



Criminal Justice Commission Full CJC Committee Meeting

Clayton E. Hutchinson Agricultural Services Center
559 North Military Trail, Room A & B
West Palm Beach, FL 33415

Monday, May 22, 2023, at 8:00 am

Meeting Minutes

Members Present

Carey Haughwout, Public Defender, 15th Judicial Circuit
Darcy Davis, CEO, Healthcare District
Dave Aronberg, State Attorney, 15th Judicial Circuit
Earnie Ellison, Managing Partner, Ellison Consulting Group, LLC
Glenn Kelley, Chief Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Gregory Starling, Circuit 15 Manager, District 9, Florida DJJ
Julia Dattolo, President/CEO, CareerSource PBC
Kathleen Kroll, Administrative Judge, Juvenile Division
Lauren Whetstone, Greenberg Traurig, LLP
Lawrence Gordon, Palm Beach County League of Cities
Michael Barnett, County Commissioner
Michelle Suskauer, Attorney, Diamond Kaplan & Rothstein, P.A.
Nellie King, Attorney, PBC Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
Rachel Docekal, CEO, Hanley Foundation, and CJC Vice-Chair

Members Absent

Anthony LaCosta, Asst. US Attorney, WPB
Carmen Mattox, Representative, PBC Chiefs of Police Association
Christopher Caldwell, Senior Representative in PBC, FBI
Eric Jester, Special Agent Supervisor, FDLE
Frank Adderley, Chief, West Palm Beach PD
Joseph Abruzzo, Clerk of the PBC Circuit Court & Comptroller
Joseph Ianno, Jr., Florida Power & Light Company
Kelly Skidmore, State Representative, District 92
Kevin Jones, Reverend, Clergy, and CJC Chair
Marcia Andrews, Palm Beach County School Board Member
Matt Pawlowski, Next Era Energy, and CJC Treasurer
Michael D Barbercheck, Supervisory Special Agent, Federal Bureau of ATF
Michelle Johns, Circuit Administrator, Florida DOC, 15th Judicial Circuit
Randolph K. Johnson, Sr., Communications by Johnson
Ric Bradshaw, Palm Beach County Sheriff
Sheldon Burkett, Resident in Charge, PBC Office, DEA

Guests Attending

Katherine Kaps, PBC BCC District 3
Laura Hanley, Commissioner Barnett's Office Staff
Louis Tomeo, Clerk's Office
Andrea Rocha, Clerk's Office
Arlene Griffiths PBC Public Safety, Re-Entry
Barbara Cheives, CDC Community Engagement
Latronda Hayes, Courts Manager, Public Safety
Jessica Hidalgo, Manger Criminal Justice Programs, Public Safety

Shirlon St.Armour, PBC Public Safety, Re-Entry
Stephanie Sejnoha, Director PBC Public Safety
Todd Bonlarron, PBC Assistant County Administration
Marc Freeman, State Attorney's Office
Keith Clinkscale, PBC Strategic Planning

CJC Staff Present

Regenia Herring, Executive Director
Katherine Shover, Criminal Justice Systems Manager
Damir Kukec, Manager, Research & Planning
Margo Smith, Criminal Justice Analyst
Rosalind Murray, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst – Racial Equity Coordinator
Amii Blount, Administrative Assistant III

I. Meeting called to order – Dr. Rachel Docekal, Vice-Chair

Chair Rachel Docekal *called the meeting to order at 8:08 AM*

II. Roll Call – Regenia Herring, CJC Executive Director

Director Herring 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 April 24, 2023

Motion to approve Minutes. Motion was made by Dave Aronberg, motion to second was made by Lawrence Gordon. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Chair's Comments

Rachel Docekal talked about the iCards and mentioned that they have been printed and are available for distribution by the Sheriff's office. The iCards have a QR code that users may scan. The QR code leads them to the Public Defender's website where they have options depending on their needs and eligibility.

VI. New Business

Chief Starling reviewed the DJJ Juvenile Justice Circuit 15 report and data. There was discussion and clarification on the data that was attached in the meeting packets.

There was discussion about the FDLE grant. Most of the grant funding goes to re-entry. There was some extra funding allocated for the Community Outreach Program in Delray Beach. Based on FDLE review, we are not doing assessments of individuals but rather, we are studying the impact of services that are happening for these individuals. If we are not able to use FDLE funding, we may be able to use crime prevention trust fund dollars. We would like some of the money to come back to law enforcement. So we went back to LEPC (law enforcement planning council) because we need 51% of the municipalities to agree to the grant application. If we are not able to use these dollars, we will end up losing them. There was also discussion on if there is a better municipality that could use the dollars (instead of the sheriff's office) that would support causes like juvenile mental health that we could give the grant dollars to and have them utilize them there. This would be a possibility and we would have to specify what the funding would be used for. This money has to be used by September and we can focus on specific municipalities that will use the funding for juvenile mental health.

There was a review of the letter of expectations from the MacArthur Foundation. We

are planning on conducting a stress test that would take a look at how we can reduce the length of stay for individuals in jail. We would have to work with the public defender's office for this project. Vice Chair Rachel Docekal let the committee know, we need a motion to accept the letter. Motion was made by Earnie Ellison, motion to second was made by Darcy Davis. Vice Chair concluded there was a motion for discussion. Carey mentioned that they will need specific data elements provided to the public defender's office beforehand so they are able to collect whatever data is required by the grant. Motion was approved unanimously to accept the letter of expectations.

Director Herring opened discussion about a Criminal Justice Summit in 2024. There would need to be a small working committee that would need to be in place that would be in charge of developing the event. It would be a great opportunity for the CJC to showcase some of the work that has been done and look at some best practices. This could be a signature CJC event. This would be across the criminal justice system spectrum. Re-entry has done something like this before. Michelle Suskauer spoke about how the Florida Bar put together a two day Criminal Justice Summit where they were able to get public defenders, state elected state attorneys, legislatures, practitioners, and judges (even from the Supreme Court level) to the event. Our audience for the CJC Summit would be our stakeholders and community people who we are able to educate as well. This could be anyone from the county, state or even the national level who we would want to invite to attend the event. There was discussion on what the goal of the summit would be.

Director Herring spoke about the NNCJCC (National Network of Criminal Justice Coordinating Council) since she is on the steering committee. Included in the meeting packet, there were national standards that were presented by the NNCJCC, and those were brought forward at the CJC meeting to see if we would like to adopt those standards; we are already doing a lot of the standards that are being presented. Vice-Chair Rachel Docekal suggested bringing back the adoption of national standards for discussion and approval at the September meeting.

We were selected as one of the award recipients for the felony mobile probation bus for Palm Beach County. We would like to recognize those who worked on the application for this and also the Department of Corrections. The award ceremony will be in Austin, TX.

Director Herring brought up the proposal letter sent to FDLE in which FSU is proposing a pilot study for evidence based criminal justice planning in Palm Beach County. They would like us to be the test site for this project. This would be data driven and FDLE would have the capacity to gather all the data and we could look at how to better utilize our systems and how to better utilize our resources to bring about better impact on our communities. Vice-Chair Rachel Docekal called for a motion to support CJC being a test site for this project. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnett, motion to second was made by Lawrence Gordon. Motion was passed unanimously to support this project.

VII. Old Business

Director Herring spoke about working with DOJ on a letter that will be submitted, once it's signed by the chair, and sent in to the legislation, with the help of Ed Chase.

There was a review of the strategic plan document included in the meeting packet which highlighted the six priority areas that we would focus on as the CJC. We are also looking at working with our Community Engagement Committee for the strategic plan. We want to be able to move those community folks to see what the

trends are and educate them on our system.

VIII. Committee Reports

Barbara Cheives spoke about the Re-entry simulation event and the “Why did you stop me” event that was held by the Sherriff’s Department. Both events had a great turn out and there was a lot to learn from both programs. We want to bring back both events. Community Engagement is also working on a plan with community partners. Next meeting will be June 14th.

IX. Director’s Report

We will be reviewing the CJC ordnance; we are looking to remove some of the federal positions for membership attendance for the committees. We would like to add community level seats, community at large seats. We are working with Todd Bonlarron on the CJC ordinances. We are looking at presenting it to the board this summer. It will allow us to include a little more diversity on our board. We will not be adding seats, we will just be replacing/substituting them.

X. Next Meeting

There will be no CJC Full Committee meetings held during the summer months of June, July and August. Meetings will resume in September.

XI. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 9:13 am

Next Meeting: Tuesday September 26, 2023
*Clayton E. Hutchinson Agricultural Services Center,
531 North Military Trail, Auditorium,
West Palm Beach, FL 33415*