



Governor Kim Reynolds  
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg  
San Wong, Director

## **Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning Advisory Council (CJJPAC)**

### **Minutes of Regular Meeting**

**Iowa State Capitol**  
**1007 E. Grand Avenue, Legislative Dining Room**  
**Des Moines, Iowa**

**November 14, 2018**

**Present:** Tom Walton, Chair; Kim Cheeks; Joel Greer; Cody Samec; Beth Skinner; Sherri Soich; Kurt Swaim; Sheriff Tony Thompson; Doug Wolfe

**Ex-Officio:** Hon. Romonda Belcher; Hon. Jeffrey Neary\*; Sen. Rich Taylor; Rep. Mary Lynn Wolfe\*; Sen. Brad Zaun

**Staff:** Steve Michael; Sarah Fineran; Julie Rinker; Cheryl Yates

**Public:** Betty Andrews, Ronald Woods, Iowa-Nebraska NAACP; Jean Basinger, Sheila Corsbie, CURE; Karen Person, Jo Ann Finkenbinder, League of Women Voters; Daniel Zeno, ACLU of Iowa

#### **Other State**

**Employees:** Tom Ashworth; Laura Book; Bill Freeland; Christine Mechler; Allison Ver Shuer  
(\*=joined by phone)

#### **I. Call to Order, Welcome, and Introductions**

Tom Walton called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. A quorum was present. Introductions were made.

Joel Greer, Marshalltown Mayor, provided information on the status of disaster assistance since a tornado destroyed some of the city earlier this summer.

#### **II. Approval of Minutes – September 19, 2018**

**Greer moved to approve the minutes from the September meeting, seconded by Kurt Swaim. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### **III. Division Update**

Steve Michael reported the following:

- A new justice systems analyst, Tracy Loynachan, has been hired to fill the vacancy left by Sarah Fineran who is now the Research Coordinator. He provided information regarding Loynachan's credentials.
- CJJP has received two grants—\$180,000 fiscal analysis grant; \$438,000 Formula

**Division of Criminal and Juvenile Justice Planning**

grant for juvenile justice intervention. Also partnering with the Crime Victim Assistance Division for their data management system.

- The Department of Human Rights will meet with the Governor's office to discuss the FY2020 budget. The budget request will be status quo with the exception of a \$200,000 increase for the Criminal Justice Information System.
- Michael recently returned from a seminar on children of incarcerated parents and children/youth in the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. The event was co-sponsored by Governing Magazine and the Annie E. Casey Foundation. He presented information on Iowa's juvenile justice system and Department of Corrections' work with incarcerated parents.

#### IV. **2018 State Legislation Monitoring Report**

Fineran reviewed the legislation monitoring report and data tables located at the back of the report.

Betty Andrews, NAACP, would like to know the number of new prison admits, by race, for both crack and cocaine in order to track whether the changes have affected disparity.

**Swaim moved to approve the report with changes in rates for crack and cocaine, seconded by Sherri Soich. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### V. **2018 Criminal & Juvenile Justice Annual Plan Update Report**

Fineran reviewed the annual update to the 20-year plan. The plan lists long-range goals for criminal and juvenile justice and the number of activities that CJJP is doing to achieve those goals. Michael noted the number of grants and partnerships that are utilized to impact positive system changes.

**Doug Wolfe moved to approve the annual update, seconded by Greer. The motion was unanimously approved.**

#### VI. **Proposal to Merge CJPAC/ Public Safety Advisory Board (PSAB) and Sex Offender Research Council (SORC)**

Michael reported that the draft legislation has been submitted to the Governor's office. A meeting was held with the Sex Offender Research Council and changes have been incorporated from that meeting. The changes include the addition of a representative from the Department of Correctional Services. The merged group would be called the "Justice Advisory Board" and would continue the current long-term goals and prison population forecast.

Discussion included the following:

- Andrews suggested the group develop both long- and short-term goals;
- Sheila Corsbie, CURE, suggested the new Justice Advisory Board include a former offender. Sheriff Thompson suggested using "one person who is either a formerly incarcerated individual or representative of an advocacy group for incarcerated individuals".

- Members discussed whether the name of the advisory board should include ‘criminal and juvenile justice’ and/or ‘sex offender research’. And whether ‘Justice Advisory Board’ could mislead the public to think topics would include civil justice.
- Doug Wolfe suggested the ex-offender representative include a former juvenile offender. Beth Skinner suggested the wording include “formerly under juvenile or correctional supervision or representative from an organization that represents those individuals”.
- Andrews requested that ACLU be replaced with ‘civil rights organization’. Karen Persons asked if the NAACP would carry forward concerns regarding LGBTQ rights.
- Thompson noted that the ACLU is basically the only organization that represents the rights of sex offenders.
- Walton suggested an additional governor-appointee—‘a recognized civil rights organization that represents minority interests’.

**Swaim moved to appoint two additional representatives—one from a recognized civil rights organization that represents minority interests and the second individual who has formerly been under juvenile or correctional supervision or a representative from an organization that represents those individuals. The motion was seconded by Thompson and was unanimously approved.**

**VII. Public Comment**

There was no additional public comment.

**VIII. Issues for Next Meeting**

Doug Wolfe reported that the Chief Justice recently seated a group to review the Families First Act. He offered to provide updates from that group. Michael suggested a presentation on the topic.

Andrews thanked those who attended the NAACP’s Summit on Justice and Disparities.

**IX. Adjournment**

**Soich moved to adjourn, seconded by Thompson. The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker  
Administrative Secretary  
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning  
Iowa Department of Human Rights