



**ILLINOIS  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE  
INFORMATION AUTHORITY**

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**MINUTES**

**Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority  
Strategic Opportunities Committee Meeting**

August 27, 2015

2:00 p.m.

300 West Adams, Suite 200

Large Conference Room

Chicago, Illinois 60606

**Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Strategic Opportunities Committee of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority met on Thursday, August 27, 2015, at 300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois. Authority Strategic Opportunities Committee Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. Authority General Counsel Lisa Stephens called the roll.

Other Authority members and designees present were:

Gladyse Taylor for Director John Baldwin  
Director Patrick Delfino  
Steven Caluris for Superintendent Garry McCarthy  
James Chadd for Director Michael J. Pelletier  
Lanetta Haynes Turner for President Toni Preckwinkle  
Authority Chair Hon. Elizabeth Robb (via teleconference)  
Chief Rick Tanksley

Also in attendance were:

John Maki, Authority Executive Director  
John Baldwin (via teleconference), Director – Illinois Department of Corrections  
Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor  
Shai Hoffman, Authority Program Supervisor  
Jude Lemrow, Authority Federal and State Grants Unit Administrative Assistant  
Mary Ratliff (via teleconference), Authority Program Supervisor  
Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor  
Linda Taylor, Authority Federal Award Specialist  
Rebecca Janowitz  
Other Authority staff members and guests.

## **1. Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) Charge**

Executive Director John Maki said that when the Authority was created, it had two principal functions; planning and securing funding. He said that he thought it would make more sense to have separate planning and budget committee working in concert than it would to have planning be a charge of the Budget Committee alone. He said that the proposed charge for the SOC included a three-year strategic plan that would be timed to coincide with gubernatorial elections so that the plan's framework would be viable beyond the current administration's tenure and be useful for future administrations.

Director Maki, referring to the *2001 Criminal Justice Plan for the State of Illinois* that was included in the meeting materials, said that he wanted the Authority to get back to that kind of framework; one in which planning for the state's entire justice system is addressed.

SOC Chair Paula Wolff said that, assuming the consensus is that the SOC wants to adopt such a framework, the SOC would need to determine how to go about crafting it. This is the core of the SOC's charge.

## **2. Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) Principles**

Director Maki called attention to a list included in the meeting materials entitled *Principles to Guide Authority's Work*. These principles are intended to guide the Authority's work and produce high-level outcomes.

Guest Rebecca Janowitz, of the Cook County Board of Commissioners' President Toni Preckwinkle's office, said that the principles listed do not address some of the criminal justice system's daily challenges. She asked if it was the duty of the SOC to add to this list of principles or to merely abide by them.

SOC Chair Wolff said that she wanted to ask staff to review Ms. Janowitz's suggestions (disproportionate minority contact, victims having voices, and efficiency and effectiveness) and draft them as principles for review by the entire Committee.

Lanetta Haynes Turner said that the priorities should capture the principles to some extent; the principles would be the overarching ideas and the priorities would be more narrow goals.

Director Maki said that the priorities might describe where we want to go, but the principles would describe why we want to go there.

Director Patrick Delfino said that at some point he needs to know how much money is coming into the Authority and via what pipelines; how much of it is committed to continuation of existing programs; how much of it is new money with pre-existing conditions. We need to define what resources are available to support a plan; who makes the decisions as to who gets what; what are the criteria for those decisions; and how develops the criteria?

Director Maki said that this is where the SOC and the Budget Committee intersect. The Board's job is to provide a general vision and framework under which the Authority would operate. For example, it would guide how much money goes toward continuing existing grants versus seeding innovation. He said that the Authority was very good at this at one point and he would like to see it return to that kind of model. He said that an overview of the Authority's federal funding streams was provided at the June 19, 2015 Budget Committee meeting, but many state-funded programs allowed the Authority little or no discretion regarding spending.

James Chadd representing Director Michael J. Pelletier said that due process and fair and accurate procedures appeared to be under-emphasized in the list of Principles. While they might be partially subsumed under the Legitimacy Principle, they are worthy Principles themselves.

Ms. Haynes Turner said that rehabilitation and services should also be addressed. The coordination of system services might be attached to the Efficiency Principle. With regard to research, information sharing should be a core Principle not only among stakeholders, but also among the general public.

### **3. Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) Existing Grant Making Principles**

Director Maki called attention to the *Grant Making Principles* described in the *Authority Resolution #2 (2001)* that was included in the meeting materials. He said that since they were approved by a prior Board, they are binding, but in recent years the Authority has strayed from them. They address many of the concerns raised at this meeting and they should serve as a guide for this Board.

Director Maki said that the Authority did not deal with state funds for most of its history, which is why the Grant Making Principles only refer to federal funds. The SOC reached a general consensus that these Grant Making Principles should apply to all funding streams.

**Motion:** Ms. Haynes Turner moved to amend the Grant Making Principles, as presented in the meeting materials, to broaden their scope from applying to federal funds only to applying to all funds and to recommend those amendments to the Authority Board. Chief Rick Tanksley seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. This motion will be presented to the full Board for approval.

#### **4. Authority Existing Mandates – Internal and Federal**

SOC Chair Wolff called attention to the document included in the meeting materials entitled *Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Major Formula Funds*. Authority Program Supervisor Greg Stevens, referring to the *Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Major Formula Funds* document, explained the mandates of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (JAG). He said that the JAG priorities are the most flexible of any of the major federal programs administered by the Authority.

Director Maki said that JAG could be used to innovate and to seed new programs and that JAG will fund some of the research-driven needs of the state.

Director Maki, referring to the *Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Major Formula Funds* document, explained the mandates of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) programs.

SOC Chair Wolff suggested adding specific grant time-frames to the process principles; that new grants would run for one year and be allowed to be renewed for up to three years, or some similar set of conditions.

Mr. Stevens said that the new Grant Accountability and Transparency Act (GATA) requirements define grant time-frame eligibility.

It was agreed that the Committee should be briefed on the new GATA elements once the federal rules and regulations are formally adopted.

#### **Research and Analysis Unit PowerPoint Presentation**

Authority Research and Analysis (R&A) Unit Associate Director Megan Alderden delivered a PowerPoint presentation (available at ---site link) entitled *Strategic Research and Funding* that described the role of the R&A Unit. She said that the creation of the SOC provided an opportunity to focus the efforts of the R&A Unit.

Director Maki said that it is critical for research to be related to funding from the beginning of new programs, otherwise they will lack focus from the beginning. This helps keep new funding in line with the visions endorsed by the Board.

The Committee discussed its next steps in developing a schedule of meetings at which it would devise a process to create the priority framework and would implement that process.

### **Adjourn**

**Motion:** Ms. Gladyse Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Haynes Turner seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 p.m.