

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday, September 7, 2005

Meeting Rm. 1, Brookens Administrative Center

1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

5:30 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson, Greenwalt, Hogue, James, Putman, Schroeder, Tapley

MEMBERS ABSENT: Carter, Sapp

OTHERS PRESENT: Deb Busey (County Administrator), Andrew Buffenbarger (Nursing Home Administrator), Joel Fletcher (State's Attorney's Office), Joseph Gordon (Court Services/Probation), Kathleen Liffick (Head Start), Nancy Richardson (Nursing Home), Barbara Wysocki (County Board Chair), Marilyn Garmon

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. The Recording Secretary called the roll. Declaring a quorum present, the Chair proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Greenwalt to approve the agenda; seconded by Schroeder. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Greenwalt to approve the regular session minutes of August 1, 2005; seconded by Hogue. Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no one for public participation.

MONTHLY REPORTS

MOTION by Greenwalt to receive and place on file the Animal Control report for June 2005, Children's Advocacy Center reports for June 2005 and July 2005, Circuit Clerk reports for June 2005 and July 2005, Court Services report for July 2005, Emergency Management Agency report for August 2005, Mental Health Board report for April 2005, and the Public Defender report for July 2005; seconded by Tapley. Motion carried.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY GRANT MONTHLY REPORTS

MOTION by Tapley to receive and place on file the Best Interest of the Children/Family Conference Program Outcomes Year-to-Date July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 report and July 2005 report; CASA July 2005 report; Don Moyer Boys & Girls Club July 2005 report; Mental Health Center Outcomes Year-to-Date July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 report and July 2005 report; Regional Office of Education June 2005 report and July 2005 report; Regional Planning Commission Outcomes Year-to-Date July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 report and July 2005 report;

Talks Mentoring Outcomes Year-to-Date July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 report; and Urban League Outcomes Year-to-Date July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005 report; seconded by Greenwalt. Motion carried.

Grantee Monthly Report Tally and Activities by Marilyn Garmon

Garmon informed the committee that she met with Talks Mentoring and they are now up-to-date with their reports. Garmon offered to answer any questions about her report. Greenwalt commented that Garmon's report contained a lot of jargon that made it unclear. Greenwalt asked for an explanation of Garmon's position and how it serves the Justice & Social Services Committee for a better understanding.

Putman arrived at 5:40 p.m.

Garmon gave an explanation of her responsibilities with monitoring the juvenile delinquency grants.

James arrived at 5:41 p.m.

Hogue asked if Garmon had received any information about Restoration Urban Ministries. Garmon explained this month ends the reporting cycle for the year's grants. Next month will begin the new grant cycle, which includes the grant to Restoration Urban Ministries.

Greenwalt asked if Garmon brings recommendations to the committee. Garmon stated making recommendations is outside the scope of her position, but she would be happy to do so if requested. Busey provided background on how the monitor position evolved from a Delinquency Prevention Board to an employee of C-U Area Project. Busey recommended the Justice & Social Services Committee evaluate the initiative and determine if they want to fund it separately from the grant process. A more definitive proposal would be needed. The position currently costs \$30,000 plus another \$7,000-\$8,000 for monitoring. The committee can ask C-U Area Project to provide a more comprehensive proposal about what exactly C-U Area Project is offering in terms of services. Then the Justice & Social Services Committee and the County Board could evaluate whether the initiative should continue to receive funding through grant money or if there is another approach to be explored. Tapley said it made sense for Garmon to provide recommendations, therefore the committee could benefit from her insight and analysis. Greenwalt suggested getting more on paper from C-U Area Project about Garmon's position and receiving more detail about the progress of programs funded by the grants. Garmon stated that providing more detail will not cause more work for her, it would just be a different way of providing it. Busey and Garmon will talk together and bring a more comprehensive request for continued funding to the committee. The committee concurred that a more comprehensive report should be on next month's agenda.

MOTION by Tapley to receive and place on file the Grantee Monthly Report on Tally and Activities; seconded by Greenwalt. Motion carried.

ANIMAL CONTROL

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Impound Service with the Village of Mahomet and Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Control Services with the Village of Mahomet

MOTION by Greenwalt to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Impound Service with the Village of Mahomet and the Intergovernmental Agreement for Animal Control Services with the Village of Mahomet; seconded by Tapley.

Putman asked if the agreements differed from the already approved agreements. Busey stated they differ slightly and the amount is not written in the agreements before the committee. Mahomet has already voted on both agreements with the amounts. Busey recommended not placing the two agreements on the

County Board consent agenda. The exact amount will be included in the version of the agreements submitted to the County Board for approval so the Board will know actually the amount it is voting on. The amounts are based on the anticipated costs. Busey believed the boarding amount for animal impound services was ten dollars daily rate for a dog and five dollars daily rate for a cat. She believed the amount in the agreement for animal control services was based on an hourly rate of \$26.20 for each hour of service. Busey did not know if Stephanie Joos had negotiated a cap on the rates or a monthly rate.

Schroeder asked if the Humane Society impounded animals for Mahomet in the past. Busey replied the Humane Society previously did impound animals for Mahomet.

Motion carried with one no vote.

Request to Submit Animal Control Clerk to Job Content Evaluation Committee for Re-evaluation

MOTION by Putman to submit the position of Animal Control Clerk to Job Content Evaluation Committee for re-evaluation; seconded by Tapley.

Greenwalt noticed that the employee requested the position re-evaluation. She asked if this was a normal process and if there was a risk the position could be devalued. Busey stated it is always a possibility the Job Content Evaluation Committee could recommend a devaluation of the position. Under the AFSCME contract, the County agreed to not put up barriers when an employee felt his/her position needed re-evaluation. This particular position has not been re-evaluated since 2001. James asked how long this particular employee had been in this position. Busey said the employee has been in the position about seven years.

Motion carried.

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Request Approval of Application for and, if awarded Acceptance of Application for National Children's Alliance Member Training Grant

MOTION by Tapley to approve the application for and, if awarded acceptance of National Children's Alliance Member Training Grant; seconded by Greenwalt. Motion carried.

COURT SERVICES

Request for Purchase

MOTION by Greenwalt to approve the request for purchase; seconded by Putman.

Gordon stated this is an upgrade to the present system. An opportunity arose to secure funding through a grant, the Justice & Social Services Committee approved the grant application, and the grant was awarded to Court Services. Gordon would now like to proceed with the system upgrade.

Busey noted the motion needed was approval of a waiver of the Champaign County Purchasing Policy. Greenwalt withdrew her motion.

MOTION by James to approve a waiver of the Champaign County Purchasing Policy for the purchase of a Master Control/Security System Upgrade in the amount of \$23,150.00; seconded by Putman.

Greenwalt asked why this purchase required a waiver of the Purchasing Policy. Busey explained the Champaign County Purchasing Policy requires any purchase for equipment over \$10,000 be bid. State law does not require this, so this upgrade purchase is completely within the state law guidelines for this purchase to occur

without bidding. Greenwalt asked if this was done partly because of the timeliness of the grant. Gordon stated the County would have to eventually replace the recording system in the present system. This was an opportunity to upgrade the system using grant funds instead of County money. Since this is an upgrade to the present system, they want to stay with the same vendor for compatibility issues.

Motion carried.

Information Regarding Potential Revenue Source

Gordon informed the committee there is an opportunity to explore a potential revenue source through Justice Benefits, Incorporated (JBI). JBI has been working with the State of Ohio for several years. Court Services has officers involved in various activities that might enable Court Services to request federal government funding for their activities. Gordon does not know how much money might be garnered, but thought even a small amount of money would be worth exploring. JBI would receive a percentage of the money granted to the County. JBI already has a contract with the County in dealing with illegal aliens in the County Jail. That contract has been working smoothly.

Tapley asked what JBI does that is so unique that it could not be done by existing Court Services staff. Gordon said they looked into that question. JBI will take care of the audits and will not submit a claim that could not pass an audit. If Court Services did this themselves, it would take time and the JBI fee is not exorbitant. Gordon answered further questions from committee members about the corporation and the proposal. Fletcher asked if the contract had been reviewed the State's Attorney's Office. Gordon said no. Fletcher advised the contract receive review by the County's legal counsel.

MOTION by Tapley to approve the Agreement for Professional Services between Justice Benefits, Incorporated and Champaign County for Reimbursable Services Associated with Title IV-E Foster Care program, pending legal review by the State's Attorney's Office; seconded by Putman.

Tapley recommended sending a letter to state and federal government officials asking why the reimbursement process is so complicated that a county finds it necessary to hire a consultant to do the work.

Motion carried with one no vote.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Management Memo Regarding Equipments Award from State Terrorism Task Force

Bill Keller, the Emergency Management Agency Director, was not present. Anderson asked if acceptance of this award would incur any cost to the County.

MOTION by James to accept the Equipment Award from the State Terrorism Task Force; seconded by Tapley.

James noted the equipment (a truck and trailer) would need to be stored in a heated garage and asked if such a space was available. Wysocki said the garage in the Gill Building is heated and Keller has made arrangements to keep the equipment in that building. James was curious why Keller declined to have a Champaign County logo on the equipment alongside the state's logos. Wysocki stated the current emergency command unit vehicle does not have logos. She understood that it was Keller's preference to not have logos advertising what the vehicle is and who it belongs to, in order to avoid setting the vehicle up as a target.

Motion carried.

HEAD START
Monthly Report

MOTION by Hogue to receive and place on file the Head Start monthly report; seconded by Greenwalt.

Liffick reported classes started yesterday with 100% enrollment at the Savoy, Champaign, Prairie, Washington Collaboration, and Home Base Option locations. Enrollments are still needed at the Community Child Care and Rantoul sites. This year starts with the best enrollment to date. Putman commended the Dental Access for the dental screening services.

Motion carried.

NURSING HOME
Monthly Report

MOTION by Tapley to receive and place on file the Nursing Home monthly report; seconded by James.

Tapley was very pleased with Buffenbarger's report and the useful information it provided. James asked if the Activity Director has been on staff for a long time. Buffenbarger confirmed she has and she does an excellent job. Buffenbarger requested the committee contact him if they desired a change in the report format. Putman asked if the town hall meetings were held at different times to accommodate staff. Buffenbarger said the town hall meetings were held at three various times so staff from all shifts could attend.

Motion carried.

Approval of Resolution Adopting Rates for the Champaign County Nursing Home Child Care Center and Resolution Regarding Charges for Services

MOTION by Tapley to approve Resolution Adopting Rates for the Champaign County Nursing Home Child Care Center and Resolution Regarding Charges for Services; seconded by Schroeder. Tapley requested the resolution be changed with the correct spelling of the County Clerk's name. Buffenbarger stated the Child Care Center rates went up to reflect the increase in wages. The rates for residents reflect the phasing out of shelter care beds. Busey stated the rate change is part of a three-year state phased plan for increasing the rates. The plan was presented to the County Board last year.

Motion carried.

SHERIFF
DOC Annual Report on Jail

MOTION by James to receive and place on file the DOC Annual Report on the Jail; seconded by Hogue.

Schroeder was confused by conflicting information between the report and the cover letter. Busey explained the jail inspection was performed on June 8, 2005 and the mental health training began on June 20, 2005. The new contract for mental health services was not up and implemented at the time of the inspection. An addendum was provided in the report to reflect that the Champaign County Jail has already made the improvements suggested by the inspector. Schroeder said the inspection checklist alone was not reflective of the mental health services the County is providing for inmates and a person could misinterpret the report. The checklist answers would have been very different if the inspection had been performed two weeks later.

Putman described the latest news on the inmate library program and passed out a flyer to committee members. The donated books are being searched to ensure they contain no contraband.

Motion carried.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Anderson reported the EMA Director's performance evaluation was completed and will be presented to the committee at the next meeting.

Putman asked if the Mahomet Area Youth Club now understood the juvenile delinquency grant processes and why their organization did not receive grant funding. Both Busey and Anderson wrote detailed letters of explanation to the Mahomet Area Youth Club and nothing has been heard from that organization since. The committee will consider the organization's suggestions during next year's grant process.

OTHER BUSINESS

Retention of Medicare and Medicaid Benefits for Eligible Juvenile and Adult Inmates in County Facilities

Putman learned at the NACo conference about counties lobbying their Congressional delegations to change the federal laws to allow inmates to continue receiving Medicare and Medicaid benefits while being held in county jails. Putman spoke with the Sheriff and he is supportive of looking into this idea. Juveniles and adults receiving Medicare or Medicaid benefits lose their benefits while they are in the County's jail facilities. The possible retention of benefits would only apply to non-convicted prisoners, e.g. those awaiting trial. Anderson asked if there was any current legislation to support this idea. Putman placed a call to NACo and is waiting to hear back. James wanted more information about the statute before a letter is sent from the committee or the County Board. The committee held further discussion over the issue. Putman will collect more information to provide to the committee.

DETERMINATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair designated items VIII A, IX A, X A, XII B & C to be placed on the County Board Consent Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by James to adjourn; seconded by Hogue. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Administrative Secretary

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.