

Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board
Minutes of the Meeting of April 28, 2015

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Second Floor Conference Room, MH/ID/EI, 220 East Lehman St., Lebanon

Present

David J. Arnold, District Attorney and CJAB Chairman; Honorable John C. Tylwalk, President Judge, Court of Common Pleas; Stephanie Axarlis, Court Administrator; James Donmoyer, Director of Commission on Drug and Alcohol Abuse; James Holtry, Director, Children and Youth Services; Kevin Schrum, Director, MH/ID/EI; Daniel Wright, Chief of Police, City of Lebanon; Jamie Wolgemuth, County Administrator; Sally A. Barry, Director of Probation Services; Bruce Klingler, Sheriff; Sarah Primak, Veterans Justice Outreach Coordinator; and, John P. Shott, CJAB Planner/Grant Coordinator.

Absent

Brian L. Deiderick, Chief Public Defender and CJAB Vice-Chairman; Karen Hess, Director of Domestic Relations; Robert Karnes, Warden; Robert J. Phillips, County Commissioner; Kim Mackey, PCCD Regional Representative

Chairman David Arnold called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.

Minutes of 02/24/2015 CJAB Meeting—Approved as written on a motion by Mr. Holtry, seconded by Mr. Schrum.

Amendment to CJAB Bylaws—Proposed amendment to Meetings and Quorums (Section a). On a motion by Director Barry, seconded by Mr. Donmoyer, the members approved amendatory language to this section of the Bylaws to read: ***“Regular meetings of the LCCJAB will be held once every even month, with specific date, times, and location to be determined by the LCCJAB at the December meeting held prior to the start of the new year. LCCJAB meetings will convene no earlier than 11:00 a.m., but no later than 12:30 p.m., and shall last no longer than a maximum of two (2) hours.”***

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- **D.U.I. Court**—Number of participants in the program are down; however, this will probably change based on the number of offenders applying for acceptance.
- **Veterans’ Court**—President Judge Tylwalk, Sara Primak, and Rich Worley of Probation Services met recently with Mr. Barre Shepp, who coordinates the successful Veterans’ Mentor Program in York County. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways of implementing such a program in Lebanon County with or without a formal Veterans’ Court. The goal would be to establish a mentoring program for all veterans on supervision, as opposed to restricting it to those in D.U.I. Court or the Renaissance-Crossroads program.
- **Prison Overcrowding**—Warden Karnes had emailed the members prior to the meeting, informing everyone that the ADP for April is 554.37. The prison is also housing 56 inmates awaiting transfer (18 state-sentenced inmates schedule for transport and 36 inmates on writ awaiting pending hearings and transport back to their “home institution.” Concern about the high number of inmates. Chairman Arnold suggested that the Prison Overcrowding Committee schedule a meeting to discuss further.

- **Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities**—The Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training scheduled for April 22nd at Philhaven was canceled due to lack of registrants. Only three persons had signed up for the course, including two Lebanon City Police officers. Philhaven is willing to schedule another session, and the members suggested that a class be scheduled for Fall 2015. A modification to the original grant has been approved by PCCD, making funds available for at least one additional training.

CJAB DEPARTMENTS: REPORTS AND ISSUES OF INTEREST

Unified Case Management—Ms. Barry reported some integrity problems with data entry at the magisterial district justice level. Duplicate records for offenders are being entered. She plans to meet with the District Attorney’s Office to discuss further. Ms. Barry also noted that internet issues have created outages from time to time; CCAP is working to resolve these issues with the internet server. Despite these occasional glitches, the system is working well.

IP Grant for 2014-2015—PCCD has approved the grant modification to the 2014-2015 IP grant, making an additional \$50,000 available between now and the end of the grant year (June 30th). The augmentation funding is needed because the County has expended over 90 percent of funds appropriated to PA Counseling Services to administer the Renaissance-Crossroads program.

IP Grant for 2015-2016—Grant application for \$650,000 submitted to PCCD on April 9th. No local match required for this application.

Strategic Plan for 2014-2015—Members should list priorities for a Strategic Plan for 2015 and beyond. Reentry planning will be a central component of any overall Strategic Plan, as recommended by PCCD.

Mr. Domoyer noted the need to address the drug-overdose issue in the county. He distributed and discussed an Advisory from the PA Department of Health regarding adverse effects from synthetic drugs. According to the Advisory, poison centers, public health agencies, and law enforcement agencies are collaborating with hospitals to respond to an increase in the number of persons experiencing adverse reactions to the use of synthetic marijuana, “bath salts,” or a combination of these or other substances. Most cases have been reported from hospitals in eastern PA, including Dauphin County. Lebanon County is not one of the reporting counties.

The Governor’s Proposed FY 2015-2016 Budget contains \$5 million for Single County Authorities to provide services to address the Heroin/Opioid overdose problem in the Commonwealth. As part of this process, the Dept. of Drug and Alcohol Programs (DDAP) has released a Funding Initiative Announcement (FIA) requesting proposals from local agencies. Proposals are due on May 20th. It behooves Lebanon County to submit a proposal to DDAP with the possibility of receiving funding after a State Budget is adopted. Discussion ensued regarding first responders administering naloxone to individuals experiencing an opioid overdose. The District Attorney’s Office is working on a plan to have naloxone available to municipal police departments in the county, though some police departments have expressed no interest in having this life-saving medication available. Possible concerns over liability; however, PA Act 139 of 2014 (“David’s Law”) protects law enforcement and others from civil liability for responding to an opioid overdose. Naloxone is administered by nasal spray and, according to reports, has an almost immediate effect.

County Offender Reentry Planning Grant—Application was submitted to PCCD on March 20th. The application requests funding in the amount of \$9,851.00 to contract with Melanie Snyder, Executive Director of the Lancaster County Reentry Management Organization (RMO), as the consultant of record to guide the CJAB through the reentry-planning process.

CJAB Conference: Mr. Shott and Ms. Primak attended the CJAB Conference held on March 25-26, 2015, in State College. Theme of the conference was “Connecting Criminal Justice, Behavioral Health and Treatment.”

OTHER UPDATES FROM CJAB DEPARTMENTS

Ms. Barry reported that Probation Services is in need of 15 ballistic vests for officers. Mr. Shott will explore funding through the Department of Justice. Also, many of the tasers used by Probation Officers are not functioning well and should be replaced. Ms. Barry informed the Board that Probation Services, as recommended by the Children’s Advisory Committee, has taken steps to bring Multisystemic Therapy (MST) for juvenile offenders to the county, including sending out requests for proposals. First year cost of implementing MST is estimated at \$50,000, which is not part of the department’s budget. Mr. Shott will also be exploring grant sources for this endeavor. Another issue faced by the department is the cost factor associated with child abuse clearances for probation officers. In other grant-related matters, federal funding could be available through PCCD for pre-trial offenders, including Level 2 offenders. This could provide funding for a Day Reporting Center, which continues to be a priority for strategic planning. Ms. Barry also reported that Probation Services will be using the LSRI Risk Assessment Tool for adults. Some staff members have undergone training in using this tool. A member of Probation Services is about to be named Juvenile Justice Professional of the Year; name is being withheld because that individual is not yet aware of the honor.

Mr. Schrum reported that only two suicides have been reported in the county since the end of October 2014, a significant reduction from past years.

ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Lauren Holubec, Lebanon County Career and Technology Center—Members discussed the request of Ms. Holubec, Adult Education Coordinator for the LCCTC, to become a CJAB member. The Board decided not to amend the CJAB Bylaws adding this position as a Core Member. However, the Board is interested in having Ms. Holubec participate in Strategic Planning, particularly if it involves the formation of a Reentry Coalition. Mr. Shott will contact Ms. Holubec to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

CJAB Meeting in June—The Second Floor Conference Room at MH/ID/EI is not available for the meeting scheduled for June 16th. Members discussed whether to reschedule the meeting for June 30th or move the June 16th meeting to the Safe Driving Classroom at Probation Services. (Call of the List is scheduled for June 23rd.) Members opted to reschedule the meeting for June 30th at MH/ID/EI.

With no further business to address, Chairman Arnold declared the meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m. on a motion by Chief Wright, seconded by Mr. Wolgemuth.

NEXT CJAB MEETING: Tuesday, June 30, 2015, 11:00 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room, MH/ID/EI, 220 East Lehman Street.