained and presented at April’s Full CJC meeting.

Ms. Walker gave a presentation on the budget for the Youth Violence Prevention (YVP) Project indicating the monetary contribution by each city and county, and

the amount being sought from the Crime Prevention Trust Fund. The DNA forensic scientist is part of the law enforcement component of the YVP Project.

CJC members sought clarification on the figures presented.

Mrs. Walker pointed out that the original budget request for the DNA forensic scientist was for \$64,000 for one year but that they are now requesting a commitment for three years in the amount of \$240,000.

Chair Johnston inquired about specific duties of the DNA forensic scientist and who would be the employer. He also asked about the origin of the Crime Prevention funds, who control the funds, and how much was given to the CJC during the last fiscal year.

Ms. Walker responded that the funds are collected from offender fees and controlled by the Criminal Justice Commission.

Ms. Major added that a total of \$154,000 has been collected to date for the current year and a total of \$372,000 was collected during the last fiscal year.

Ms. Haughwout expressed concern that this would use a large portion of the Crime Prevention Trust funds that could otherwise be used to address other needs. She thinks that paying for a Sheriff employee to do what is considered their job is inappropriate use of the Crime Prevention Trust funds.

Mr. Jack Strenge from the Sheriff's Department explained how the DNA helps in crime prevention. He added that an additional DNA forensic scientist would be a huge benefit to the Sheriff's office, pointing out that one of the biggest concerns is the current back log of DNA cases that currently exists. These include homicide cases that impact people who are in jail pending trial. They currently have seven (7) DNA forensic scientists on staff.

Commissioner Newell requested for an informational sheet showing all funds managed by CJC and the programs being funded. He said this will help in prioritizing how the funds are spent, especially with the pending budget cuts from Tallahassee.

Mr. Rodriguez said that Mr. Bonvento was informed at their last meeting that, although the \$2 million was not yet spent, it was already allocated. He said that Mr. Bonvento inquired why the DNA forensic scientist was not funded from the \$2 million. Mr. Rodriguez stated that in addition to youth empowerment, there are the corrections, law enforcement and the courts components that are funded from the \$2 million.

Motion to recommend approval to budget for the DNA forensic scientist for three years using Crime Prevention Trust Funds failed after a vote was taken.

Ms. Christine Thrower of West Palm Beach Parks and Recreation provided an update on the West Palm Beach Youth Empowerment Center. She indicated that attendance has doubled each week after its first three weeks in operation. They currently receive tremendous support from the business community and are able to provide various types of activities for the youths. Their main focus at this time is identifying and meeting the needs of the youths in the community, and Workforce Alliance works closely with the teams in identifying jobs for them.

Ms. Walker added that Riviera Beach would be having their grand opening; Lake Worth has been operating on a limited basis since January and their grand opening is scheduled for the end of April; while Boynton Beach is in the process of hiring a director and plans to open by the end of May. Florida State University was contracted to conduct the evaluation of the Youth Violence Prevention project and has since visited all youth empowerment centers and will provide the BCC with updates on a six month and yearly basis.

X. New Business – Regular Item(s)

- A. Chair Johnston presented the Letter of Agreement between County Administration, and the CJC which was review by a number of lawyers from the CJC and by State Attorney Barry Krischer. The Letter is intended to more fully delineate responsibilities as described in Section 6 of the Criminal Justice Commission authorizing Ordinance, 88-16, as approved on August 16, 1988.

Motion to ratify the Letter of Agreement between County Administration and the CJC was moved by Mr. Elmore and seconded by Mr. Davis.

- B. Chair Johnston referred to letter from LEPC regarding legislation relating to Controlled Substances/Public Records/DOH (SB518/SB520). Captain Karl Durr from PBSO talked about the issue, highlighting the increased percentage of fatality due to drug overdoses resulting from the apparent misuse and abuse of prescription drugs, and how this impacts the County and the State.

Mr. Kramer inquired about the security of the data-base particularly as it relates to consumers' social security numbers. He also asked if there were studies that have shown that the implementation of this type of system has resulted in a reduction of drug abuse.

According to Captain Durr, the data-base is being monitored by the Department of Health and that it will be set up as a web-base system for doctors and pharmacists. A review committee will also be put in place to oversee the integrity of the data-base. He also said that there is documentation at the DEA showing a reduction in the abuse of prescription drugs.

Motion was moved by Mr. Kramer and seconded by Mr. Elmore to have Chair Johnston send letter to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House to bring this bill to the floor.

- C. Chair Johnston referred to letter from Sheriff Ric Bradshaw to Commissioner Addie Greene regarding Convenience Store Security Ordinance. He asked members to review and bring their recommendations for discussion at the next CJC meeting. He also asked Deputy Karl F. Martin, originator of the memorandum to Sheriff Bradshaw to allow the CJC two weeks to present the letter to the Executive Committee for recommendation. Deputy Martin will be advised accordingly.

XI. CJC Initiatives Updates

- A. Chief Robert Mangold of the Atlantis Police Department provided an update of the MPSCC MA/Com "Phase 1 System Design Documentation" that was provided to identify components that are \$12.50 eligible and to evaluate the

system's effect on the County's ICP that was approved by the State on July 24, 1992. He cited that there appears to be differences in opinion regarding the continued use of the system, which is preventing growth of the system in three cities. He further stated that the MPSCC strongly disagrees with the findings and is scheduled to meet with their attorney, vendor, and engineering consultant to draft a response to the review. They will then seek audience with Mr. Weisman, County Administrator, with the hope of resolving the issue.

Chair Johnston asked Chief Mangold to keep the CJC apprised of the matter through Wayne English, CJC staff on Law Enforcement Planning Council.

- B. In the interest of time, Chair Johnston requested that the CJC Gang Priority be presented at May's CJC meeting.

XII. There were no member comments.

There being no further business before the Commission, meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.