

# M I N U T E S

MONDAY, February 25, 2008 - 8:00 a.m.

## PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION MEETING

McEaddy Conference Room  
12<sup>th</sup> Floor, 301 N. Olive Avenue  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

### ***Members Present:***

Commissioner Burt Aaronson  
Moses Baker  
Rosalyn Baker  
James Barr  
Ric Bradshaw  
Steven Burdelski  
Delsa Bush  
Max Davis  
Mike Driscoll  
Douglas Duncan  
George Elmore  
Rolando Garcia  
Feirmon Johnson  
Randolph K. Johnson, Sr.  
William Kramer  
Barry Krischer  
Kathleen Kroll  
Wesley Lauer  
Martin Millar  
Gerald Richman  
Stephen Stepp  
Carmen Veneziano

Art Johnson (Ex officio Exec. Committee)  
Harry A. Johnston, II (Ex officio Exec. Committee)

### ***Guests Attending:***

Mark Broderick, Clerk & Comptroller  
Carlton Cartwright, The Children's Coalition Inc. (TCCI)  
Mike Edmonson, State Attorney's Office (SAO)  
Al Johnson, State Attorney's Office (SAO)  
James Kelly, PBC School District Police Department  
Jeff Lindskoog, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO)  
Michael McAuliffe, McAuliffe Law Group  
Deanna MacDonald, Office of Financial Management & Budget (OFMB)  
Gena Rowlands, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO)  
Dwayne Taylor, Taylor Production

### ***Members Absent:***

Stephen Barborini  
Sharon Bock  
Barbara Cheives  
Carey Haughwout  
Luis Perez  
Debra Robinson  
Maria Sachs  
Richard Staudinger

**Staff Present:**

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director  
Journey Beard, Crime Prevention Project Specialist  
Arlene Burton, Administrative Secretary  
Wayne English, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst  
Jenise Gibson, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst  
Katherine Hatos, Criminal Justice Analyst  
Damir Kukec, Research & Planning Manager  
Rosalind Murray, Program Development Specialist  
Glenna Nowalk, Clerical Specialist  
Brenda Oakes, Youth Violence Prevention Planning Coordinator  
Mike Szakacs, Financial Analyst II  
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst  
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

- I. Chairman Barr called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chairman Barr welcomed members and guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Elmore and second by Mr. Davis.
- V. The minutes of the January 28, 2008 full Commission meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Davis and second by Mr. Elmore.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Chair Barr
  - A. Welcomed new CJC members Maria Sachs, representative from the Palm Beach County Legislative Delegation and Economic Council appointees: Douglas Duncan, Wesley Lauer and Joseph Bernadel. Ms. Sachs and Mr. Bernadel were absent.
  - B. Announced that Florida State University (FSU) College of Criminology Center for Public Policy will be presenting their first year evaluation of the youth empowerment centers to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. He emphasized the importance of the Youth Violence Prevention Project and encouraged members to be in attendance.
  - C. Extended an invitation on behalf of Chief Judge Kroll to persons interested in attending the March meeting of the Community Alliance where Judge Steven Leifman will give a presentation on mental health. The meeting will be held at the Children's Services Council, 200 High Ridge Road, Boynton Beach, Florida at 8:00 a.m. on March 17, 2008.

Chief Judge Kroll added that the meeting was initiated by Judge Leifman after seeing the mental health conditions in the Miami jail.
- VII. Under Executive Director's Comments, Mr. Rodriguez
  - A. Advised the meeting of Representative Frank Peterman Jr.'s appointment on

February 8, 2008 by Governor Crist, to serve as the new Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) Secretary. Representative Peterman, of St. Petersburg, has a 23-year track record of juvenile services work of which six years were spent on the House Juvenile Justice Committee.

- B. Reminded members of the second photo session at the West Palm Beach Police Department which would commence immediately after the CJC meeting. Members were encouraged to have their photos updated for the CJC's website.
- C. Thanked the presenters and participants of the CJC's first Youth Criminal Justice Academy which concluded on February 19, 2008. A total of 57 youths were presented with recognition and participation certificates. He said plans are now underway for the second Youth Criminal Justice Academy.
- D. Announced the postponement of the 21<sup>st</sup> Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy until late June 2008 due to the overwhelming response to the Youth Criminal Justice Academy.

VIII. Business Consent item(s)

There were no business consent items.

IX. Old Business

There were no old business items for discussion.

X. New Business

- A. The Commission unanimously approved staff recommendation for approval of a budget transfer of \$20,878 from the Criminal Justice Reserve Fund to support an Interlocal Agreement with Palm Beach Community College as a partner to implement job training and job coaching targeted toward ex-offenders at the Community Justice Service Centers and the Justice Service Center in Riviera Beach. The job training and coaching will be for six (6) months (March - September 2008).

Ms. Oakes provided details on the project and how it would be implemented.

Mr. Krischer asked about the future of the program as it is only a six month agreement. Ms. Oakes explained that the City of Riviera Beach plans to cover the cost 100% in FY 08-09.

Motion for approval was made by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Elmore.

- B. Motion to accept the Economic Council's recommendation for appointment of Douglas Duncan, Wesley Lauer and Joseph Bernadel to the CJC made by Mr. R. Johnson and second by Mr. Elmore.

The recommendation will be presented to the BCC for confirmation on April 1, 2008.

- C. Mr. Rodriguez thanked members of the Finance Committee for their participation in the meeting held on Thursday, February 20, 2008 where program managers from five cities, as well as various agencies presented their proposals for funding.

He provided an overview of the CJC's budget for FY09, highlighting the revenues

and expenditures and the impact of the 5% reduction requested by the County Administrator, as well as the anticipated reduction of 67% in the federal grants. During a brief discussion, Commission members sought and received clarification on several items. He pointed out that the budget will be submitted to the Office of Financial Management and Budget Department on March 14, 2008 for consideration before approval by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC).

The FY09 CJC Budget was unanimously approved for submission after motion by Mr. Elmore and second by Mr. Davis.

- D. Mr. Rodriguez presented a proposal from Dwayne Taylor of Taylor Production for a CJC Public Relations Campaign totaling **\$11,160.00**. He pointed to the proposal included in the agenda packet and advised that the campaign would seek to improve awareness of the CJC and its programs.

Mr. Taylor added that the campaign would focus heavily on the youth empowerment centers and would provide employment opportunities to students attending the centers by utilizing the skills and equipment at their disposal. The campaign will include CJC commercials which will be aired on Youtube, Myspace, BET and MTV.

Mr. Kramer suggested that the focus be on CJC programs rather than on the CJC.

Commissioner Aaronson remarked that while the campaign is geared towards the youths, it is important that it reach the voters who ultimately determine how public funds are spent. He said that the CJC needs a more comprehensive approach than the Speaker's Bureau and suggested exposure on Channel 20.

Chief Bush suggested that the CJC explore the possibility of having one or more CJC meetings aired (live) on Channel 20 for added exposure.

Mr. Millar advised that it is his responsibility to keep the League of Cities informed of the CJC and the various programs undertaken. As such, he provides an update at the League of Cities meetings which also gets published in their monthly magazine, "Quality Cities".

Chairman Barr added that the different forums will prove useful as more persons will be made aware of the CJC and its purpose.

Proposal for the CJC's Public Relations Campaign was unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Elmore and second by Mr. Davis.

- E. Mr. Johnston reported that the Reentry Committee met and problems were identified to which they are actively seeking solutions. He noted that Ms. Murray and Ms. Loyless are currently working on staffing the implementation and assessment committees.

Ms. Murray added that the membership list is still a draft as it continues to expand as more of the public is made aware of its work.

- F. Chief Judge Kroll reported that a meeting was held to look at school notification of juveniles released from detention at which various agencies that interface between juveniles and the courts were in attendance, including Commissioner Kanjian and Dr. Johnson. She said the mission is to keep children in school.

XI. CJC Initiatives / Updates

- A. Mr. Rodriguez advised that he is in the process of meeting with individual commissioners to determine their level of interest on the issue of alternatives to incarceration.
- B. Mr. Rodriguez reported that Ms. Gibson and others are proceeding with plans for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant Program. A Request for Proposal has been submitted to the County's Purchasing Department for the hiring of a Project Director.
- C. Ms. Gena Rowlands of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office provided an update on the Westgate Community Justice Service Center. She noted that the clerical position has been filled, a 15 seat passenger van was purchased and the site has now become a platinum site for Medicaid, as it provides numerous services for walk-ins. It is hoped that this will result in an increase in ex-offenders taking advantage of the services available.
- D. Ms. Walker thanked Sheriff Bradshaw, Chief Bush, State Attorney Krischer, Judge Baker and Public Defender Haughwout for their assistance in appearing and providing valuable information at the Youth Criminal Justice Academy. Sheriff Bradshaw also provided a grand prize to one student who would be "Sheriff for a day". A total of 57 youths received recognition and participation certificates.
- E. Ms. Walker thanked Dr. Robinson for her assistance in obtaining dental care for a youth at the Northwood Youth Empowerment Center. The CJC staff will also be helping to identify a job for him.

Ms. Walker also reported that Boynton Beach Youth Empowerment Center had its grand opening on February 9, 2008.

Dr. Art Johnson added that the alternative to suspension program is up and running, and they are currently utilizing three (3) youth empowerment centers.

- F. State Attorney Barry Krischer announced that given the recent vote on Amendment 1, the proposal for establishing a permanent funding committee was reviewed, and it was concluded that this is not the best time to introduce it to voters. He suggested that the issue be deferred for another two years.

Commissioner Aaronson remarked that the public will not vote for additional taxes unless they understand and are convinced that it will be in their best interest.

Mr. Krischer added that the public also needs to understand that "nothing is given for free" and that budget cuts will have a severe impact on the quality of life for all.

Dr. Johnson concurred with Mr. Krischer, emphasizing that the change also has to take place in Tallahassee where state legislators control the funding of our courts, state attorneys and public defenders.

- G. Chairman Barr encouraged members to read the Committee/Task Force updates included in the agenda package.

XII. Member Comments

There were no member comments.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:03 a.m.