

# M I N U T E S

## MONDAY, January 29, 2018 PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

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

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

Barbara Cheives  
William Dames  
Douglas Duncan  
George Elmore  
Carey Haughwout  
Kimber Heddon  
Joseph Ianno, Jr.  
Keith James  
Kevin Jones  
Dave Kerner  
Nellie King  
Barry Krischer  
James Martz  
Frank Mercurio  
Sarah Mooney  
Greg Starling  
Stephen Stepp  
Erica Whitfield

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

Dave Aronberg  
Ric Bradshaw  
Sharon Bock  
Michael D'Alonzo  
Rachel Docekal  
Rolando Garcia  
Al Jacquet  
Randolph Johnson, Sr  
John McKenna  
Krista Marx  
Christina Morrison  
Gerald Richman  
Robert Shirley  
Lee Waring

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

Mike Gauger, PBC Sheriff's Office  
Louis Tomeo, Clerk & Comptroller's Office  
Jennifer Loyless, Public Defender's Office  
Angela Bess, PBC School District  
Arlene Griffiths, PBC Public Safety Department, Reentry Program  
Danielle Ouellette, PBC Public Safety Department, Juvenile Reentry Program  
Michelle Spangenberg, PBC Court Administration  
Mark Strach, Florida Department of Corrections  
Dave Talley, PBC CareerSource  
Stephanie Riley, Florida Department of Juvenile Justice  
Bonnie Greenberg, PBC Resident  
Mike Garguilo, PBC Resident

### ***Staff Present:***

Jonathan Hackley, Criminal Justice Analyst  
Kristina Henson, Executive Director  
Danny Kreshak, Financial Analyst  
Althea Mones, Temporary Clerical Staff  
Rosalind Murray, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst  
Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant  
Katherine Shover, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst

- I. Vice Chairman Barry Krischer, acting on behalf of Chairman Gerald Richman who was unable to attend, called the meeting to order and extended a welcome to members and guests.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Vice Chair Krischer invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda for the January 29, 2018 meeting was unanimously approved after a motion by Commissioner Dave Kerner and a second by Mr. George Elmore.
- V. The minutes of the December 18, 2017 meeting were unanimously approved after a motion by Commissioner Dave Kerner and a second by Judge James Martz.

#### **VI. Chairman's Comments:**

- A. Vice Chair Krischer noted the passing of Chief Judge Krista Marx's father and sent the regards of the CJC members to her and her family.
- B. Vice Chair Krischer led the members and guests in a toast celebrating 2018 as the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Criminal Justice Commission.
- C. Vice Chair Krischer announced the next CJC Annual Planning Meeting on February 26, 2018, at the Palm Beach County Convention Center.
- D. Vice Chair Krischer acknowledged the service of outgoing Chiefs of Police Association representative, Chief Frank Kitzerow, and welcomed incoming representative Chief Stephen Stepp.
- E. Vice-Chair Krischer recognized incoming CJC member, 15th Circuit Administrator of the Florida Department of Corrections, Ms. Kimber Heddon, who replaces Ms. Rosalyn Baker, upon her retirement this month.
- F. Vice Chair Krischer acknowledged the favorable Palm Beach Post editorial on the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge Grant. He commended the work of the various committees involved and Executive Director Kristina Henson.

#### **VII. Executive Director Comments:**

- A. Executive Director Kristina Henson announced in 2018 there will be a special event commemorating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CJC. More information will follow in the upcoming months.
- B. Director Henson presented updated organizational charts for 2018.
- C. Director Henson announced the opening of registration for the 34<sup>th</sup> Citizen's Criminal Justice Academy on the CJC website.

- D. Director Henson welcomed and introduced new staff members Mr. Jonathan Hackley, Criminal Justice Analyst, and Temporary Clerical Assistant, Ms. Althea Mones.

### **VIII. Old Business:**

- A. Director Henson gave an update on Florida House Bill 7031/Senate Bill 7002, the Open Government Sunset Review Act, which provides: Exemption from public meeting requirements for certain portions of meetings by a duly constituted criminal justice commission, removing the scheduled repeal of the exemption and providing an effective date. In both the House and Senate Committees the bill was approved and is currently in readings on both floors. She stated there is the anticipation this bill will pass, giving the CJC another 5 years of public meeting exemption.
  
- B. Director Henson gave an update on legislation related to the Batterers' Intervention Program. The Court Systems Task Force (CSTF) made a variety of recommendations on this issue to the CJC which in turn were made to the County Commission. Those recommendations were included in the County's Legislative Agenda but the legislator sought to sponsor the legislation was not reelected so the County will seek action in the 2019 Legislative Session.

### **IX. New Business**

- A. Public Defender Carey Haughwout announced the first Palm Beach County sponsored National Reentry Summit, October 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, to showcase best practices and share new ideas. Reverend Kevin Jones also announced "A Day in the Life" Reentry Simulation on February 23, 2018.
  
- B. Public Defender Carey Haughwout requested that the CJC refer to the Corrections Task Force (CTF) for review and recommendation, options for reducing the amount of time court ordered house arrest defendants spend in jail awaiting release. The House Arrest Program is operated by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office (PBSO). She cited a recent case that took two weeks to be released. She state her concerns for the cost of housing these individuals, the impact to the lives of these individuals, and the goal of reducing the jail population. PBSO Chief Deputy Michael Gauger stated time must be spent following rules and policies, background investigations and various other issues that must meet the established criteria for the program. CTF Chair Mr. Doug Duncan agreed to present the review to the committee. Ms. Haughwout made a motion to refer the matter to the CTF for review and report any recommendations back to the CJC. Upon a second by Commissioner Dave Kerner, the motion passed unanimously.

### **X. Update on CJC Initiatives:**

- A. Executive Director Kristina Henson gave an update on the MacArthur Safety & Justice Challenge.
1. The Public Defender and State Attorney Interlocal Agreements were approved January 23 by the County Commission. These agreements provide for the hiring of one staff member each to identify pre-trial jail inmates for release options and examine outstanding violation of probation warrants for alternative options and potential administrative dismissal, , in an effort to reduce jail population.
  2. A CJC staff member and the Clinical Director from The Lord's Place will attend a Behavioral Health Conference in March hosted by the Policy Research Institute, which will provide behavioral health/substance abuse expertise to local jurisdictions on how to better handle those populations.
  3. In April, Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) will partner with the McArthur Safety & Justice Challenge, Stepping Up Initiative and the data driven initiative by the US Department of Justice to sponsor one CJC staff and three community organization team individuals to attend a best practices conference on diverting people with substance abuse and behavioral health issues away from local jails.
  4. Palm Beach County has been selected out of the 20 MacArthur Grant sites to engage into a "deep dive" study on racial and ethnic disparity in the jail population with the nationally recognized W. Haywood Burns Institute providing technical assistance.
  5. In May, the nine member team will attend the MacArthur All-Sites Meeting in Pittsburgh.
  6. The Justice Management Institute has provided technical assistance in reviewing criminal case processing and provided an initial analysis to the Core Team. Next they will identify case processing and recommendations for inmates. 7. Finally, work continues with the court reminder system and the FUSE Project.
- B. Co-Chair Barbara Cheives gave an update on The Community Engagement Task Force (CETF) and its participation in the Urban Stories Festival last weekend on the waterfront in West Palm Beach. She said it was very well received and there is a strong interest in extending the program to the Glades communities. The next CETF Community Conversation event will be held at the UB Kinsey Educational Center [later changed to the Tabernacle Baptist Church] on February 22, 2018 from 6-8 p.m. A diverse panel of 7 or more will be present to engage the community in a conversation about the local criminal justice system.

#### **XI. Member Comments:**

- A. Ms. Nellie King announced the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Stand Up For Innocence event, a fundraising effort for the Innocence Project, Friday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- B. Judge James Martz commented that in his experience last year working with the Haywood Burns Institute on juvenile justice issues, Palm Beach County led

in recognition of best practices, and continues to be a leader in the criminal justice system.

- C. Vice Chair Barry Krischer commented on an article that appeared in the Washington Post recently regarding officer involved shootings which provided statistics that showed the number of shootings in the country are far less than the perception most people have. He stressed perception versus facts is important when viewing criminal justice issues
- D. Director Kristina Henson commented on the funding delay of the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grants. Because of the federal administration's requirement for all 50 states to certify compliance with the 8 USC related to cooperation with federal authorities on immigration, and current litigation throughout the country, no funds have been released. This leaves an approximate \$500,000 gap in the budget for Reentry and FUSE. An Agenda item is being crafted to seek direction from the County Commission. Further updates will be given as events progress.

## **XII. Adjourn:**

With no further Member comments, Vice Chair Krischer adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.