



Criminal Justice Commission

Hilton Palm Beach Airport
150 Australian Avenue
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Monday, April 24, 2023, at 8:00 am

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Reverend Kevin Jones, Clergy, and CJC Chair
Marcia Andrews, Palm Beach County School Board Member
Glenn Kelley, Chief Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Earnie Ellison, Managing Partner, Ellison Consulting Group, LLC
Michael Barnett, County Commissioner
Randolph K. Johnson, Sr., Communications by Johnson
Kathleen Kroll, Administrative Judge, Juvenile Division
Dave Aronberg, State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit
Gregory Starling, Circuit 15 Manager, District 9, Florida DJJ
Nellie King, Attorney, PBC Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
Lauren Whetstone, Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Lawrence Gordon, Palm Beach County League of Cities

Members Absent

Matt Pawlowski, Next Era Energy, and CJC Treasurer
Rachel Docekal, Lyrae Group, LLC, and CJC Vice-Chair
Carey Haughwout, Public Defender, 15th Judicial Circuit
Joseph Abruzzo, Clerk of the PBC Circuit Court & Comptroller
Kelly Skidmore, State Representative, District 92
Carmen Mattox, Representative, PBC Chiefs of Police Association
Michael D Barbercheck, Supervisory Special Agent, Federal Bureau of ATF
Ric Bradshaw, Palm Beach County Sheriff
Julia Dattolo, President/CEO, CareerSource PBC
Sheldon Burkett, Resident in Charge, PBC Office, DEA
Christopher Caldwell, Senior Representative in PBC, FBI
Frank Adderley, Chief, West Palm Beach PD
Joseph Ianno, Jr., Florida Power & Light Company
Eric Jester, Special Agent Supervisor, FDLE
Darcy Davis, CEO Healthcare District
Michelle Johns, Circuit Administrator, Florida DOC, 15th Judicial Circuit
Anthony LaCosta, Asst. US Attorney, WPB

Guests Attending

Marianela Diaz, Director Public Safety Finance
John Port, Financial Analyst, Public Safety
Latronda Hayes, Courts Manager, Public Safety
Jessica Hidalgo, Manger Criminal Justice Programs, Public Safety
Louis Tomeo, Clerk's Office
Nancy McConnell, Rebel Recovery
Richard Jones, Gulfstream Police Department/ LEPC
Katherine Kaps, PBC BCC District 3

Todd Bonlarron, PBC Assistant County Administration
Isaac Guovametti, Rebel Recovery
Adam McMichael, US Attorney's Office
Linda Kane, Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network (SEFBHB)
Helene Hvizd, Assistant County Attorney
Andrea Rocha, Clerk's Office
Stephanie Sejnoha, Director PBC Public Safety

CJC Staff Present

Amii Trivedi, Administrative Assistant III
Damir Kukec, Manager, Research & Planning
Rosalind Murray, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst – Racial Equity Coordinator
Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager

I. Meeting called to order

Chair Rev. Kevin Jones *called the meeting to order at 8:11 AM*

II. Roll Call – Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager

Katherine Shover called the roll and determined there was a quorum.

III. Approval and/or corrections to Agenda

Motion to approve Agenda. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnett, motion to second was made by Dave Aronberg. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Approval and/or corrections to Minutes dated January 23, 2023

Motion to approve Minutes. Motion was made by Dave Aronberg, motion to second was made by Marcia Andrews. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Chair's Comments

Chair Jones, congratulated Rachel Docekal and Lauren Whetstone on their reappointments to the CJC.

Chair Jones also welcomed the new members who were appointed to the CJC. The four new members are: Earnie Ellison, Michelle Suskauer, Julia Dattolo, and Darcy Davis. Earnie Ellison was present for the meeting and briefly spoke about his appreciation to be part of the CJC and how he is looking forward to working and learning with the CJC.

Chair Jones congratulated Barbara Cheives on her recognition at the Women in Leadership Award Luncheon for being a(n) Executive Women of the Palm Beaches Foundation's 2023 Distinguished Honoree for the Private Sector.

Chair Jones mentioned a special thanks to Judge Gerber and his work with the 2023 Prison Bus Tour. There were four CJC seat that attended this year's tours and Judge Gerber said that all four seats came from a different background and that helped to further educate them about the prison tour. Anyone who has a chance to attend next year should go. They will be able to experience the process as it relates to the correction system from the least restrictive to maximum security. The tour is very educational and informative.

Chair Jones spoke about the Re-entry Summit that took place in April, and asked Adam McMichael who was present for the meeting to say a few words about the event. Adam McMichael spoke about the highlights of the event, mentioning that

the event has a good participation and how it was very successful. Attendees completed a survey at the end of the event and gave feedback on how to make things better and how their experience was with the simulation. They are hoping to have another re-entry simulation event in Lake Worth in the fall, and hope to see those who couldn't make it to this event to participate in the fall.

VI. Presentations

Chair Jones called on Nancy McConnell and Isaac from Rebel Recovery to speak about their presentation. Nancy and Isaac reviewed the power point presentation that was attached with everyone's agenda packets. They spoke about the participants in their program and the challenges and barriers of their program. Nellie King had a discussion about the challenges individuals face in hospitals and outpatient centers with the care they receive. There was discussion about how closely hospital and medical staff work with law enforcement and how the individuals are treated when they arrive at these facilities. Perhaps there should be some type of training that the staff should go through so they can better deal with the mental health and substance abuse individuals they treat.

VII. Old Business

Marianela Diaz and John Port presented the proposed 23/24 CJC budget packet that was attached with everyone's agenda packet. They reviewed last year's numbers to this year's anticipated numbers. They went over individual lines and provided explanation on increases and grant funding for both years. They also clarified questions that CJC board members had at the last meeting regarding the \$200 supplemental request for re-entry in the Glades. There was discussion with Earnie Ellison on grant amounts and Marianela explained the funding amounts between last year's grant dollars and this year's grant dollars. Todd Bonlarron was also part of the discussion and clarified that the proposed budget did not need to be voted on as the CJC has already voted (and is on record), and the proposed budget will be presented to the county administrator in the next week for approval.

Katherine Shover reviewed the BJA FY23 Community Courts Initiative grant. She went over the amounts from the grant and any specific terms that the grant would need for the CJC to apply. Todd Bonlarron added to the discussion and mentioned that \$187,710 is still pending legislative approval, and perhaps the CJC should draft up a letter to the legislation supporting its final request. There was a vote on recommendation for the grant request. Motion was made by Mr. Randy Johnson, motion was seconded by Lauren Whetstone. Motion passed. There was also a motion made to move forward with the community initiative grant. Motion was made by Mr. Randy Johnson, motion was seconded by Marcia Andrews. Motion passed.

VIII. New Business

Chief Richard Jones came up and gave a brief summary/presentation about the Law Enforcement Planning Council. The main points made were: Training for mental health awareness, Looking at statistics and research for how long individuals are housed in jail after first appearance, and the difficulty in finding beds for mental health individuals and those who under the Baker Act. There were no questions or discussion.

Rosalind Murray gave a brief summary on the Community Engagement Taskforce on behalf of Barbara Cheives who was unable to attend the meeting. She spoke about the re-entry simulation sponsored by the US Attorney's office. They also

supported the PBSO project called “Why Did You Stop Me?”. This event was to provide training on how the community feels with discussions such as why individuals are stopped at traffic stops. There was discussion between community members and law enforcement for both sides to get a better understanding. She spoke about the iCard project and how it was in the printing stage at this point. Once they are printed, they will be distributed. Some of the other projects include videos and social media projects that the taskforce will be collaborating with community partners on.

IX. Director’s Comments

Katherine Shover reviewed the grant packet that was attached with everyone’s agenda packets. The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration grant that was approved by CJC and the county administration. There was no discussion. Chair Jones thanked the CJC staff for working on the grant and submitting it in a timely manner.

Katherine also spoke about the MacArthur Safety and Justice Challenge Conference that is coming up May 3-May5. There are nine individuals that will be participating from PBC. There was no discussion.

XI. Adjournment – *Meeting adjourned at 8:47 AM*

Next Meeting: Monday, April 24, 2023- 8am