1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) of the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority met on Thursday, February 25, 2016, at 300 West Adams, Suite 200, Large Conference Room, Chicago, Illinois. SOC Chair Paula Wolff called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Other Authority members and designees present were:

- Jennifer Greene for State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez
- Acting Director John Baldwin (via teleconference)
- Richard Abrams for Clerk Dorothy Brown
- Public Defender Amy Campanelli
- Director Patrick Delfino
- Interim Superintendent John Escalante
- State’s Attorney Bryan Kibler
- Cynthia Hora for Attorney General Lisa Madigan
- Director Michael J. Pelletier
- President Toni Preckwinkle
- Authority Chair Hon. Elizabeth Robb (via teleconference)
- Lt. Col. James Winters for Director Leo Schmitz
- Jennifer Vollen-Katz

Also in attendance were:

- John Maki, Authority Executive Director
- Megan Alderden, Authority Research and Analysis Unit Associate Director
- Kevin Givens, Authority Federal and State Grants Unit Associate Director
- Simeon Kim, Authority Associate General Counsel
- Reshma Desai, Authority Special Projects Program Advisor
- Jude Lemrow, Authority Federal and State Grants Unit Administrative Assistant
- Ron Reichgelt, Authority Program Supervisor
- Shai Hoffman, Authority Program Supervisor
- Greg Stevens, Authority Program Supervisor (via teleconference)
- Mary Ratliff, Authority Program Director (via teleconference)
- Mary Ann Dyar, Authority Program Director
- Nicole Kramer of the Cook County State’s Attorney’s Office
- Patricia McCreary of the Cook County Circuit Court Clerk’s Office
- Rebecca Janowitz of the Cook County Board of Directors
- Jim Hickey of the Chicago Police Department
- Other Authority staff members and guests.
2. December 8, 2015 Strategic Opportunities Committee (SOC) Meeting Minutes

Motion: Ms. Hora moved to approve the Minutes of the December 8, 2015 SOC meeting. Ms. Vollen-Katz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Strategic Opportunities Committee Report

SOC Chair Wolff provided an overview of recent SOC progress. She said that after three months of review by SOC members, the drafts goals for Byrne JAG (Justice Assistance Grants) had been distributed to the Authority Board for review and to constituencies represented by the Board for their reactions. She called attention to two letters that had been included in the meeting materials addressing concerns regarding the draft of the Authority Goals; one letter from State’s Attorney Kibler and one letter from Assistant Attorney General Hora.

State’s Attorney Kibler called attention to the letter, included in the meeting materials, dated February 22, 2016 regarding problems with the proposed Draft Goals for JAG that he had written to SOC Chair Wolff. He then explained the contents of the letter and the issues that he had with the JAG Goals, as then drafted. He indicated that the Chair had responded positively to the suggestions and offered some additional language which was acceptable.

The SOC discussed proposed edits to the document in the meeting materials entitled Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Plan: Byrne JAG Activities for Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2019 (DRAFT). Executive Director Maki explained the various sections of the document. He also discussed the goals and processes that the SOC and staff will implement over the next three years, emphasizing that staff are looking to the SOC and the Board to define the goals for the agency’s programs, which staff will help implement through an outcome-driven process. He further noted that the process will be grounded in clear objectives and metrics that will allow the Board to assess the agency’s progress. Committee members then provided feedback on the structure of the SOC Strategic Plan which will be incorporated and the revised Plan will be presented at the next SOC meeting. He said that he wanted to present the final version of the document to the Authority Board at the June 3, 2016 Authority Regular Meeting and, once approved, display it on the Authority’s website.

During this discussion, some SOC members indicated that their agencies had received surveys, issued by Authority grant monitors. The surveys outlined the new Guiding Principles that have been discussed for the past several meetings and on conference calls...
with individual members, but not yet adopted by the SOC or the Authority Board. The surveys also prompted other questions. Authority Associate Director Givens explained the purpose of the surveys and said that staff would contact the Authority’s grantees to provide any needed clarification or technical assistance. Chair Wolff asked those who were concerned about the survey to work with Mr. Givens to develop a plan to get the information he was interested in consistent with the expectation of grantees. Lt. Winters, Ms. Green and Ms. Hora agreed to assist in this process.

Then Ms. Hora spoke to the letter submitted by her office that made specific suggestions to improve the Draft JAG Goals. She shared the draft goals with victim service advocates and agencies. Her letter summarizes their suggestions that incorporate victims’ rights, safety and restitution into the appropriate goals and includes recommended changes. She noted that her recommendations were reflected in the revised draft goals.

**4. Discussion of Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Planning Framework**

Executive Director Maki called attention to a document in the meeting materials dated February 18, 2016 and regarding the *Proposed VOCA and VAWA Strategic Planning Process*. He explained the document and proposed planning process, including a discussion about technical assistance and internal capacity building. Staff clarified that the needs assessment will apply to both VOCA and VAWA and that the consultants engaged in the assessment will have a firm understanding of these funds. Ms. Hora asked for clarification regarding the relationship between the SOC and the Ad Hoc Victim Services Committee. Both Mr. Maki and Chair Wolff assured members that the VOCA VAWA Planning process be transparent and collaborative, include victim service experts, and federally mandated representatives while also ensuring that this planning process is strategically aligned with the rest of the Authority’s funds.

**5. Other Business**

SOC Chair Wolff said that the Authority’s Research and Analysis Unit had prepared some program outcomes that will be presented at the next SOC meeting because time will not permit those presentations to be made at this meeting.

SOC Chair Wolff said that the SOC’s next steps are to:

1. Have staff make the requested corrections to language in the *Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority Strategic Plan: Byrne JAG Activities for Federal Fiscal Years 2016-2019 (DRAFT)* document.
2. Have SOC members review the revised language and indicate if there are still issues
3. Have SOC members and staff develop a strategy to reach out to grantees to clarify the purpose and scope of the survey that had been sent to the Authority’s grantees.

Adjourn

Motion: Ms. Hora moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Greene seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.