COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

Garth L. Wheeler
Director

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Criminal Justice Services Board
March 10, 2011

Members Present
Sheriff Charles Jett
Hon. Robert Bushnell
Chief Jeffrey Brown
Mr. Charles Ciccotti
Mr. Rick Clark
Hon. Jackson Miller
Sgt Charles Condon
Mr. William Muse
Col. Steve Flaherty
Mr. Patrick Wilson
Mr. Mark Gooch
Mr. Carlos Hopkins
Mr. Alan Katz
Ms. Patricia Davis
Colonel David Rohrer
Mr. Bobby Russell
Mr. Eddie Hayes
Ms. Cookie Scott
Ms. Debbie Smith
Hon. Sherman Vaughn, Sr.
Pastor Aaron Wheeler
Hon Marcus Williams
Mr. Patrick Wilson

Members Absent
Mr. Matthew Geary
Sgt. Carol Adams
Mr. Ted Byrd
Hon Clarence Jenkins
Sheriff Charles Phelps
Hon. Wm. Roscoe Reynolds
Hon Beverly Sherwood
Hon. Janet D. Howell

DCJS Staff Present
Leon Baker
Garth Wheeler
Debra Gardner
John Colligan
Sam Hoffman
Joe Marshall
Teresa Gooch
Laurel Marks
Fran Ecker
Tracey Jenkins
Janice Waddy
Lisa McGee
Sharon Gray
Donna Taylor

Guests
Dan Schmitt, PSSAB

Call to Order

Chairman Jett called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m., welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for their commitment to the Criminal Justice Services Board.

Chairman Jett reminded guests to please sign the attendance sheet for the purpose of the minutes and asked the Board members to state their name when making a motion or seconding, to speak clearly for the purpose of the minutes and to check that their microphone was turned on at their seating area. He further reminded staff/persons speaking from the floor to step up to the podium when speaking so that the microphone could pick up their voice for the purpose of the minutes.

Chairman Jett then asked Ms. D. “Taylor" to take the roll call. Ms. Taylor stated that there was a quorum with 21 members present.

Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Sheriff Jett called for corrections, deletions, or additions to the minutes of the December 9, 2010, Criminal Justices Services Board meeting. It was noted that Mr. Ciccotti’s name was misspelled and the correct spelling was given.

Chairman Jett then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 9th meeting. Mr. Vaughn made the motion to approve the minutes with the necessary correction, Mr. Wilson seconded the motion. Chairman Jett stated that it had been motioned and seconded that the Board approved the minutes of the December 9th meeting with the necessary corrections.

Director’s Report

Director Wheeler thanked everyone for their attendance at today’s meeting and taking time out of their busy schedules.

Director Wheeler informed the group that the agency’s organization is being examined in order to determine the structure of the agency that would best enable us to carry out the mission which is still in progress. One result of that examination was the creation of the Law Enforcement Division, to consolidate the Department’s various law enforcement–related functions. Director Wheeler was pleased to announce the hiring of Ms. Teresa Gooch to head that division.

Ms. Gooch thanked the Board and gave a brief summation of her 26 year criminal justice career.

Director Wheeler recognized Chief Deputy Debra Gardner, Donna Taylor, Secretary to the Board, and the rest of the DCJS staff.

The Director stated that the best way to carry out the Department’s core mission was to look at the agency’s organizational structure and to figure out the best ways for the agency to communicate with and present itself to its constituents. A newly designed DCJS website will be rolled out on March 14, and we are looking at ways we can take advantage of smart phone technology to help people access our services and information.

In addition, the agency is working on redesigning its logo as well as reformatting its publications for a new and improved “look”, which will be reflected in a marketing plan, now being developed.

On the topic of outreach, the Director added that he, along with members of the agency's senior management team plan to continue to travel statewide to meet with law enforcement officials and key constituencies.

Regarding the General Assembly session, Director Wheeler stated that all things considered, DCJS came out in fairly good shape.

Another item discussed was federal funds and that it is currently unknown exactly how the funds received in the past from the U.S. Department of Justice will fare. This information will not be available until Congress works through their budget process.

The Director informed the meeting that Governor McDonnell has selected DCJS to administer a new program, the John R. Justice Program, that provides funds to help prosecutors and public defenders repay their student loans in return for their commitment to continue in their work for a minimum of three years. The federal rules governing the program require that the financial aid be need based and equally distributed among full time prosecutors and public defenders. DCJS collaborated with the Commonwealth's Attorneys Services Council and the Public Defender Commission in order to "get the word out". The deadline for attorneys to submit applications was January 30, 2011, and we are now in the process of reviewing said applications. Once the review is complete and our partners consulted those selected will be notified.

This concluded the Director's report.

The Chair asked for questions from the Board. There were none.

Chairman Jett congratulated Ms. Gooch on joining the team and acknowledged "the extremely qualified staff at DCJS".

Committee Reports

Committee on Training (COT)

Chairman Jett called upon Captain Terry to give a brief report on the Committee on Training (COT) who reported that under old business, the first item covered was the implementation of the Campus and School Security Regulations and the online training program. It was noted that Donna Michaelis gave an informative presentation of the new programs implemented and the number of personnel trained as it pertains to school security.

The second presentation, given by Ms. Lisa McGee, about the status of regulations pertaining to Private Security Services.

The next item presented to the Board from the COT was an update on the First Courtroom Security/Civil Process Service Class. Sheriffs had requested the jail training staff of DCJS to create and conduct an option school solely for court security and civil process. In June 2010, the COT approved the complete separation of the certifications with the new training criteria. This presentation was provided by Ms. Sharon Gray.

There was also an update on Homeland Security by Mr. Sam Hoffman which included training, funding, strategy and equipment as it relates to Homeland Security grants.

Under new business, Captain Terry informed the meeting that Mr. Gary Dillon gave a report on the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission which believes that the

adherence of an acknowledged body of professional standards may help protect an agency against a variety of potential liabilities and problems.

This ended the reports presented at the morning's COT meeting.

Chairman Jett thanked Captain Terry for Chairing the COT meeting and called for questions and/or comments from the Board. There were none.

The Chairman stated that he was impressed by the Powerpoint presentations made by the staff at the morning COT meeting and made a request of Director Wheeler to forward said presentations all Board members.

Law Enforcement Subcommittee

It was noted by Chairman Jett that there was no report to be given on the Law Enforcement Subcommittee.

Presentations

The Chair recognized Fran Ecker, DCJS's Legislative Liaison. Ms. Ecker informed the meeting that during this short session there were 2700 pieces of legislation introduced (bills and resolutions) of which1599 passed. DCJS reviewed, tracked and prepared written analysis of 81 bills compared to 68 for last years long session. The bills covered a wide range of topics ranging from protective orders, to the use of GPS tracking devices to the authority to defer and dismiss criminal cases. Mrs. Ecker presented the meeting with a handout entitled DCJS Legislative Wrap Up and discussed the following bills: HB 2387 and SB 1163, HB 2520 and SB 1471, SB 1280, SB 1431 and HB 2437.

As a side note, Ms. Ecker expressed her appreciation to Delegate Jackson Miller and stated that he was a delight to work with and very receptive.

Ms. Ecker turned the floor Mr. Joe Marshall who noted that some bills came out of work done by the Crime Commission during the off season, i.e. issues pertaining to pursuit driving, police lineups. Mr. Marshall briefed the meeting on the following bills: HB 2213 and SB 944, SB 1222 and HB 2063, HB 20089, SB 1453.

Mr. Marshall then turned the floor over to Ms. Tracey Jenkins who continued the legislative overview and discussed the following bills: SB 1192, HB 2106 and SB 925, HB 2513 and HB 2450.

Chairman Jett called for questions/comments from the Board on the Legislative Update. There were none. The Chairman then thanked DCJS staff for their report.

The Chairman then recognized Mr. John Colligan who reviewed his handout entitled DCJS Budget Amendments for FY 2011 and 2012 regarding General Fund Amendments and Language Amendments.

Sergeant Condon asked for a total dollar amount for "599" funds after the reductions and Mr. Colligan stated approximately $172,000,000. Sergeant Condon also requested a list of the breakdown for the cities. Mr. Colligan responded that due to the upcoming reconvene session, this information is subject to change, but indicated that if the amount received this year was

reduced by 3.51%, that new amount would be a very close indication as to what to expect next year.

The Chair asked for additional questions or comments and there were none.

Regarding the School Resource Officer Program, Chairman Jett asked if there were any SRO's which had been granted funding apart from the general fund obligation to which Mr. Colligan noted that there is currently one federally funded SRO program.

Chief Jeffrey Brown had a question about the study of the regional training academies and its mission and what the mission is trying to define. Mr. Colligan responded that the concern is that funding had been reduced and what effect it will have on the ten regional academies.

Old/New Business

Sheriff Jett asked the Board if there were any old/new business to be discussed or added to the agenda.

New Business

Mr. Wheeler extended kudos for a job well done to the agency legislative team and Chief Deputy Debra Gardner for their efforts during the General Assembly. Director Wheeler also complimented John Colligan for his assistance during these budgetary times for helping DCJS reach their goals and maximize its effectiveness.

The Chairman also recognized and thanked Delegate Jackson and all of the other General Assembly members for all of the hours put in during the session.

Public Comment

Chairman Jett called for public comment. There were none.

Housekeeping

Chairman Jett called on Ms. Taylor regarding a few housekeeping items. Ms. Taylor informed the meeting that a Proxy was needed for Ms. Patricia G. Davis.

It was noted that the next meeting of the Criminal Justice Services Board will be May 5th at 11 a.m. not May 12th. The change was made as a result of the Law Enforcement Officers Week.
The Chair called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Bobby Russell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:47 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Ciccotti and unanimously approved.

Approved:

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Sheriff Charles Jett, Chairman