

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA COMMISSION ON CRIME AND DELINQUENCY
3101 North Front Street, Harrisburg, PA

September 12, 2018 Commission Meeting

MINUTES

Before: John Adams, Esq., Commissioner
James E. Anderson, Commissioner
Karen Baker, Commissioner
Mark H. Bergstrom, Commissioner
Mary Jane Bowes, Commissioner (via telephone)
Michael Deery, Esq. for Honorable Vincent Hughes
John Delaney, Jr., Esq., Commissioner
Honorable Sheryl Delozier, Commissioner
Honorable Elizabeth Doyle, Commissioner
Lt. Colonel Robert Evanchick, Commissioner
Honorable James J. Fitzgerald III, Commissioner
Honorable Anthony Harvilla, Commissioner
Honorable David W. Heckler, Commissioner
Jeffrey Kolansky, Esq., Commissioner (via telephone)
Honorable Edward Marsico, Jr., Commissioner
Honorable Matthew McConnell, Commissioner
William Otis, for Honorable Leo Dunn, Commissioner
Joseph Petrarca, Commissioner (via telephone)
Honorable Charles H. Ramsey, Chairman
Christine Wechsler Rayer, Esq., Commissioner
Jennifer Smith, Commissioner (via phone)
Richard Steele, Commissioner
Jennifer Storm, Commissioner
James Turner, Commissioner (via telephone)
David Volkman, for Sec. Pedro Rivera, Commissioner
William Ward, Esq., Commissioner
Vicki Wilken, Esq. (via telephone), for Honorable Patrick Brown,
Commissioner
Phoenicia Williams, Esq., Commissioner
Michele Minor Wolf, Commissioner

Staff: Derin Myers, Acting Executive Director
Kirsten Kenyon, Director, Office of Research and Children's
Advocacy
Valerie McMahan, Director, Office of Victims Services
Robert Merwine, Director, Office of Criminal Justice System
Improvements

Mike Pennington, Director, Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention
Debra Sandifer, Chief Counsel
Pamela Bennett
Jeff Blystone
Danielle Chubb
Kathy Clarke
Christina Cosgrove-Rooks
Chris Epoca
Nancy Heisler
Rebecca Kiehl
Geoff Kolchin
Diane Morgan
Natalie Novotny-Goles
Daisy Pagan
Michele Pavone
John Pfau
Lindsay Vaughan

I. Call to Order

Chairman Ramsey called the September 12, 2018 meeting of the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) to order at 10:00 AM and welcomed participants and guests. A quorum of members was present.

The first order of business was to review the Minutes from the June 13, 2018 Meeting. *Commissioner McConnell made a motion to approve the Minutes from the June 13, 2018 PCCD Commission Meeting. Commissioner Anderson seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by unanimous vote.*

II. Chairman's Report

Chairman Ramsey noted the recent significant activity related to school safety, including Act 44 that was signed into law in June which created the School Safety and Security Committee within PCCD. Chairman Ramsey reviewed the four goals of the Committee:

- Develop criteria to assess school safety and security;
- Establish a registry for vendors who conduct school safety assessments;
- Issue a survey to school entities to assess school security preparedness; and
- Administer \$60 million in funding via grants

Chairman Ramsey referenced the next task to be conducted of establishing criteria relating to assessments and surveying schools. He also acknowledged that he has been chosen to chair the new School Safety and Security Committee, which has already met several times.

Chairman Ramsey recognized Ms. Phoenicia Williams, Deputy Attorney General and Sheriff Anthony Harvilla of Carbon County as new Commissioners. He gave a brief overview of their backgrounds and experience, and welcomed each of them to the group.

Chairman Ramsey also expressed his bittersweet recognition of this being Bob Merwine's last meeting in his role as Director of the Office of Criminal Justice System Improvements with PCCD. After more than 20 years he is transitioning to another position within the Commonwealth. Chairman Ramsey expressed both his and the Commission's appreciation for Mr. Merwine's work and service in a number of roles and initiatives, and wished him the best. Those in attendance concurred by applauding Mr. Merwine.

III. Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director's Report was given by Acting Executive Director Derin Myers, who provided updates and an overview of recent activity within PCCD.

Regarding the Justice Assistance Grant and special conditions that were attached, the federal government is involved in significant litigation and challenges for compliance on this issue. They have responded with extended deadlines and modified requirements. With those changes, PCCD has officially submitted all award documentation, so the 2017 award is now available. These contentious special conditions are still on the 2018 Justice Assistance Grant award and other awards, so more challenges and changes are anticipated.

In July, PCCD was notified that it, and several other agencies, were to be part of a Performance-based Budget review, which will require close examination of each funding stream, metrics, outcomes, etc. to guide the formulation of the 2019-20 state budget.

In response to previous questions raised regarding Commission member terms, Mr. Myers clarified that Commissioners can serve up to two 4-year terms. They also remain a Commission member unless notified by PCCD that they are no longer a member; however they cannot be appointed to a third term.

Mr. Myers noted that, during the School Safety Taskforce meetings, it was nice to hear recognition of PCCD's involvement in the Communities That Care (CTC) model and in the utilization of results from the Pennsylvania Youth Survey (PAYS), and how those initiatives are helping to inform local decision making, providing a high-level overview of how those reports are being used.

Mr. Myers invited PCCD staff Geoff Kolchin to provide information to the group on the PAYS. Mr. Kolchin gave an overview of what PAYS is, when and how it is administered, and what it covers. The PAYS collects data across the domains of

school, family, community and peers to recognize patterns and trends concerning how youth think and respond to illicit substances and violence.

The survey assesses risk factors regarding the likelihood of youth participating in these behaviors as well as protective factor analysis, seeking to identify why youth engage in high risk behaviors. It also looks at what communities can do to increase protective factors to help the greatest number of youth.

Through collaboration with the Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP), the Single County Authorities (SCAs) will use the PAYS data to help identify ways to direct funds and services at the local level. The number of youth who took the survey, a map of county participation, the summary and county reports, and more are available on the PAYS website, www.pays.pa.gov. This data and the results of the PAYS is used by county juvenile probation, children & youth, and other entities to help direct services and funding at the local level.

Mr. Kolchin noted several victories to celebrate in the results of the PAYS:

- Students who feel safe and supported in schools
- Abuse of prescription medications decreased
- Heroin use is low

He also highlighted some areas of concern:

- Mental health and suicidal ideation issues
- Continuing high rate of depression and suicide – shared percentages
- Bullying

Mr. Kolchin noted some of the risk and protective factors, and stated that they are looking at the top three risk factors and what they can do to ameliorate them. For example, for the dangers of early initiation of substance use, engage parents and build pro-social engagement in schools to help students feel more connected. The strongest protective factors are in the Family domain, including positive attachment, pro-social involvement, and rewards for engaging in activities.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Mr. Kolchin responded to several questions from Commissioners. Regarding if the School District of Philadelphia participated, Mr. Kolchin stated that they do not at this point. Though PCCD has tried to engage them, they cite concern of staff time to do the survey and also state that they administer a different survey; the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS). When asked if the YRBS is the same, Mr. Kolchin responded that no it's not, as it's only based on a sample, and doesn't look at protective factors.

There were subsequent questions about the participation of school districts in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg. Mr. Kolchin indicated that Pittsburgh does not participate, but Harrisburg and school districts in all the other major urban areas do.

Mr. Kolchin answered a few other questions regarding the survey questions and responses, indicating that any questions skipped by youth do not result in under reporting as they are addressed in the subsequent statistical analysis, and that the emotional abuse questions differentiate from physical bullying but do not specify cyber bullying.

IV. Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee Report

In lieu of Committee Chair Judge Zottola, who was unable to attend today's meeting, the Honorable William Ward presented the Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee Report and reviewed highlights from the Committee's last meeting on August 1.

Lynn Kovich, Deputy Secretary for the Department of Human Services (DHS) Office of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (OMHSAS), provided updates on the progress toward a settlement agreement between OMHSAS and the ACLU pertaining to wait times for beds at state hospitals, including the addition of 50 beds at Norristown State Hospital.

Staff from the Council of State Governments (CSG) updated the Committee on their proposal to assist in implementing Stepping Up Pennsylvania, including technical assistance, sharing best practices, and creation of a central information bank for participating counties. Committee members then heard a presentation from Franklin County Mental Health on their Mental Health Co-Responder Program, illustrating how funding from PCCD is having a positive impact on their communities.

Staff from the Bureau of Autism Services informed the group that they are revising their bench book to include an additional section on evidence-based practices. Mr. Ward concluded his report by expressing appreciation for the support and assistance of Bob Merwine during his tenure with PCCD.

Mr. Robert Merwine gave an update on the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Funds, including an overview of its development and review of the nine objectives for funding. In response to the announcement, PCCD received 118 applications, which then went through an extensive review process. Seventy-eight were recommended after the Tier 1 review, which were then further narrowed down through a Tier 2 review process to 36 applications for the \$4.1 M available. One was subsequently deemed ineligible, so 35 applicants have been recommended for consideration.

Mr. Merwine noted that an addendum was sent out regarding the 2018 JAG application, which will be posted and available for public comment for 30 days. If any significant comments are received, they will bring them back to the

Commission for review and discussion. Mr. Merwine concluded by responding to a question regarding the focus of law enforcement applications, and providing highlights of the focus.

Action Item:

The Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee has one action item for the Commission's consideration. Mr. Merwine reviewed the project summaries for four applications being put forth for federal Byrne JAG funds and recommended their approval. (The complete summaries can be found on pages 3-5 of the Commission meeting materials.)

Staff and the Mental Health and Justice Advisory Committee recommend approval of up to \$468,492 in federal Byrne Justice Assistance (JAG) funds contingent upon the availability of funds.

Commissioner Ward made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner McConnell. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

V. Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee Report

The Honorable David W. Heckler, Committee Chair, provided an overview of the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory (CACAC) Report, referencing page 6 of the Commission meeting materials. Chairman Heckler noted that a Medical Workgroup has been formed to discuss ways to improve medical services for victims of child abuse. He reviewed participants of the Workgroup, which is led by Secretary of Health Rachel Levine. They found that, in many cases, children in whom there has not been visible physical impact have benefitted from a physician checking them out. The Workgroup will convene a small group of medical experts to develop a pilot program for implementation.

The CACAC also discussed an issue raised at the last VSAC meeting regarding Child Advocacy Centers' use of victim compensation funds to provide services.

Action Items:

The Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee has two action items for the Commission's consideration. First, as described on page 6 of the Commission meeting materials, augmentation of State Child Advocacy Center (CAC) funds for Somerset County CAC is requested to cover the gap between current funding and 2018 funding.

Staff and the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee recommend approval of this augmentation request of \$5,792 in state CAC funds pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Heckler made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

The second action item, described in detail on pages 7-9 of the Commission meeting material, is in support of Butler County Alliance for Children's application for federal JAG funds to collaborate with Partners in Building a Trauma-Informed Community to address the vicarious trauma needs of first responders.

Staff and the Children's Advocacy Center Advisory Committee recommend approval of this application requesting a total of \$15,000 in Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds.

Commissioner Heckler made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner McConnell. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

VI. Criminal Justice Advisory Committee Report

The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee (CJAC) Report was presented by Mr. Bob Merwine in lieu of Committee Chair Mike Vereb. Mr. Merwine shared updates on applications received in response to the previously authorized 2018 Gun Violence Reduction Initiative Delegation of Authority and the Intermediate Punishment Delegation of Authority. All applications received have been reviewed and approved, and awards have been made for the first one. Details, including the project summaries and approved actions, can be found on pages 12-15 of the Commission meeting materials.

Action Items:

The Criminal Justice Advisory Committee has one action item for the Commission's consideration. As described in the project summaries on pages 16-23 of the Commission meeting materials, the Committee received 23 applications for up to \$2.718 million in federal Byrne JAG Funds.

Staff and the Criminal Justice Advisory Committee recommend approval of up to \$2,718,045 in federal Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funds contingent upon the availability of funds.

Commissioner Heckler made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Bergstrom. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: McConnell, Smith

VII. Victims' Services Advisory Committee Report

Committee Chair, Mr. John Delaney, gave the Victims' Services Advisory Committee (VSAC) Report, as detailed on page 23 of the Commission meeting materials. He noted that VSAC had its third day of strategic planning, and participation is always close to 100%. Mr. Delaney made a point of acknowledging the work of the VSAC staff, including Jeff Blystone, Valerie McMahon and their staff, particularly with the huge increase of workload resulting from the increase of VOCA funds.

Mr. Delaney shared that VSAC suggested agreement with increased VOCA funds for applications be presented at a future meeting and reviewed the twelve priority areas, as listed on pages 23-24 of the Committee meeting materials. He also related that though level funded, RASA/VOJO funds received a COLA, bringing the total funding to \$25.3 million.

Mr. Delaney recognized several outstanding providers who are recipients of the 2018 Governor's Victim Service Pathfinder Awards, specifically Ms. Stephanie Blakeman of National Services Center, Ms. Tracey Provident of Center for Victims and Mission Kids Child Advocacy Center.

Action Items:

The Victims' Services Advisory Committee has six action items for the Commission's consideration. First, thirty applications for STOP funds, as detailed on pages 28-43 of the Commission meeting materials, have been received and reviewed, and are being recommended for approval.

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee recommend approval of 30 county applications submitted for competitive STOP Formula Grant Funding for the 2019-2020 funding cycle, not to exceed \$7.5 Million in STOP Formula Grant Funding, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Storm. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, and Wilken (for Browne)

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: Adams, McConnell, and Minor Wolf

Next, staff and VSAC recommend approval of a model response for STOP funding for human trafficking, as described in the project summary on page 44 of the Commission meeting materials.

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee recommend approval of an application to establish a Statewide Model Response to Sex Trafficking from the Child Advocacy Center of Montgomery County for the STOP Response to Sex Trafficking project, not to exceed \$300,000 in STOP Formula Grant Funding, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Heckler. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

The following action item pertains to capacity building for stopping violence against women in rural areas, as described in the project summary on page 45 of the Commission meeting materials.

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee recommend approval of three applications not to exceed \$750,000 in STOP Formula Grant Funding for Rural Capacity Building, pending the resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner McConnell. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, and Wilken (for Browne)

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: Minor Wolf

Mr. Delaney shared information regarding the fourth action item approving the application by Penn State University for VOCA funds for a training program, per the program summary on page 47 of the Commission meeting materials.

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee recommend approval of an award to the Pennsylvania State University not to exceed \$296,339 in VOCA funds for the "Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Project 2018-2020", pending the resolution of any programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Anderson. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Mr. Delaney introduced the next action item, an application for federal JAG funds for a trauma-informed school program, detailed in the project summary on page 48 of the Commission meeting materials, by describing the dire need for services in Chester, Delaware County, the location for the proposed project.

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee recommend approval of an application from Archway Charter School for up to \$150,000 in JAG funding for the "Trauma Informed School Community Project", subject to compliance with all conditions outlined in the project summary, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Wechsler Rayer. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and significant discussion ensued.

Several questions and concerns were raised by participants, particularly regarding the identity of the charter school and partnership with a university to provide an Institutional Review Board (IRB). Specific questions posed and comments made included:

- *IRB (Institutional Review Board) by a university?* The application condition specifies that a university is to do the research and ensure the work is done properly and well; want to use a control group, which will be handled appropriately if done through an IRB
- *Timeline concerns? If the if the academic institution hasn't been identified yet, it's a potential hurdle if all the pieces aren't in place; concern of the language that funding won't happen if the IRB isn't in place.* Agreed that they still need some serious and timely conversation with the charter school and the authors of the project
- Comment that the vendor has provided services for a significant period of time in Philadelphia

- Comment that there have been a number of significant discussions of lack of victim services and significant violence in Chester
- Comment that Widener University is interested in working with anyone who is interested in addressing violence
- Concerns regarding who Archway Charter School is was alleviated by the group realizing that they are doing business as Chester Community Charter School, which has a visible, viable presence there
- Comment that the discussion is representative of much larger conversation VSAC had about this, with the consensus that if the applicants are not able to overcome the hurdles, they won't succeed, but if the Commission doesn't approve it in the first place, they won't have a chance
- *Does PCCD we give funds to a specific school and not the school district?*
 - There are concerns regarding the adversarial relationship between the public school district and the charter schools operating in Chester, and the belief that if the funds are given to the school district, they would not apply it to the charter school.
 - Funding goes to the local education agency (LEA) and then to the specific project/school
 - Background and other conversations were shared in trying to figure out how to creatively get resources into Chester, as there are currently no services there
 - Archway Charter School applied as part of the competitive process, whereas either the school district didn't apply or their application didn't rise to the level needed to be considered.
 - In Chester, each charter school is considered a district (LEA) unto itself
- *Has the Commission ever funded a similar effort? If not, are we confident that this entity will responsibly handle the funds?* Yes, PCCD has funded other similarly unique projects.

Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any public voice, and hearing none, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Volkman (for Rivera), Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Wechsler Rayer

Committee Chair Delaney noted the final action item, to approve SASP funds for the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR), as described in the project summary on pages 50-51 of the Commission meeting materials.

Staff and the Victims' Services Advisory Committee recommend approval of an application from PCAR, requesting up to \$530,443 in SASP funds, pending resolution of any outstanding programmatic and/or fiscal concerns.

Commissioner Delaney made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Storm. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: Baker

Absent: Wechsler Rayer and Volkman (for Rivera)

VIII. Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee Report

Mr. James Anderson, Committee Chair, provided the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Committee Report, which begins on page 52 of the Commission meeting materials. Mr. Anderson highlighted one informational item, noting that staff from the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) came to Pennsylvania for a compliance monitoring on-site visit.

Mr. Anderson acknowledged the work of PCCD staff Mike Pennington and Marcella Szumanski in preparing site visits to the locations of Dauphin County Court Holding Facility, York County Prison, Lancaster City Police Department and Lancaster County Secure Juvenile Detention Center, Upper Allen Police Department (Cumberland County), and the Loysville Youth Development Center. The federal monitor pulled records, interviewed staff, and compared on-site records with what had been reported to PCCD. Mr. Anderson noted that our automated reporting system allowed for accurate reporting, and though we have not yet received their official report, the exit interview went well.

Acting Executive Director Derin Myers noted the efforts and partnership between PCCD and the Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research related to compliance monitoring. He also reported positive feedback from the federal OJJDP staff on the systems in place for data collection, and expressed appreciation for the work done and the support of the Juvenile Court Judges' Commission (JCJC).

Mr. Anderson also acknowledged the support of JCJC in the federal audit. In addition, he noted the pending retirement of OJJDP staff Wendy Poston, and expressed appreciation for all her support with OJJDP.

Action Item:

The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee has three action items for the Commission's consideration. First, Mr. Anderson provided an overview of the objectives of seven applications for federal Byrne JAG funds. The complete summaries begin on page 54 of the Commission meeting materials.

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee recommend approval of these seven applications requesting a combined total of \$887,078 in JAG Funds, pending resolution of any fiscal and/or program concerns.

Commissioner Anderson made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Steele. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Wechsler Rayer and Volkman (for Rivera)

Next, Mr. Anderson shared the request for State Violence & Delinquency Prevention Programs and Department of Human Services (VDPP/DHS) Funds in the form of \$1.91 million in augmentation funding for the Pennsylvania State University/Evidence-based Prevention & Intervention Support (EPIS) Center to continue the 2018-2020 EPISCenter for SPEP Project.

Mr. Anderson also requested funding of up to \$54,000 to augment the University of Pittsburgh's existing project Evaluating PA Second Chance Act programs with three counties and extend it to September 2019.

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee recommend approval of this project and this augmentation for a combined total of \$1,964,000 in DHS and VDPP Funds.

Commissioner Anderson made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Heckler. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Steele, Storm, Turner, Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Volkman (for Rivera)

Finally, Mr. Anderson described the augmentation request for Shippensburg University/Center for Juvenile Justice Training and Research's *Secure Detention Monitoring Project* for compliance monitoring for up to \$65,000 in Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) Funds.

Staff and the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Committee recommend approval of this project and this augmentation for up to \$65,000 in JJDP Funds.

Commissioner Anderson made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Delaney. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and hearing none and no public voice, called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Wechsler Rayer, Smith, Storm, Turner, Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: Steele

Absent: Volkman (for Rivera)

IX. Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board

Mr. Bob Merwine gave the Sheriff and Deputy Sheriff Education and Training Board (SDSETB) Report, which are detailed on page 61 of the Commission meeting materials. Mr. Merwine noted that there are no action items, and provided highlights from the Board's last meeting.

The Board continues to struggle with the discrepancy between the cost of training and the funds available, including the suspension of funds for county staff to participate in the training. Staff have made suggestions to modify training to bring the provision of training within the budget which are listed in the report. The Board was unable to make recommendations at the last meeting and are convening workgroups to discuss these options further. Mr. Merwine anticipates that the Board will recommend action items for the next Commission meeting.

X. Constables' Education and Training Board

Mr. Robert Merwine provided the Constables' Education and Training Board (CETB) Report, as described on page 63 of the Commission meeting materials. The Board struggles with the same funding situation as the SDSETB, and formed a workgroup to look at restructuring to better align their efforts with available funds. The Board met on July 17 and August 9, and discussed the administration of basic training, firearms certification, and annual continuing education.

Action Item:

The Board recommends the following four changes to the administration of their training program for the Commission's consideration and approval:

- Provide a 4-hour "Show and Shoot" qualification for 2019 using current qualification standards – replace current training with a written portion and an on-site fire qualification
- Eliminate optional training classes effective 1/1/2019
- Change Continuing Education from 20-hours of classroom training to 8-hours for the 2019 training year, based upon identified need/request (which for the coming year would be tactical training and using social media to find people), allowing for more training to be done online
- The firearms certification of a constable who does not successfully pass the written examination or practical skill proficiency shall cease immediately on the date of the failure instead of the current policy allowing certification to remain intact until the end of the following year

Staff and the Constables' Education and Training Board recommend approval of these Policy and Training Program changes.

Commissioner Bergstrom made the motion for approval of this action item, which was seconded by Commissioner Ward. Chairman Ramsey asked if there was any comment, and a few questions were raised and answered as follows:

- A question about firearms training was raised and answered with the assurance that the CETB will still maintain basic firearms training course for new individuals who have not yet been certified.
- A question regarding the funding for education and training for sheriffs vs. deputy sheriffs was clarified by explaining that counties pay for sheriffs' salaries and expenses but aren't being reimbursed. Constables are independent, so while they are not reimbursed for salary, the Board is trying

to extend funding to cover training. Constables are elected, but this is for certified constables.

Hearing no further discussion or public voice, Chairman Ramsey called for a vote. The motion carried with the Commissioners voting as noted:

Voting Aye: Commissioners Adams, Anderson, Baker, Bergstrom, Bowes, Deery (for Hughes), Delaney, Delozier, Doyle, Evanchick, Fitzgerald, Harvilla, Heckler, Kolansky, Marsico, McConnell, Petrarca, Ramsey, Smith, Steele, Turner, Ward, Wilken (for Browne), and Minor Wolf

Voting Nay: None

Abstaining: None

Absent: Wechsler Rayer, Storm, and Volkman (for Rivera)

XI. Other Business

Chairman Ramsey noted that the next Commission Meeting is December 12, and that the quarterly meetings and other events are listed on the agenda. Judge Bowes expressed appreciation for significant improvement of ability to hear the meeting on the phone today, and for Bob Merwine's service.

XII. Public Voice

None

XIII. Adjournment

Commissioner McConnell made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Commissioner Heckler. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting concluded at 11:44 p.m.