

Criminal Justice Collaborative Council

CJCC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Administrative Building, Lower Level Conference Room
220 N. Main
June 9, 2006 -7:30 a.m.

Members Attending: Archie Brown (Circuit Court Chief Judge), J Cedric Simpson (District Court Presiding Judge), Bob Guenzel (County Administrator), Lloyd Powell (Public Defender), Dan Minzey (Sheriff)

Members Absent: Brian Mackie (County Prosecutor)

Others Present: Scott Patton (CJCC Staff), Kerry Sheldon (Management Analyst), Steven Hiller (Deputy Chief Assistant Prosecutor), Kirk Filsinger (Jail Commander), Sheila Blakney (Senior Assistant, Public Defender), Barbara Levin Bergman (CCAB Chair)

Meeting Convened: 7:35 a.m.

Steering Committee Chair Archie Brown chaired the meeting.

Supporting Documents

Attendees were given the following documents

- CJCC Action Plan
- Draft Full Council Agenda

I. CJCC Membership

Scott Patton presented two brief items regarding the CJCC membership. First, Scott notified the steering committee that the CJCC will now have an open seat. Public Member-at-large Jose Bartolome will be relocating, therefore unable to continue to serve on the CJCC. Discussion ensued about filling the seat. Bob Guenzel recommended that the CJCC advertise the opening. The committee also agreed to encourage other qualified persons that members know personally to apply.

Second, Scott Patton also reminded the committee that the membership of the CJCC, on the whole, has been an agenda item that has never really been addressed. Scott recommended that this item be addressed during the next meeting, specifically the discussion of adding the 15th and 14B district courts.

Discussion ensued about the recommendation of adding the two district courts. Lloyd Powell remarked that it is important to have input from any entity relevant to the system. The committee agreed to hold discussion until next month's steering committee meeting.

II. Boarding-Out Policy

Bob Guenzel reported that after meeting together, he and the Sheriff's Department determined that it would be best to phase out inmate boarding-out. Bob Guenzel stated that they were looking at the financial implications of boarding out, and had seen some steps at the retreat that it was okay to recommend to the board to phase out boarding-out at least for the next three months. Guenzel stated that the idea is to let those that are already

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boarded-out to stay boarded until their release day, while not boarding-out any new offenders. The policy would then be reexamined in 3 months. Guenzel stated that the Board unanimously approved this recommendation.

Discussion ensued about the resolution. Sheila Blakney inquired about the significance of three months in terms of reevaluation. Bob replied that three months simply gave enough time to have data to report back to the Board.

Julie Chaffee requested that the data that was shared with the Board be shared with the CJCC. Guenzel stated that he would have Kerry Sheldon send out his memo to the Board, the Sheriff's power point presentation, and the Board's resolution.

Barbara Levin Bergman specifically requested data on arresting agencies. Kirk Filsinger replied that booking data would be relatively easy to collect.

Julie Chaffee expressed concern over the use of data collected by the CJCC. Bob Guenzel reported that the CJCC data will still be of value in terms of baseline data. Scott noted that it is very important to document dates of which certain policies and practices are implemented when gathering baseline data.

Next, Bob Guenzel inquired about the committee's concern with the new boarding-out policy. Scott reported that the committee had several concerns, with a few related to Community Corrections that may impact the state grant.

Julie Chaffee then elaborated on the Community Corrections concerns. Julie expressed concern about this resolution causing the jail to go into lockdown status. When this happens, the CC programs cease. Furthermore, by eliminating the boarding-out option, the chance of lockdown status only increases. This could, in turn, affect the activity status report that she has to send to the state, ultimately jeopardizing the CC program. Julie Chaffee stated that she wants to go on record that she's concerned about the funding for Community Correction based on this resolution. The state won't fund programs that the jail cannot deliver due to staffing levels and population levels.

Barbara Bergman suggested that two things be considered/revisited:

- 1) 30% reduction of sentences in accordance with the overcrowding statute.
- 2) Food services- Would it be cheaper to contract for food services, and get rid of the 26 trustees?

Discussion ensued about the trustee option. Sheila Blakney mentioned that she believed the trustee position served as a good behavior incentive, and serves a purpose beyond just the monetary concerns. She also expressed other boarding-out concerns. Sheila also inquired about whether boarded-out inmates get consideration for good behavior release.

Dan Minzey stated that he understands the concerns of others, but the system is in a crisis. It is a fiscal issue, and something new has to be done.

III. Retreat

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Scott Patton gave a brief recap of the retreat and subsequent actions. Scott reported that following the retreat, he created an action plan using the written feedback. Essentially, with this action plan, he is proposing to take the recommended system improvements and have each system leader to take responsibility for and doing two things:

- 1) Determining the Feasibility: is this a good plan?
- 2) Determining a date that this improvement could be put into action.

This could be a working document, with room for expansion or contraction. Scott reported that he plans to get this document out via e-mail next week to system leaders. Scott requests that leaders report back answering two questions: 1) Feasibility/Time Frame 2) Do they need assistance from Scott and Kenita.

Archie Brown inquired whether the committee was in agreement that it will look at this action plan, and report to Scott on time frame and what assistance need. Archie Brown noted that this should be completed by the next full council meeting. Scott said he would get copies of action plan out and the requests out via e-mail as soon as possible.

(Discussion about the Jail Population Manager will be resumed next meeting.)

IV. Pretrial Update

Scott briefed the committee on the recent pretrial meeting. Scott noted that pretrial services program was funded as a pilot program and that the CJCC will be drafting an evaluation and recommendation to report back to the Board.

Julie Chaffee, again, expressed concerns about Community Corrections, and possibly losing staff due to the resolution. Julie stated that funding for Community Correction FTs comes from the state grant and that there is potential to lose this funding we stop the arraignment process. Therefore, Community Corrections could no longer offer the pretrial services that it provides.

V. Probation Residential Center

Barbara Bergman offered the idea that we looked at this space a little differently and possibly rethink how we would use the PRC. Barbara Bergman wanted to float the idea that we use the PRC as a non-secure jail facility, almost like a work release program.

VI. Full Council Agenda/Other Business

Archie Brown reported that Wes Prater would chair the meeting in his absence. Bob requested that Scott aid Wes Prater in the discussion of the resolution.

Bob Guenzel reported that the Board approved an engagement policy on a space plan. The goal is for the CJCC to spend a few hours discussing the space needs regarding public safety and justice, and have a report to give back to the Board in September. Bob

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suggested that the CJCC should discuss whether it should have a special meeting or dedicate the July meeting for this.

Bob requested that Mary O'Hare should come in and give a report on this at the June 16th CJCC meeting.

Archie Brown mentioned that he believe that Jim Robertson brought real benefit to the meeting, and that it be put on the agenda for next month that Jim starts to attend these meetings. Scott Patton said that he would speak to Jim.

Adjourned 8:50 p.m.

Next Steering Committee meeting 7/06.