

**M I N U T E S**

**MONDAY, October 24, 2011**

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

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

***Members Present:***

Rosalyn Baker  
Peter Blanc  
Barbara Cheives  
Douglas Duncan  
Carey Haughwout  
Feirmon Johnson  
Randolph K. Johnson, Sr.  
Nellie King  
Kathleen Kroll  
Marti LaTour  
Michael McAuliffe  
Mary Olsen  
Gerald Richman  
Priscilla Taylor  
Carmen Veneziano  
Lee Waring

***Members Absent:***

Stephen Barborini  
Mack Bernard  
Sharon Bock  
Ric Bradshaw  
Steven Burdelski  
Mike Driscoll  
George Elmore  
Rolando Garcia  
William Kramer  
Wesley Lauer  
John McKenna  
Valentin Rodriguez  
Chuck Shaw  
Clarence Williams  
Susan Yoffee

James Barr, Ex-Officio Executive Committee

***Guests Attending:***

Jim Kelly, PBC School District  
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office  
Pat Sheffield, Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative  
Louis Tomeo, Clerk and Comptroller (for Clerk Bock)  
Geoff Sluggett, Sluggett & Associates

***Staff Present:***

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director  
Arlene Griffiths, Administrative Secretary  
Katherine Hatos, Criminal Justice Analyst  
Jenise Link, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst  
Brenda Oakes, Youth Violence Prevention Planning Coordinator  
Craig Spatara, RESTORE Initiative Program Manager  
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager  
Kathryn Aguila, Student Intern

Renita Damgajian, Temporary Staff  
Pamela Williams, Temporary Staff

- I. Chair Barbara Cheives called the meeting to order at approximately 8:05 a.m. Welcome was extended to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chair Cheives invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Commissioner Taylor and second by Chief Judge Blanc.
- V. The minutes of the September 26, 2011 meeting were unanimously approved after motion by Taylor and second by Chief Judge Blanc.
- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Chair Cheives:
  - A. Congratulated and welcome Interim Assistant Chief Maria Santos-Olsen from the West Palm Beach Police Department. Best wishes were also extended to former Chief Delsa Bush who served the CJC since January 2004.
  - B. Expressed condolence to George Elmore on the death of his wife Wilma Elmore.
- VII. Under Executive Director's comments, Mr. Rodriguez:
  - A. Reminded members of the West Detention Center's tour scheduled for November 2<sup>nd</sup> from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. at 38840 State Road 80 in Belle Glade, and invited interested persons to contact Jenise Link.
  - B. Announced the Nominating Committee meeting scheduled to take place immediately after the CJC meeting.
  - C. Announced the one year anniversary celebration of the Veterans Court at the Criminal Justice Complex on November 10, 2011 at 12:15 p.m. Persons interested in attending were asked to contact Michelle Spangenberg.
  - D. Reported that the CJC had meetings with Workforce Alliance and are working closely with the new Administration with reentry efforts. Mr. Rodriguez is also hoping this will extend to juvenile as well.
  - E. Reported that the CJC have developed a very successful relationship with the School Board and are now receiving data from them for all the youth programs.
  - F. Welcome temporary staff Renita Damgajian and Pamela Williams to the CJC. They are working primarily with the Research and Planning Unit on the youth violence project.
  - G. Invited members to serve on the Sex Offender Sub-Committee which was created by the Reentry Task Force.
  - H. Announced that the CJC is close to completing the Request for Proposal (RFP) for misdemeanor probation. This will then be advertised for one month after which the selection committee meets.

- I. Announced a new program instituted by the Sheriff's office called "Another Way". This is a drug education program for male inmates that have admitted to substance abuse addiction. Inmates must volunteer to participate in the program and sign an agreement, committing to change.

VIII. Business Consent Item

There was no business consent item.

IX. Under Old Business, Mr. Rodriguez reported:

- A. A Committee meeting is being scheduled to review the CJC Bylaws.
- B. That after discussion with CJC Financial Analyst Michael Szakacs, a decision was reached to delay scheduling a finance committee meeting until all invoices for reimbursements are received and a more accurate balance of unexpended funds can be determined. He said that Financial Analyst, Mike Szakacs is hoping to have the final FY2012 figures by mid November after which a finance committee meeting will be convened to allocate the unexpended funds from last year's budget.

X. New Business

- A. Members unanimously approved the Executive Committee's recommendation for dissolving the Criminal Justice Mental Health Substance Abuse Planning Council. He noted that the Council was established because of available State funds for mental health and substance abuse issues, but that the Council no longer meets since funds are no longer available. Motion to dissolve made by P. Taylor and second P. Blanc.
- B. Mr. Rodriguez presented a draft document on First Appearance/Booking Services showing a description of the current services offered at the jails, the service providers, target population, data collected and by whom, who utilizes the data, how the service operates, and funding for the services.

Commissioner Taylor inquired if there was an increase as far as in house arrest and monitoring. Mr. Rodriguez noted that there was no increase and that it varies between 25 and 30.

Judge Kroll noted that telephone is an issue for juvenile as the Sheriff's office has not allowed the use of cell phones considering that some people no longer use land lines. It was noted that it is a similar situation with adults too.

Chief Judge Blanc remarked about a group that recently made a presentation and recalled that they do not rely on land lines. He said that they are willing to work with the Sheriff independently and separately, but that part of the concern was the cost. He further noted that the Courts Administrative Order was amended to give the Sheriff discretion if someone is in custody on a bond for \$3,000 or less for 10 days or more, to release that person under the in house arrest program once the Judge has veto that at the First Appearance Hearing. Chief Judge Blanc also commented on the Pretrial Services as it relates to SOR and suggested an adjustment to the section about how the

services operate.

## XI. CJC Initiatives/Updates

### A. Legislative Priorities for 2012

Todd Bonlarron and Melissa McKinlay presented the legislative priorities for 2012.

Mr. Bonlarron commented on the legislative decision regarding the privatization of Region 4 of the Department of Corrections (DOC), and the closure of Glades Correction Institution (GCI) at the end of the year, which he said is a severe loss to Palm Beach County as it will impact over 250 jobs. He said that it cost approximately \$30M to operate the facility, hence the move to cease operation, but also noted that various options for use of the facilities are being explored at this time.

With regards to juveniles, Mr. Bonlarron said that efforts were made to obtain additional dollars for the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) and it is hoped that the JAC will be included in the funding strategies and priorities of the Department of Juvenile Justice.

He said that the big issue for this year is that of pretrial release, and thanked the CJC for the support in this regard. He said that the CJC's support will be needed in this area going forward. He noted that there has been a lot of discussion in the area of gun control, and that the county is asking the legislators to take a couple of the ordinances that the county believe are very important and have statewide significance. The issue of shooting ranges was also discussed and discussions are continuing in that area. The Good Samaritan Legislation which gives limited and unity for individuals that call law enforcement or paramedics when someone suffers potentially from drug overdose was also discussed. This he said will help in saving lives in Palm Beach County. The issue of additional background checks that was included in last year's transportation package is also expected to bring back this year.

Ms. McKinlay spoke about two reentry issues being looked including the issue of incorporating adult post incarceration drug courts where after serving 60% of their sentence, offenders can be release and be treated through a community based drug court system which will reduce crowding in the prisons as well as cost. The other issue is expanded the use of veteran's drug courts across the state. Other issues mentioned include the expunging of juvenile records, alternatives to detention, expansion of the civil citation program, and legislation to ensure that educational needs of the juveniles that are in residential and detention centers are met.

Mr. Bonlarron remarked about possible additional cuts in criminal justice. He added that the DJJ seem to be coming up with formulas that might be more beneficial to local governments and counties as far as the cost sharing between the county and state.

Members extensively discussed the issues presented, and Chief Judge expressed concerns with the proposals in Tallahassee which mandates certain programs with attached cost that the State will not fund, such as the expert determination of the existence of PTSD. He also commented about the pretrial services as he is not sure why this issue is being discussed.

Mr. Randy Johnson inquired about Palm Beach County day. Mr. Bonlarron said that it will start on January 11, 2012, two months early because of redistricting, and that it will be on a scaled down version with strong working days. He encouraged members to attend and advised that he would be happy to facilitate meetings for the CJC, saying he thinks it is very effective to have the CJC participate.

Public Defender Carey Haughwout commented on the issue of privatization statewide of indigent defense services which came up last year and may also be an issue this year. She asked that the CJC be prepared to take a strong position against it, as studies have shown that privatization is detrimental to people in court.

Judge Kroll commented on the population in the detention centers and the need for improved services, and advised Mr. Bonlarron to contact the Juvenile Division if he needs help in that area.

Mr. Gerald Richman inquired about credible studies regarding the privatization, and whether it saves money. Chair Cheives asked about the status of Leon County's opposition on the legislative decision to privatize.

Chair Cheives thanked Mr. Bonlarron and Ms McKinlay for presenting.

B. CJC Program Measurements

Item was deferred to next CJC meeting due to time constraints.

C. JAC Security

Item was deferred to next CJC meeting due to time constraints.

XII. Member's Comments:

Crime Prevention Officers Association program

Item was deferred to next CJC meeting due to time constraints.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:05 a.m.