

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

Friday, September 6, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

300 West Adams Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room

Chicago, Illinois

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Peter M. Ellis welcomed Board Members and guests to the third 2013 quarterly Board Meeting of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority. He called the meeting to order and asked General Counsel Lisa Stephens to call the roll.

In addition to Chairman Ellis, Authority Board Members in attendance were:

State's Attorney and Vice-Chairman Anita Alvarez

State's Attorney Carrie B. Boyd

Clerk Dorothy Brown

Director Richard H. Calica

Public Defender Abishi Cunningham

Director Patrick Delfino

Mr. Felix M. Gonzalez

Director Hiram Grau

Mr. John Harvey

Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck

Ms. Cynthia Hora

Ms. Lisa Jacobs

Mr. John Maki

Superintendent Garry McCarthy

Director Kevin T. McClain

Director Michael J. Pelletier

Sheriff Patrick Perez

Public Defender Randall B. Rosenbaum

Ms. Angela Rudolph

Approval of Minutes of the June 7, 2013 Regular Meeting

With a quorum in place, Chairman Peter M. Ellis asked for a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 7, 2013 Authority Board Meeting. In response to his call for any discussion, Ms. Cynthia Hora noted that on page four, third paragraph, a typographical error referred to her as Mr. Hora.

{With the correction, Ms. Cynthia Hora moved that the minutes be adopted. Mr. John Harvey seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous voice vote.}

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Ellis then thanked everyone for attending the Authority's third quarterly Board Meeting, and also thanked those who attended the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program Funding Priorities meetings, July 22 and 29. He reported that Executive Director Jack Cutrone would be commenting in more detail on what transpired at the meetings, the process used for recommending priorities, and the recommendations for the Board's adoption. But he said that he again personally wanted to thank the Board Members, the stakeholders, and the staff for their participation, stating that he thought the undertaking was very worthwhile and well received. At that point, he asked Mr. Cutrone for his remarks.

Executive Director's Remarks

Mr. Cutrone thanked Chairman Ellis, and proceeded to describe the topics presented on the first day of the planning meetings that were thought appropriate for consideration by the Authority Board in setting priorities for JAG funding for federal fiscal years 2013 to and including 2015. He then referred to presentations made on the second day, explained how voting for priorities was conducted, and discussed the priorities selected, noting that they were outlined in material distributed to Board Members prior to the Board Meeting.

He moved on to discuss JAG funding in terms of what it had been, what it is expected to be, and what has been spent in grants, citing the last 20 years. He also outlined designations by JAG purpose area and reviewed funding that the Authority receives from all other sources, stating that the largest single sector currently is prevention. Mr. Cutrone additionally addressed the funding of Drug Task Force and Drug Prosecution programs, and American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) funded initiatives.

He gave more details as to the process undertaken to propose the set of recommended priorities for JAG funding, noting that the Authority's existing JAG priorities were used as a baseline, along with consideration given to Department of Justice priorities. Mr. Cutrone also pointed out that the results of the working groups and their voting were relied upon heavily, besides considering the presentations and the Authority staff's research and expertise. He then discussed the priorities listed in the material as recommended by staff and made further comments as to their selection. He stated that the Board's input was being sought as to whether the priorities are correct, whether there are priorities that have been missed, or priorities that the Board thinks should not be included. He then asked for comments, prior to a vote to adopt them.

In the ensuing discussion, Superintendent Garry McCarthy raised the importance of several areas not to be overlooked including the intersection of public health and public safety, community policing, and a more holistic approach to narcotic enforcement. He also talked about the need for better methods to address curfew and truancy enforcement.

Mr. John Maki commented on the importance of public health along with health care for those incarcerated.

He then raised the issue of assuring that selected grantees have adequate existing capacity to undertake programs, and inquired as to the method for awarding grants to priority area programs. In response, Mr. Cutrone explained the various ways and how Budget Committee materials will highlight recommendations in the priority areas. He further noted that Requests for Proposals (RFPs) often are used and that Board Members are welcome to suggest RFPs for priority area awards. Mr. Maki in turn suggested that a more systematic, rather than ad hoc approach might be considered to assure that the best initiatives are selected and to help better meet the needs of criminal justice areas in Illinois that require more support. Mr. Cutrone said that such a system can be arranged.

Ms. Lisa Jacobs then remarked that this is an exciting opportunity to be very precise and very deliberate about selecting the highest priorities that will produce the most effective outcomes, and that reflect the best and most informed minds in Illinois coming together. She added that the Authority is undertaking a very important role in this endeavor.

At that point, a discussion took place concerning indigent defense services with Public Defender Randall Rosenbaum noting that this function of the criminal justice system did not appear in the priority areas even though for the first time the federal government listed it as a priority. Public Defender Abishi Cunningham and Director Michael Pelletier also commented on the importance of this area and the need for funding. Mr. Cutrone concurred, saying that he did not have a problem with its being added.

Director Kevin McClain then raised a number of concerns as to the priorities selection process and emphasized the need for more Board Member involvement. He suggested a sub-committee of the Board that would actually make recommendations to the full Board. Mr. Cutrone responded to Director McClain's comments. He stated that based on the issues Director McClain raised he would propose that the Board adopt the priorities as presented with the suggested addition of indigent defense services and have the Planning and Research Committee become more involved to continually review them. He said that a meeting of the Planning and Research Committee would be scheduled to make additional suggestions or modifications.

Other remarks followed including those by Mr. John Harvey as to his feeling that it was premature to call for a vote. Dr. LaMar Hasbrouck noted his interest in priorities addressing recidivism and underscored the importance of taking advantage of the experience of those on the Board to go from theory to practice. At that point, Chairman Ellis agreed that the Board's expertise is important but added that it needs to be applied in settings besides the quarterly meetings once every three months, well before voting takes place. Toward that end, he urged reconstituting the Committees and more Board Member participation in Committee Meetings where such decisions should be made for subsequent presentation to the full Board.

Chairman Ellis also stressed the importance of leveraging efforts that are already underway to avoid duplication and make the best use of resources. Referring back to the planning process that was used in July, he clarified that it was intended as a kicking-off point for current priority decision making, supplemented by what was done in the past and looking toward the future and that there would continue to be changes. In response, Director McClain reiterated that his main point was that the expertise of those on the Board should be utilized more fully in determining priorities and that he was not being critical of the staff. He also noted that he had no problem with going ahead to vote on the priorities as currently recommended.

Ms. Cynthia Hora said her understanding was that the priorities as presented were global in concept to give ideas of areas for specific programs which would be recommended for funding after more extensive examination and input from experts in smaller groups. She said that she agreed with such a process. Chairman Ellis again asserted that the issue is for more Board Member involvement in making recommendations and thus be better informed as to their selection prior to staff presenting them at Budget Committee Meetings and to the full Board for approval. He added that such an approach was not a reprimand of the staff whose hard work was appreciated.

Public Defender Rosenbaum then inquired if the Board should prioritize the general categories and the subsidiary ones and give guidance to the staff. In the discussion that ensued, Mr. Cutrone remarked that he did not think that would be necessary. He outlined how the Board would be kept apprised of the grants being made in the priority areas at Budget Committee and Board Meetings, and agreed with Mr. Rosenbaum's suggestion that approved grants be check-marked under which priority they fall.

Additional comments included Mr. Maki's noting that the planning process was an important first step for encouraging innovation and collaboration. Chairman Ellis then asked for a motion to approve the recommended priorities with Public Defender Rosenbaum's amendment. At that point, Public Defender Cunningham asked Mr. Rosenbaum to repeat his amendment. Mr. Rosenbaum stated that it was to add under the subsidiary priorities for Courts, Prosecution, Defense and Community Corrections, support for a Center of Excellence to improve indigent defense services, and to increase access to investigators, investigative resources, social workers and other mitigation experts.

In response, Director McClain said that for the record, he had serious reservations about establishing a Center of Excellence. Ms. Jacobs noted that Director McClain's reaction illustrated why an ongoing dialogue is necessary to develop the best possible strategies to achieve the best possible outcomes and to improve the Board's understanding of the process. Dr. Hasbrouck added that such conversations also are important not only to prioritize for directing funds, but for leveraging with other money and other efforts.

Chairman Ellis asked if there were any additional comments. Hearing none, he again called for a motion to approve the recommended priorities with Public Defender Rosenbaum's amendment.

{Ms. Cynthia Hora so moved. Director McClain seconded the motion as amended, which was adopted by unanimous voice vote.}

Budget Committee Meeting

With no further discussion, Chairman Ellis announced that the Budget Committee Meeting portion of the Board Meeting would be taking place.

(Please See Attached Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting)

Upon adjournment of the Budget Committee Meeting, Chairman Ellis called upon Ronald Litwin, Acting Chief Fiscal Officer for a Fiscal Report.

Fiscal Report by Ronald Litwin, Acting Chief Fiscal Officer

Mr. Litwin began by presenting variances to budget comments on the fiscal year 2013 results for the period July 1, 2012 through August 11, 2013 for Agency Operations and also Awards & Grants Activities. He directed attention to Exhibit #1 in the handout materials which he noted was a comparison of the fiscal year to date expenditures and obligations through August 11, 2013 to the total fiscal year 2013 budget for the General Revenue Fund and stated the total expenditures and obligations for the period were at an 88 percent level in the amount of \$1,597,030 for the fiscal year.

He next called attention to Exhibit #2 which he explained also was a comparison of the fiscal year to date expenditures and obligations through August 11, 2013 to the total fiscal year budget for Awards & Grants, with total expenditures and obligations in the Federal Criminal Justice Trust fund at a 49 percent level in the amount of \$47,544,348. Mr. Litwin moved on to report that total expenditures and obligations in the General Revenue Matching and Other General Revenue Funds were at a 93 percent level in the amount of \$22,002,631, explaining that the category includes the three new appropriations for fiscal year 2013: Adult Re-Deploy Grants and Administration, Violence Prevention Programs, and the Chicago Area Project.

He pointed out that the Criminal Justice Information Projects Fund has a \$400,000 appropriation level to allow for funding obtained from non-federal government entities, private sources, and not-for-profit organizations, with total expenditures and obligations at a 27 percent level in the amount of \$108,984. He also indicated that the expenditures and obligations in the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Fund were at a 93 percent level in the amount of \$4,194,308.

He then outlined the new category for state fiscal year 2013, Other State Funds, stating that it had expenditures and obligations at a 15 percent level in the amount of \$4,111,664, and is comprised of three new State of Illinois appropriations: Death Penalty Abolition Fund, Prescription Pill and Drug Disposal Fund, and Illinois Crime Stoppers Association Fund. He said it also includes the carryover appropriations for Violence Prevention

Programs from the former Illinois Violence Prevention Fund. He continued to say that total expenditures and obligations for the Awards and Grant activity is at a 51 percent level for the period represented by the dollar amount of \$77,961,934.

Turning to Exhibit #3, Federal Funding Sources Fiscal Year 2013, he stated that it describes the activity for grants that are active during state fiscal year 2013, including grand total funding by grant, expenditures on a grant inception to date basis, and remaining grant balance through June 30, 2013. Mr. Litwin added that it also includes the revenue received in fiscal year 2013 associated with the grant and said that the grand total funding is \$209,362,505 with inception to date expenditures as of August 11, 2013 of \$163,523,325, leaving a remaining balance of \$45,839,180.

In conclusion, Mr. Litwin called attention to Exhibit #4, Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Federal Grant Programs fiscal year 2013. He noted that it provides a pie chart depiction of the percentage relationships of the \$208,152,366 Federal Grant Programs, explaining that the Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) programs combined represent approximately 92 percent of the fiscal year 2013 active grants. He then asked if there were any questions. With no response, Chairman Ellis thanked Mr. Litwin for his report, and asked if there were any old or new business. Hearing none, he thanked everyone for their participation and called for a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment

{Mr. Maki moved that the meeting be adjourned. Ms. Jacobs seconded the motion, which was adopted by unanimous voice vote.}