

## **MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY June 5, 2009 at 9:15 a.m. 160 North LaSalle Street Chicago, Illinois**

#### **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Sheldon Sorosky convened the regular meeting of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. After welcoming Board Members and guests, he asked Jack Cutrone, the Authority's General Counsel, to call the roll.

In addition to Chairman Sorosky, other Authority Members in attendance were:

State's Attorney Anita Alvarez  
Chief David P. Bradford  
Clerk Dorothy Brown  
Sheriff Thomas Dart  
Ms. Barbara Engel  
Ms. Cynthia Hora  
Clerk Becky Jansen  
State's Attorney William Mudge  
Mr. Eugene E. Murphy, Jr.  
Director Michael J. Pelletier  
Ms. Mariyana Spyropoulos  
Mr. John Z. Toscas

#### **Approval of Minutes of March 6, 2009 Regular Meeting**

With a quorum in place, Chairman Sorosky asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the last Authority Meeting.

{Mr. John Z. Toscas moved that the minutes of the March 6, 2009 Authority Meeting be adopted. State's Attorney Mudge seconded the motion and it was adopted by unanimous voice vote.}

#### **Chairman's Remarks**

Chairman Sorosky stated that in keeping with the importance of financial matters particularly at this time in our country's history, he would turn to the Authority's Budget Committee Chairman, Mr. Eugene E. Murphy, Jr., for a report. But first he appointed all Board Members in attendance to be a Budget Committee as a whole and then asked Mr. Murphy to make his presentation.

## **Budget Committee Meeting**

Mr. Murphy congratulated the Authority and all of the Members of the Authority Board on what they have been doing in dealing with both federal and state governments in terms of getting the stimulus (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act / ARRA) money out the door. He said that the ideas were wonderful and that he thought they were taken in the spirit intended.

Chairman Murphy said that the system is still in a state of flux. He stated that in the Authority's efforts to get as much money, when it is available, out the door, a brief Budget Committee meeting will be convened today to approve the dissemination of funds because the faster the funds go out the door, the faster the funds can be put to their intended use of employment in the service of goals that were set earlier.

## **Minutes of the May 4, 2009 Budget Committee Meeting**

{Chief Bradford moved to approve the minutes of the May 4, 2009 Budget Committee meeting. Sheriff Dart seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.}

## **Juvenile Accountability Block Grants (JABG)**

### **Returned Funds**

Program Supervisor Mike Carter, referring to the memo at Tab 2 of the meeting materials regarding the proposed FFY04 through FFY08 JABG plan adjustments, said that \$24,445 in FFY04 funds had been returned to the Authority and that those funds would be lapsed back to the federal government. He said that \$47,028 in FFY05 funds was returned. He said that \$62,882 was available in FFY06 lapsed funds.

### **Recommended Designations**

Mr. Carter reported that staff recommended designating a total of \$21,096 to the City of Evanston for its community service and restorative justice programs. He said that staff recommended designating a total of \$260,514 to the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) to support its parole readjustment program. He noted that staff recommended designating a total of \$144,220 to the Illinois Violence Prevention Authority (IVPA) for its Safety Net Works (SNW) program. He said that staff recommended setting aside \$144,750 in FFY06 lapsing and unallocated local-use funds to assist the state's county probation departments in developing and implementing a jobs readiness and supervised paid internship program. He remarked that this program would be made available through a request for proposals (RFP) which would be released on the following Monday (June 8, 2009).

Mr. Carter said that the Authority recently received \$1.5 million in its FFY08 federal award and these funds would expire on May 31, 2011. He explained that five percent of

this award would be set aside for administrative purposes, leaving \$1.4 million for programming. He said that 75 percent of this amount must be made available for pass-through to units of local government.

Mr. Carter mentioned that \$21,958 remains in FFY05 funding. He said that staff had planned to put these funds toward Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) training. He said that FFY06 has been zeroed out. He said that FFY07 would have \$350,000 remaining, assuming approval of the designations recommended in the memo.

Mr. Carter, in response to a question by Ms. Engel, remarked that the \$21,958 has not been formally recommended for designation, but staff was in the planning stages of putting it to use for BARJ training.

{Chief Bradford moved to approve the FFY04 through FFY08 JABG plan adjustments. Ms. Alvarez seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.}

### **Justice Assistance Grants (JAG)**

#### Executive Director's Remarks

Director Levin stated that, as discussed at the last Budget Committee meeting (on May 4, 2009), the Authority, the secretary of the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS), representatives of the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), and the director of the IDJJ met with the Governor's Office to discuss JAG state-use funds. She said that the Authority had received its American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) JAG award and it was in the amount of \$50,198,081.

Director Levin clarified that the only things that staff is requesting designations for at this meeting are essentially programs that need the funds before the end of the state fiscal year so that the programs can be maintained. She said that one of the programs is being tweaked, but basically the goal is to maintain programs that are already being funded, but were either reduced or cut out of the state budget.

Director Levin noted that the Governor's office was represented in these conversations. She said that the Governor's chief of staff had been briefed regarding these designations. She said that this is really a request, not only of staff, but from the Governor's office.

#### Recommended Designations

Mr. Carter, referring to the memo under Tab 3 of the meeting materials regarding JAG FFY05 and FFY06 plan adjustments and the ARRA plan introduction, said that staff recommended that IDHS receive \$4.2 million. He noted that of the \$4.2 million: \$1.2 million would go towards comprehensive community-based youth services; \$1 million would go towards the SNW program; \$685,000 would go towards community services; \$581,000 would go towards the Illinois Coalition Against Sexual Assault (ICASA); \$294,200 would go towards juvenile justice reform / communities for youth; \$240,300

would go to unified delinquency intervention services; \$123,100 would go to delinquency prevention programs; and \$58,800 would go to juvenile intervention.

Mr. Carter added that the IDOC had requested \$2.8 million for a day reporting program.

Mr. Carter said that the IDJJ had requested \$566,000; \$350,000 would go towards a juvenile transition center in St. Clair County; \$216,100 would go to the Illinois Youth Center / St. Charles for its residential substance abuse treatment center; and \$500,000 would go to Cease Fire via the IVPA.

Director Levin pointed out that the Authority is still planning on recommending about \$5 million for each of the three agencies. She said that IDHS is requesting approximately \$4.25 million and IDOC is requesting approximately \$2.8 million. She said that there may be a little over \$7 million in total designations. She stated that her estimates were very cursory and that IDOC and IDJJ had other requests with respect to ARRA JAG funds, but they were for youth programs. She remarked that staff was concerned with dealing with state budget cuts at this time. She said that this way, these programs would not need to be cut and subsequently add to the state's unemployment problem.

Director Levin noted that staff would be planning to accommodate future IDOC and IDJJ requests, or anything put forth by the Governor's Office. She said that the designations made at this meeting would primarily be to plug budget holes.

Director Levin, in response to a question by Ms. Hora, stated that about \$4.5 million of the ARRA JAG funds would go toward administrative purposes. She said that about \$4.4 million was going to the Metropolitan Enforcement Group and Task Forces. She noted that the minutes of the previous Budget Committee meeting indicate that there was a designation for rough estimates regarding how the Authority was going to deal with units of local government. She said that staff had been working on some sort of applications that would be released in the near future. She added that at the last Budget Committee meeting it was determined that funds would go toward equipment purchases, but staff wanted to do that only once programming options had been considered.

Mr. Carter, in response to a comment by Ms. Hora, said that it would be easier not to try to think about the \$42 million in available funds as a whole, but to break it down into what is available at the local and state levels. He explained that after making the recommended designations, about \$7 million would remain in state-use funds and about \$25 million would remain in local-use funds.

Mr. Carter said that at the March 6, 2009 Budget Committee meeting the Budget Committee approved a designation of \$25,000 in FFY05 funds to ICASA for its crime victim and witness programs. He said that staff recommended that this designation be rescinded from the FFY05 funds and redesignated using FFY06 funds. He noted that the program would use these funds to purchase clothing for sexual assault victims, translated materials, and starter kits.

{Mr. Mudge moved to approve the JAG FFY05 and FFY06 plan adjustments and the JAG ARRA plan introduction. Ms. Engel seconded the motion. All Authority board members present voted to approve the motion with the exception of Mr. Toscas, who voted against the motion.}

Ms. Engel said that she wanted to reiterate that after the Budget Committee was presented with the breakdown of how ARRA money could be allocated and the percentages had been determined, the Budget Committee had decided that these funds were flexible.

Director Levin reported that there would be guidelines with some flexibility. She said that the reason why a lot of ARRA resources were focused on law enforcement was that law enforcement was not getting any of the state's dollars. She added that in many states, JAG funds are used exclusively for law enforcement. She said that the Authority was trying to strike a delicate balance. She stated that programming would take priority and the equipment RFPs would be dealt with last, but that was not to say that there would be no equipment RFPs.

Ms. Engel suggested giving priority or weight to saving jobs, which is essential.

Chairman Murphy emphasized that this is about maintaining and creating jobs; this is about people working.

Director Levin, in response to a question by Ms. Engel, remarked that the applications would be available soon and that they are currently being vetted by Executive Staff. She said that Mr. Carter is drafting them now. She concluded by saying that she hoped that the applications would be done within the next few weeks.

### **Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)**

Mr. Reichgelt, referring to the memo under Tab 4 of the meeting materials regarding VAWA FFY06, FFY07, and FFY08 plan adjustments, said that in 2001 the Victim Services Ad Hoc committee (VSAHC) recommended, and the Authority board approved, the establishment of funding for multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) in Illinois. He added that the Authority now funds four MDTs; three for domestic violence and one for sexual assault. He said that, initially, funding for these programs was set for a three-year period and pursuant to VSAHC and Authority board approval, the funding period was extended to six years. He explained that the MDTs are now entering their sixth and final year of funding.

### **Recommended Designations**

Mr. Reichgelt noted that the recommendations for MDTs presented in the memo are for the St. Clair County MDT, which consists of four partners: the St. Clair County Probation Department; the St. Clair County State's Attorney's Office; the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department; and the Violence Prevention Center of Southwest Illinois. He remarked that

these funds would provide money for Project Renee, which is an off-site one-stop victim service agency for victims of domestic violence in St. Clair County.

Mr. Reichgelt reported that staff recommended a designation to Safe Passage to allow it to continue its transitional housing program for another 12 months. He noted that VAWA transitional housing programs actually get two grants; they get a VAWA grant which provides funding for rent and they also receive a Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant to pay for services. He said that the VOCA grant would be designated at a later date, but staff wanted to ensure that the actual housing didn't experience any breaks in continuity.

{Mr. Toscas moved to approve the VAWA FFY06, FFY07, and FFY08 plan adjustments. Ms. Engel seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous voice vote.}

### **Further Discussion**

Chairman Murphy announced that the Budget Committee would continue to meet frequently because the landscape is constantly changing, in relation to both Springfield and Washington, D.C., and the committee needs to be constantly prepared. He thanked the board members for their participation in Budget Committee meetings and encouraged them to participate by teleconference if they cannot attend meetings in person.

Mr. Reichgelt, in response to a question by Ms. Engel, said that in FFY05, VAWA has another year; those funds will not expire until September 30, 2010. He went on to say that the Authority would use the older funds in conjunction with the newer funds to provide funding for all of the Authority's programs. He said that he didn't want to bring it up at this meeting since he was trying to keep his presentation brief, but he reminded the board that VAWA programs across the board recently received significant funding reductions. He noted that, at that time, staff had requested a 20 percent cut and then permission to cut another 10 percent, for a maximum of 30 percent, if necessary. He said it would not be necessary to go forward with the extra 10 percent. He indicated that with the FFY09 award, staff expects enough money to fund all VAWA programs for one more year.

### **Adjourn**

At this point, 9:45 a.m., Chairman Sorosky thanked Mr. Murphy and declared the conclusion of the Budget Committee portion of the meeting. The Authority Regular Meeting resumed discussion of other items on its agenda.

### **Executive Director's Remarks**

Chairman Sorosky called upon the Executive Director for her remarks, but first he announced that this would be Executive Director Lori Levin's last meeting because she was leaving the Authority and government for the private practice of law.

Chairman Sorosky said that the Authority wished her the best and on behalf of the Board, wanted to thank her for all her hard work and accomplishments, proclaiming June 5, 2009

as Lori Levin Day at the Authority in tribute to her and in recognition of the Board's appreciation.

Director Levin thanked everyone and said that her decision to leave after almost six years was a hard one to make. But she mentioned that many of the projects on which she had been personally working were at the point of coming to fruition, owing in large measure to a great Board and staff, and when she reflected on her career, the move seemed to be good.

She added that the administration has been supportive of the Authority, with Governor Quinn and Chief of Staff Jerry Stermer making the Authority feel like it is part of the team. But she said that she missed practicing law, being in court and being a prosecutor, although she remarked that these skills helped her assure that her work was done correctly in her position as Executive Director. She remarked that she was excited about the future, but sad because the Board and staff will not be part of it. However, she said that she only would be moving across the street to 222 South Riverside Plaza.

She then discussed the elder abuse project as one of the projects on which she had been working and for which a grant was received through Congressman Jesse Jackson. She explained that it will be featured at the upcoming Governor's Conference on Aging in July. Next she reported on a number of competitive grants, citing a \$1 million grant application for the stimulus for transitional housing that the Authority worked on with the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence. She mentioned a grant application for the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) record improvement program for over \$600,000 and a competitive grant application dealing with post-conviction DNA that the Authority filed with the University of Illinois.

She also mentioned a competitive application that the Cook County Public Defender's Office asked the Authority to file for capital punishment training. She said that the Authority is attempting to move forward in accordance with the Governor's wanting to try to bring as much money as possible into Illinois.

Director Levin then complimented each of the Associate Directors and all the staff on their commitment and hard work and introduced Edith Feliciano, as the new Associate Director for Human Resources. She said she again wanted to thank Ron Litwin, the 2008 Employee of the Year, for the added work he undertook when the Authority had no Chief Fiscal Officer for a long time. Further, she mentioned that the Authority's General Counsel Jack Cutrone has been, and continues to be, a great asset, and once more thanked the Board and staff for their assistance and friendship.

At that point, Director Brown said that she would like to make a statement on behalf of the entire Board and herself expressing how enjoyable it has been working with Director Levin and that the professionalism, timeliness and perseverance that she brought to her position was very refreshing. Director Brown added that she thought she probably worked with the Director more than anyone given that she is Vice Chair of the Illinois Integrated Justice Information System Implementation Board and the Executive Director

is the Chair. Director Brown continued to say that she thought a great deal had been accomplished by the IJIS Implementation Board and the Authority Board, as well as by the Information Systems Committee. In conclusion, she said that she wanted to wish Director Levin a great future, knowing that she will be successful in her career and that she looked forward to seeing her.

Chairman Sorosky thanked Director Brown and then called on Chief Fiscal Officer Ted Miller for his fiscal report.

### **Fiscal Report by Ted Miller, Chief Fiscal Officer**

Mr. Miller said he would be discussing the two exhibits that were distributed and also talking briefly about the FY10 Budget. Starting with Operations through the third quarter of the year, under Exhibit 1, he said that the Authority had spent 59 percent of its expenditures and probably would spend about 83 percent when the year is completed. He explained the reason 100 percent would not be spent was because there were vacancies that had not been filled.

Moving to the Electronic Data Processing (EDP) line, he indicated that it also will not be spent at 100 percent because some purchases the Authority planned to make had to be canceled due to the state's fiscal problems, and the same for a disaster recovery solution it had been developing.

In discussing Exhibit 2, Grants and Awards, Mr. Miller stated the Authority paid its administrative support from its Criminal Justice Trust Fund which is budgeted at \$5.8 million. He said that not all that amount would be spent because there are some 15 vacancies that need to be filled, which he thought was possible for the stimulus. He added that the FY10 budget does not affect those positions and the process is proceeding as fast possible. He explained that more money is spent at the end of the year than up to the current time, which has appeared to be the trend for the four or five years that he has been affiliated with the Authority.

Moving on to the General Revenue Matching Funds, Mr. Miller indicated that the Authority will spend close to \$900,000, which he explained was its federal match for the Authority's different grants. He stated that the reason all of it was not spent currently was a timing issue and reiterated that the Authority will spend that amount or slightly over as expected. He then discussed the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund and said that it represents money received from sources other than federal and is not under General Revenue Funds. He reported that one grant of \$25,000 was available, which probably would be spent the current year.

Next Mr. Miller detailed the Juvenile Accountability Block Grant saying that the Authority would spend about \$2 million, with the remainder carried over plus whatever new money is received for next year. He continued to say that theoretically the Authority can spend all the money in one year, but normally it does not. Mr. Miller stated that there are no main financial issues and that the Authority is doing better than most of the

state agencies because it is 98 percent either federal or motor vehicle funded, sheltering it from what is happening in the State of Illinois.

With respect to the FY10 budget, he said it is up to debate if there is one. He said he believed the Authority would be okay given that its request had been approved and again, that it receives 98 percent from either federal or motor vehicle funds. He mentioned there were some cuts from the other General Revenue Fund, but that the Authority should be fine. However, he said that since the budget is not final, and with additional work to be done, he would make a more complete budget presentation in September. He and Chairman Sorosky then asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns.

Ms. Engel asked if the Authority's funding would be affected by the Legislature's 50 percent cuts. Mr. Miller responded that some funding would be affected, but overall the Authority would be okay. Following up, Ms. Engel asked if that meant that no staff layoff is anticipated. In reply, Mr. Miller said that nothing like that was anticipated at the current time, adding that there might be other communication, but there had not been any indication along those lines. He noted that the Authority will be able to hire the stimulus personnel because they are federally funded and approval from the Governor's Office was being awaited. He said interviews would be started and people would be hired as soon as possible, once more saying that the Authority was doing better than most agencies.

Chairman Sorosky thanked Mr. Miller. He then introduced Illinois State Police Master Sergeant Ben Halloran, Chairman of the Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG) and Task Force Association for a presentation on drug law enforcement efforts.

**Presentation on Multi-Jurisdictional Drug Task Forces by Illinois State Police Master Sergeant Ben Halloran and Lieutenant David Hodgeson**

Sergeant Halloran thanked Chairman Sorosky. He explained that the Multi Enforcement Group and Task Force Association, of which he is Chairman, represents 23 narcotics units throughout the State of Illinois, 19 of which are funded through the Authority, ranging from the northern to the southern end of the state. He added that his operational area is the McLean County area in the middle of the state and beyond. He then introduced Lieutenant David Hodgeson and pointed out that Lieutenant Hodgeson was not only the former Chairman of the MEG and Task Force Association but also was the Task Force Unit Commander.

Sergeant Halloran proceeded to detail the history of the Metropolitan Enforcement Groups and Task Forces, as starting around 1978, with his specific unit, in 1983. He said there have been several expansion grants, along with a funding decrease in 2006, and now additional moneys appear to be forthcoming. He then started his Power Point presentation. He described the statewide coverage, citing that from 2003 to 2009 the head count for local officers decreased from 200 to about 185, and the number of state police officers decreased from 85 to 70 or 73.

Next he cited and summarized arrest statistics. He stated that the numbers projected for the first quarter of 2009 were generally consistent with 2008 activity and levels. He pointed to 2007 as a significant year for seizing firearms, given a major gun initiative that netted 600 guns in just one operation that was undertaken for a long period of time. Next, Sergeant Halloran addressed gang arrests. He said they are increasing, along with active gang recruitment, across the state. He cited the Bloomington Normal area as an example where there was greater gang activity. He said that the Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces are assisting local agencies in trying to stop this growing situation. He cautioned that it is important for communities to be aggressive in this pursuit while there is an opportunity because if it is allowed to escalate, chances of success are going to diminish greatly.

Next Sergeant Halloran discussed working with private and public sector partnerships including major corporations like State Farm as well as elder groups who provide assistance for different purposes such as school and community organization drug education programs. In addition he mentioned training local probation officers as to what needs to be recognized when doing home visits, and stressed the importance of reaching children at a young age to prevent drug use, even as young as 13 or 14. He also stressed the importance of enforcing court ordered drug treatment.

At that point Lieutenant David Hodgeson talked about the MEG/TF drug treatment partnership, describing outreach efforts to various drug treatment centers. He also described other initiatives, including the McLean County Drug Court. In addition, he discussed the use of new technology made possible by grant money, such as GPS tracking devices and IP cameras. In addition, Lieutenant Hodgeson outlined the Statewide Terrorism Intelligence Center, which the MEG/TF operates in concert with the state police.

He then mentioned the use of interdiction, which he explained is basically a proactive stance toward trying to intercept drugs, and he detailed several interdiction activities. Afterwards, Sergeant Halloran, introduced a video on the deconfliction system. He stated that its use is being promoted among more and more police agencies throughout the states to improve communication and case information, not only to help ensure officer safety but also to increase the possibilities for more drug seizures, and he cited some examples. He went on to discuss various other operations and cases that were successful utilizing MEG or Task Force narcotics team assistance in different parts of the state as well as in Ontario, Canada.

In conclusion, he asked for questions, with Ms. Engel inquiring as to a breakdown of the drugs making up the 80 plus percent of arrests he mentioned for felony charges. In response, Sergeant Halloran stated that there was a combination, with crack cocaine appearing to be consistent and more and more of prescription drugs, as well as ecstasy and LSD. He continued to say that heroin is reappearing in addition to cannabis, adding that medical marijuana is passing into Illinois.

Ms. Engel then asked if there were a breakdown in terms of methamphetamine activity. Sergeant Halloran remarked that its use was down, but a slight increase was starting. He said that the large labs are not as prevalent, but there are still small labs. At that point, Lieutenant Hodgeson said that he would provide a spreadsheet of the breakdown. In the discussion that ensued, topics included the need to examine the individual amounts of drugs being used for making decisions as to treatment versus prison for the users. Also discussed was what is required to do a better job with the war on drugs.

Director Brown remarked that it seemed like the war on drugs was not going away and that it appeared to her, even with gains, it is a deeper problem requiring efforts in addition to law enforcement. At that point, Colonel Michael Snyders of the Illinois State Police, addressing the concerns of Directors Brown and Engel, stated that law enforcement is changing the way success is counted.

He said that the focus is shifting from how many people are arrested or the amount of drugs seized to more emphasis on public feelings of security in the community. He reiterated that greater interaction with drug treatment centers and drug courts, as shown in the presentation, was being pursued to prevent people from going in and out of jail and to have real outcomes in the community. He said that success is being geared more toward public safety than just statistics.

In response, Ms. Engel said that she was pleased with the approach of working toward community safety and to bring about better outcomes for individuals. She added that she also felt it was a more effective use of funds, rather than filling prisons with young people using low levels of drugs. Her comment led to a discussion of how this new emphasis was being put into effect. Sergeant Halloran responded that efforts included drug education programs in schools and community organizations to help prevent drug use at a young age, reiterating the initiatives he mentioned earlier. He then concluded the presentation, and thanked everyone for their time.

At that point, Chairman Sorosky thanked Sergeant Ben Halloran and Lieutenant Dave Hodgeson for their presentation, and emphasized in agreement that unless young people are meaningfully educated to stop using drugs, drug dealing is not going to stop, no matter how effective law enforcement is. He added that drug problems transcend all communities and all economies and do not only occur in bad neighborhoods so drug education needs to be widespread. He then asked if there were any old or new business.

Ms. Engel said on behalf of the Board, she wanted to thank Lori Levin for her six years of service and for her hard work, and wished her great success in the future.

Chairman Sorosky then stated he had one item of new business, which called for a motion to adopt commendations for two Board Members who left the Board, Larry G. Trent and Roger E. Walker, Jr., and one for Director Levin, praising and commending all three for the work they have done.

{Mr. Toscas moved that the commendations be adopted. Mr. Mudge seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous voice vote.}

**Motion to Adjourn**

{Mr. Toscas' motion to adjourn was seconded by Chief Bradford and adopted by unanimous voice vote.}



