

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE INFORMATION AUTHORITY

December 3, 2004
120 S. Riverside Plaza, 21st Floor
Chicago, Illinois

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Sorosky convened the regular meeting of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and asked Robert Boehmer, the Authority's Secretary and General Counsel, to call the roll.

In addition to the Chairman, other Authority members in attendance were:

Chief David Bradford
Cook County Circuit Court Clerk, Dorothy Brown
Kankakee County Sheriff Timothy Bukowski
Mr. Brad Demuzio
Cook County State's Attorney Richard Devine
Ms. Barbara Engel
State's Attorneys Appellate Prosecutor Director Norbert Goetten
State Appellate Defender Director Theodore Gottfried
DeKalb County Circuit Court Clerk Maureen Josh
Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board Director Thomas Jurkanin
Attorney General Designee Ellen Mandeltort
Mr. John Piland
Director Larry Trent

Approval of the Minutes of the September 5, 2004 Authority Meeting

{Chairman Sorosky made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 5, 2004. Mr. Goetten seconded the motion, which passed by unanimous voice vote.}

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Sorosky noted that John Stroger, the President of the Cook County Board will be joining the Authority in January. He then called on Executive Director Lori Levin to provide her report.

Executive Director's Report

Director Levin referred members to the staff activity reports in the mailing and highlighted some things from those reports. She noted that the Authority has won two awards. One award, the Richard Driehaus Foundation Public Innovator Award was awarded to the InfoNet Project, while the other, the Phillip Hoke Award for excellence in research policy and analysis was given for the Authority's publication "Female Delinquents Committed to the Illinois Department of Corrections, A Profile" which was authored by former research assistant Megan Alderden and current research assistant Adriana Perez.

Director Levin welcomed new staff members Kevin Amos, Aaron Gray, Anthony Hunter, Jessica Ashley, Idetta Phillips, Gina Bradley and Lajuana Murphy.

Director Levin reported that most agencies have migrated to the new ALERTS.Net, the Authority continues to roll out the ALECS.Net client, and all legacy data has not been converted to the PIMSNet System for agency verification

and review.

Director Levin said she had discussions with Synch Solutions, the software consultants that will be analyzing and assessing the best attributes of ALERTS.Net, ALECS.Net, and PIMSNet software applications, as well as the IWIN software application. At some point the systems will converge under the auspices of ICLEAR.

Director Levin reported that the second Elder Abuse conference was held in conjunction with the Department on Aging and the Attorney General's Office. She also noted that the Illinois State Police is rolling out a program for dealing with investigators for financial exploitation of seniors.

Regarding IJIS, Director Levin reported that we are working on implementing suggestions from the consultants, that we are receiving participation from the judiciary and that we will be having an integration conference in the spring. In addition, she said that we are working on a project regarding victim notification with the Department of Mental Health, AVN, the Attorney General's Office, and the Sheriffs Association. This project will allow sheriffs to obtain mental health information about inmates in their custody. Director Levin noted that we do have some ADAA money for this project.

She also reported on Motor Vehicle Theft Prevention Council activities, Authority publications, and Research and Analysis Unit activities which were contained in the memos. She then called on Associate Director Mary Milano to report on the Federal and State Grants Unit.

Associate Director Milano noted that it has been a challenging quarter due to understaffing. She said that we will attempt to fill our staff positions at the line level and supervisory level. Staff is aggressively pursuing programs and processes that will bring resources to bear where they are in shortest supply.

Associate Director Milano highlighted the Federal and State Grants unit's work on the Law Enforcement Block Grant program. She said that we rewrote the process and procedures to simplify the requests for proposals and we sent the forms out three months earlier. We also held information sessions in five locations around the state including Urbana, Alton, Peoria and Chicago and had over 350 officers and representatives of local departments attending. She reported that we added to economic need of the local community as an additional consideration for the RFP. She said that we also revised the makeup of the review panels to include greater law enforcement participation.

Associate Director Milano reported that we have worked together with the Illinois State Police to distribute funds for Livescan and are actively providing assistance in underserved communities, attempting to find some ways to help them with match.

Associate Director Milano reported that we are collaborating with the Illinois Department of Corrections on several projects to make sure that they are coordinated and moving ahead. She said that we are supporting the development of the GPS tracking system for released sex offenders, working on the build out of Pere Marquette drug treatment community for women offenders, and continue to support Sheridan and other facilities.

Associate Director Milano also reported that we have been able to work with the Illinois State Police in developing other initiatives, including creating an elder abuse presence with the provision of \$280,000 a year for the next four years on a grant to support investigation and related programming, practically in the financial area.

Associate Director Milano noted that we received three awards since our last meeting including: VAWA Rural Award, National Forensic Science Foundation Award and the NCHIP. All of these awards account for close to \$2 million in new funding.

Associate Director Milano commended the FSGU staff for stepping forward and taking on additional grant load, developing in-house and external training and collaborating in new ways with other departments. She said that the staff demonstrated the kind of commitment to the high standards of public service that she believes both the Authority and the people of the state should be proud of and for which she is grateful. Director Levin also commended staff for their hard work.

Director Levin noted that the Associate Director for Research Analysis position has not yet been filled but that we

have a candidate to fill the position of Associate Director for Human Resources. She then called on Robert Boehmer to briefly summarize the new Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.

Mr. Boehmer said the new Justice Assistance Grant Program was an initiative of the Bureau of Justice Assistance and since it passed Congress very quickly, the BJA is working on rules for implementation. Mr. Boehmer added that JAG combines Byrne and LLEBG into one program with six purpose areas. Everything that is fundable under Byrne will be fundable under the new program. He noted that we will have to wait for guidelines before we can provide additional details. He noted that of the allocation to the state, 40% of the funds will be distributed to units of local government directly from the BJA, similar to the current LLEBG program. The remaining funds will be distributed by the Authority similar to the way Byrne funds are currently distributed. We would also have to establish a trust fund for the program. He pointed out that the appropriation amount will now result in a overall loss of over one million dollars in Illinois – the Authority would receive around \$14 million for distribution (down from almost \$19 million) and funds made directly available from the BJA to units of local government would significantly increase. He noted that there are still some unanswered questions we are awaiting from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Implementation.

Budget Committee Report

Chairman Sorosky reported that Budget Committee met on November 18, 2004. He called on Associate Director Milano to provide the Budget Committee Report.

Associate Director Milano briefly summarized the information that was contained in the meeting mailing. She reported on eleven new Livescan awards, the designation of \$3,552,753 in 04 funds to continue 20 multi jurisdictional narcotics task forces around the state, funds for three specialized defense initiative programs, VOI-TIS and RSAT funds for Pere Marquette, and funds for the GPS monitoring of sex offenders. She reported that progress continues on board authorized and mandated VOI-TIS RFP for a little over \$10 million for construction and expansion of new jails and detention facilities. She said that staff is reviewing final drafts for the RFP and expects to have it finalized January 2005.

Chief Bradford asked whether the Livescan awards were for new machines or replacements. Associate Director Milano noted that some are replacements. She said that in consultation with ISP and others, it has been clear that it will become very expensive not to replace Livescan. She reported that our initial approach was to purchase new equipment first, but we found that older equipment will become more expensive to maintain than to replace. Chief Bradford said that he thought that when the initial awards were made, there was criteria developed that those awards were based on usage and that there were a number of entities that applied but were turned down because their usage levels did not justify the grant at that time. He said that there needs to be some clarification as to why we are replacing machines for departments that already have them while there are still some departments that do not have Livescan. Associate Director Milano said that we are continuing to work down the list, but there are some departments that simply cannot make the match.

Associate Director Milano reported on a request for extension for the VAWA Rural 02 Award. As a result of new federal policy they have decided not to renew rural awards that predate 2003 federal fiscal year. She said that staff has adjusted and extended the performance dates of these three transitional housing grantees to December 31st to maximize utilization of these funds. She also requested that the Authority approve to continue these programs using FY04 Rural funds, which will enable the programs to continue for another 24 months

{Mr. Piland made the motion for the approval and designation of 04 funds, Mr. Goetten seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous voice vote.}

Chairman Sorosky asked the Authority's Chief Fiscal Officer, Ted Miller to provide the fiscal report. Mr. Miller reported on the materials in the mailing. He noted that in FY04, we spent 78% of our appropriation. He said that the lapse was due to unfilled personnel vacancies, savings in EDP, and consolidation. He reported that we spent at our historic levels both with the Criminal Justice Information Systems Trust Fund and the federal awards and grants. For fiscal year 05, he said that we expect our general revenue expenditures to be very close to our appropriation because of recent budget cuts, and that we should spend near previous levels for the other funds

Sheriff Bukowski inquired about the \$300,000 that was transferred from the Criminal Justice Information Systems Trust Fund. Director Levin noted that she informed the Governor's Office of Management and Budget of the users concerns over the fact that the funds have not been returned. She said that at one point she understood that the funds would be returned through the Capital Development Bill, but that did not occur. Mr. Miller noted that the funds came out of the cash balance and were transferred to the General Revenue Fund. Director Levin said that she will continue to raise the concerns of the users.

The Implementation and Impact of Illinois' Sheridan Correctional Center Therapeutic: Year 1

Chairman Sorosky reported that one of the priorities of the Governor is to reduce the recidivism rate that exists among many of our young men who are incarcerated in prison, and substance abuse problems are often very much related and intertwined with this high recidivism rate. To combat this problem, the correctional center at Sheridan has been reopened and redesignated primarily as a substance abuse type of center, and many inmates go there before they re-enter society. He said the Authority has been heavily involved in supporting and financing this program. He then called on Dr. David Olson, Authority senior research analyst, and Deanne Benos, assistant director of the Illinois Department of Corrections, to provide an overview of the implementation and impact of the Sheridan Correctional Center.

Ms. Benos thanked the Authority for their support and thanked State's Attorney Devine and Director Trent for providing staff to sit on the planning board for the project. She said that this was one of the first projects the Governor announces when we took office. She said that they went through a long planning process and kicked off the project in January of this year. She indicated that we are not seeing some really positive results.

Ms. Benos said that through the project, we are targeting record recidivism rates at a time when the state is facing record numbers of prison exits. She said that the Authority helped this project with research and identified best practices in order to build the Sheridan model. She indicated that we are now using performance and process evaluations to ensure that we are building a successful model and learning what works within the system to employ on a statewide basis. She said that Sheridan is designed to be the largest state-run prison and re-entry program in the United States with a target population of 1,500. The offenders have a significant history of arrests and are subjected to a screening tool for drug addiction. All the inmates must be medium security and not be murderers, sex offenders, or dual diagnosis offenders. She said that they are working with Safer Foundation and Gateway for substance abuse services, vocational training and job placement. She said that they also strive to teach the offender to take the tolls that they have learned at the facility with regard to treating their drug addiction and any other behavioral or mental health issues that spur their criminal behavior at the facility and providing them with support systems in the community when they leave.

She reported that they have embarked upon two pilot programs to build community support networks. She said that it is important to have the properly trained community resources in place to treat people and provide the best practices to make them successful when they get there. She said that they have targeted two areas – Chicago's west and south sides.

Ms. Benos reported that the Sheridan Project is connecting with the Governor's other significant initiative, which is his Operation Spotlight Parole Reform Plan.

In response to a question from Ms. Mandeltort, Ms. Benos said that they use the Texas Christian University drug assessment tool to assess the level of addiction for the offender coming into the system. At that point, they screen every offender coming to the department for whether or not they are appropriate for Sheridan. It is then a voluntary program. She clarified that IDOC makes the placement decision. In response to another question, she indicated that they are targeting warehousing and food service jobs as well as positions requiring computer skills and the construction industry.

Dr. Olson then displayed a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating some of the early findings for the Sheridan Program. (PowerPoint attached)

Ms. Engel expressed her concern that this same sort of evaluation approach should be used to evaluate the Pere Marquette facility. Ms. Benos noted that Pere Marquette will be the only facility for girls in the state, but that is just a small part of the female reform initiative the Governor is working on now. She said that she will be watching that

closely as well.

New Business

Ms. Engel said that she wanted to put it on record thanking Karen Griffiths, who she thinks is the woman responsible for the InfoNet, for her extraordinary work that has gotten private foundation support from the Driehaus Foundation. She said that she knows that Ms. Griffiths has worked extraordinarily well with member programs because she has heard about it from programs and from the director of the Driehaus Foundation. She said that it is extremely rare for them to give this to a state agency.

{Chairman Sorosky made a motion to recognize Karen Griffiths outstanding work with the InfoNet with member programs, and attracting the attention and appreciation of private foundations for the work she has done, seconded by Mr. Piland and adopted by unanimous voice vote}

{Upon a motion by Mr. Piland, second by Mr. Bukowski and adopted by unanimous voice vote, Chairman Sorosky adjourned the meeting.}

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert P. Boehmer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Robert P. Boehmer
Secretary and General Counsel