

Criminal Justice Collaborative Council

CJCC Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Administrative Building, Lower Level Conference Room
220 N. Main
April 10, 2009 – 7:30 a.m.

- Members Attending:** David Swartz (Circuit Court Chief Judge), Kirk Tabbey (District Court Presiding Judge), Lloyd Powell (Public Defender), Jerry Clayton (Sheriff), John Shea, Brian Mackie (County Prosecutor), Barbara Bergman (Board of Commissioners)
- Members Absent:** Rolland Sizemore, Jr. (Chair, Board of Commissioners), Bob Guenzel (County Administrator),
- Others Present:** Scott Patton (CJCC Staff), Scott Rasmussen (CJCC Intern), Gregory Dill (Sheriff Administration), Gary Greenfield (Lieutenant – Sheriff), Sheila Blakney (Senior Assistant Public Defender), Gene DeRossett

Meeting Convened: 7:34 am

I. CJCC Structure and Committees

John Shea said he'd reviewed the bylaws, thought they were good and saw no need for change. He also indicated that there were some committees who don't really need to meet anymore. Patton listed the committees that do still exist; of those Shea said he didn't think the council needed to continue with the Space Needs, Definitions, or Overcrowding Committee. He did say he would speak with Deb Pippins about the need for a mental health committee.

Sheriff Clayton expressed interest in knowing more about the Integrated Services Committee, specifically in understanding what the scope of the committee's work was, as well as what the group has done. He went on to say there is a strategic need to integrate and communicate. He suggested keeping the committee.

Judge Tabbey spoke about the Pre-Trial Services Committee, and said the effort to make sure judges get the most up to date information is important. He said initiatives are under way to automate the information to allow judges and magistrates to quickly access the information. The information gathering starts at booking and goes to everyone involved; he mentioned that they are still using paper until the technical problems are completely worked out. Shea said the Pre-Trial Services committee will remain and said he'd like to give a full update on committees and identify each committee's needs to the full council.

Shea proposed the formation of two more committees. First, a Legislative Initiatives Committee to identify legislative and/or executive branch opportunities for getting funding for CJCC programs. Bergman said this kind of committee would be important and suggested the committee might work with similar committees across the state to increase impact.

The second committee Shea suggested was a Crime Prevention/Intervention committee that might provide recommendations to the BOC about what can be done to keep people out of jail.

Bergman said the BOC voted informally to potentially change the budgeting process to provide a more objective process that removes politics. Said it may not happen this cycle, but maybe in two years. She said it is an attempt to raise the standards of review for who the money goes to. Patton said it would simplify the application and evaluation processes. Shea said the new committee could determine what prevention is out there and how the county might explore options to get money; Clayton questioned if the committee should look at best practices and potential

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collaborations. He said that prevention is important for released prisoners as well and said that the bottom line was this committee is a good idea.

Shea suggested the need to start reaching out to get people on the committees.

II. Legislative Issue Update

Patton reported that there may be a report forthcoming on applications for stimulus dollars. Sheriff Clayton said he applied for COPS dollars. He said contracting jurisdictions would be required to make up the difference in COPS dollars and what is required for additional coverage. He said he has had preliminary discussions with some townships.

III. Jail Population Data

Patton said it is a tradition to put this report together about once a quarter. The Sheriff said he would take over the report in the second quarter.

IV. Full Council Agenda

No comments were made. Shea said to let himself or Patton know if anything should be added.

V. CJCC Forum to Discuss Budget Recommendations

Patton said that Commissioner Smith asked for community forums to discuss potential budget impacts. He thought it would be important for the CJCC to participate. Patton raised the question – does the CJCC want to participate? Should it be a part of a normal meeting or a special meeting in June?

Judge Swartz questioned the purpose for the CJCC to participate. He pointed out that the BOC gives money, but it is up to the judges to decide how to spend it. He said he'd support putting forth a resolution asking that money not be cut, but questioned the need for the council to participate.

Commissioner Bergman suggested that Commissioner Smith may be trying to engage the community. Sheriff Clayton said that if the interest is engagement, it may be an opportunity to talk about impacts to the system if there are cuts. Commissioner Bergman said it would be useful for the BOC to hear what those impacts would be. Shea also said that if the discussion were to point out what might happen if certain cuts were made, it would be helpful. Swartz said he didn't see the purpose of the CJCC participating. Sheila Blakney said she doesn't think the CJCC speaks with one voice and it would be hard to be heard. Shea suggested that a better understanding of what is expected be ascertained before a decision about whether or not to participate was made. Patton said he would follow up with Commissioner Smith.

Mackie said that warrant requests are up 10% in Washtenaw County this year – and pointed out that this is a significant number.

Adjourned: 8:31 am

Next Steering Committee meeting: 06/12/09.