

M I N U T E S

MONDAY, July 12, 2010 – 8:00 a.m.

**PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

Members Present:

Peter Blanc
Barbara Cheives
Douglas Duncan
George Elmore
Frank Kitzerow
William Kramer
Marti LaTour
Michael McAuliffe

Members Absent:

Ric Bradshaw
Carey Haughwout
Feirmon Johnson
Gerald Richman

Art Johnson (ex officio
Executive Committee)

James Barr (ex officio Executive Committee)

Guests Attending:

Jeannine Damato, Office of Financial Management & Budget
Rolando Garcia, CJC Member

Staff Present:

Michael L. Rodriguez, Executive Director
Journey Beard, Crime Prevention Project Specialist
Arlene Burton-Griffiths, Administrative Secretary
Shahzia Hashmi, Intern
Damir Kukec, Research & Planning Manager
Jenise Link, Sr. Criminal Justice Analyst
Rosalind Murray, Program Development Specialist
Brenda Oakes, Youth Violence Prevention Planning Coordinator
Michael Santorsola, Student Intern
Mike Szakacs, Financial Analyst II
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst
Becky Walker, Criminal Justice Programs Manager

- I. Chair Barbara Cheives called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.
- II. Roll call was taken and a quorum was present.
- III. Chair Barbara Cheives welcomed members and invited guests to introduce themselves.
- IV. The agenda was unanimously approved after motion by Mr. Douglas Duncan and second by Mr. George Elmore.
- V. The minutes of the July 12, 2010 Executive meeting were unanimously approved after

motion by Mr. William Kramer and second by Mr. George Elmore.

- VI. Under Chairman's Comments, Ms. Cheives reminded everyone to use the microphone when speaking to be heard clearly.

Ms. Cheives also invited members to join her at the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) budget workshop when the CJC will be requesting a restoration of the \$1M Fund. She noted that the Youth Empower Center would not be on the list of projects being presented to the BCC as it was felt that it would prove more useful if the cities joined with the CJC in going before the BCC as a collective body. She said that the visits to the City Commissioners have been going well.

- VII. Under Executive Director's Comments, Mr. Rodriguez:

- A. Reported that Dr. Gordon Bazemore of Florida Atlantic University (FAU) will be donating a one-day training for potential Neighborhood Accountability Board (NAB) volunteers at the Riviera Beach Utility District Conference Room, 600 W. Blue Heron Blvd., on Saturday, July 24, 2010 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Participants will learn about restorative justice principles as well as practical "nuts-and-bolts" skills for operating a successful NAB. Interested persons were asked to contact Journey Beard (355-1881) for more details.

State Attorney Michael McAuliffe commented that his office has committed people to support and sponsor a NAB but thought that a decision was reached to cite the BETA program in Coleman Park, West Palm Beach, and inquired how the Coleman Park leadership can participate given the training is focused on volunteers in Riviera Beach.

Ms. Beard noted that Riviera Beach NAB has been up and running and has a coordinator in place, while West Palm Beach NAB has been at a slower progress as there is no available funding, and that a City Commission has referred PEACE organization and Quantum Foundation for possible funding for a coordinator.

Mr. McAuliffe asked that the CJC be kept informed of the progress.

- B. Congratulated Chair Barbara Cheives who was awarded by the Sickle Cell Foundation of Palm Beach County and Treasure Coast, Inc. as a Community Hero.
- C. Advised of the slide show representing pictures of restored Boynton Beach Police Department cars. The restoration was done by hand by kids at the Boynton Beach Youth Empowerment Center with the help of a police officer.

- VIII. Business Consent Item

There were no business consent items.

- IX. Old Business

- A. Mr. Rodriguez provided members with an update of the FY2010/11 budget where funds are being reallocated based on staff recommendation.

After discussion on the reallocation, members unanimously approved the allocation as presented after motion by Mr. Jim Barr and second by Mr. William Kramer.

- B. Mr. Rodriguez reminded the members of previous discussions on the Juvenile Assessment Center (JAC) Donation Fund Advisory Committee, noting that this committee would like to be an independent body (not under the auspices of the CJC) managing and governing through an advisory committee (made up of participating agencies) on JAC related issues as outlined in FS **985.135**, and is therefore requesting CJC staff support. Mr. Rodriguez sought member comments on the issue.

There were extensive discussions regarding the independence of the committee and whether the CJC staff should support such a committee. The executive committee feels that whatever CJC staff does should be brought before the commission, and as such a decision was reached to invite the JAC Donation Fund Advisory Committee to the CJC.

After further discussions, members unanimously agreed to not provide staff support to the JAC Donation Fund Advisory Committee as an independent body, after motion by Mr. Douglas Duncan and second by Ms. Marti LaTour.

X. New Business:

- A. Mr. Rodriguez reported that at the last Law Enforcement Planning Council (LEPC) meeting, a recommendation was made for the replacement of the Crime Prevention Officers Association (CPOA) CJC seat with the current LEPC chair.

Mr. Rodriguez noted that this requires a change to the CJC Ordinance and be presented as an agenda item before the BCC. He further stated that he inquired if it could be presented as a consent agenda item which would have been less risky but was told no.

Chief Frank Kitzerow added that the LEPC would like to become more involved in the CJC which would represent the majority of the Chiefs of Police. He noted that the LEPC is very large group comprising local chiefs, state, federal and other local disciplines, and would contribute a great deal to the CJC. To this end he said the LEPC is requesting CJC's advice on how to proceed in this regard.

Chief Judge Peter Blanc noted that this would be a good thing for the membership of the CJC and remarked that if there is good support for this change, including the CPOA, the CJC could try to get it as a consent item on the BCC's agenda, or explore the option of increasing the CJC membership with the addition of the LEPC seat.

Mr. Duncan expressed concern from the Defense Lawyers Association with the commission possibly becoming too heavily law enforcement with the addition of a LEPC seat, and commented that he does not have the knowledge of why the CPOA has a seat on the CJC and LEPC doesn't.

Chief Judge Blanc remarked that the LEPC did not exist when the CJC was established and that the CJC subsequently created the LEPC.

Chair Cheives concurred that the LEPC would be an important seat at the CJC.

After further discussion, a decision was reached to invite the CPOA to the next LEPC meeting for further discussion and report back to the CJC.

- B. Mr. Rodriguez advised the commission of staff recommendation to formally reconvene the Youth Violence Prevention Task Force in light of what the CJC is trying to accomplish with the municipalities. He said there is no membership list at this time but that this would be presented to the CJC when compiled.

XI. CJC Initiatives / Updates

- A. Mr. Rodriguez reported that he was advised by the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office that it will no longer be able to fund the services associated with the SAAP contract due to budget cuts. He highlighted the specific areas and programs affected and the projected time frame for same. Mr. Rodriguez noted his main concerns as the Drug Farm program as it involves 100 people that is currently sentenced there and have to work with the judiciary and reworking all the sentences.

Chair Cheives inquired if the Drug Farm program was at the same stage it was last year or is it further along in the discontinuation process.

Mr. Duncan remarked that it is further along this year as the State Attorney and Public Defender's office have already met to deal with the folks that have been sentenced to the program.

State Attorney McAuliffe concurred with Mr. Duncan and noted that his office is already seeking alternative providers.

- B. Mr. Rodriguez informed members that the JAC Security for county FY 2011 remains \$57,746 short of the \$455,556 needed for a contract with Wackenhut officers for 24/7 coverage. He said other options for security are being explored and it is hoped that a solution will be arrived at soon.

XII. There were no member comments.

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.