

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 12, 2008

Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson (Chair), Carter, Gladney, Hunt, James, Nudo, Putman

MEMBERS ABSENT: Sapp

OTHERS PRESENT: Kat Bork (Administrative Secretary), Andrew Buffenbarger (Nursing Home Administrator), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), Mark Driscoll (Mental Health), Kathleen Liffick (Head Start Director), Susan McGrath (Senior Assistant State's Attorney), C. Pius Weibel (County Board Chair), Jonte Rollins (C-U Area Project), Carol Ammons

CALL TO ORDER

Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Anderson, Carter, Gladney, Hunt, James, Nudo, and Putman were present at the time of the roll call. Anderson declared a quorum and proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by James to approve the agenda; seconded by Hunt. **Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by James to approve the Justice & Social Services Committee January 7, 2008 minutes; seconded by Carter.

James stated he liked the way Bork put the minutes together and that the lines are numbered in the draft version. He was glad he originally suggested it.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

MONTHLY REPORTS

MOTION by Carter to receive and place on file the Animal Control December 2007 report; Coroner June 2007, July 2007, August 2007, and November 2007 reports; Court Services November 2007 and December 2007 reports; EMA January 2008 report, and the Public Defender December 2007 report; seconded by Hunt. **Motion carried.**

CHILDREN'S ADVOCACY CENTER

Approval of Application for Renewal of Violent Crime Victims Assistance Grant from the Office of the Illinois Attorney General

MOTION by James to approve the application for renewal of the Violent Crime Victims Assistance Grant; seconded by Gladney.

Anderson noted this is a grant the Children's Advocacy Center has been receiving for a number of years.

Motion carried.

HEAD START

Monthly Report

MOTION by Hunt to receive and place on file the Head Start December through January monthly report; seconded by Carter.

Liffick stated she has not been notified by the federal government of the date of the federal review yet. The federal government must give a 30-day notice. Liffick added Head Start is closed for Spring Break on March 21st. Anderson asked if Liffick was working with the Community Day Care Center that closed. Liffick confirmed she was. There were fourteen Head Start enrollments at the Community Day Care Center. About five children have been moved into other parts of the program since there were available openings. Head Start continues to work with the remaining families. Liffick will also attend the community meeting of organizations in regard to community day care, as will Cameron Moore, the RPC Executive Director. James inquired about Page 53 and the lack of regularly scheduled activities to involve fathers/father figures in Head Start. He asked what Head Start is required to do. Liffick explained they have a nothing at this point in the school year and they are not required to have father (or significant adult male involvement in a child's life) specific activities. Head Start has had this type of activities in the past that have been successful. They plan to do so later in the year.

Motion carried.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY GRANTS

Status Report from Peter Tracy

Peter Tracy was in Chicago today, so Mark Driscoll represented Mental Health at the meeting. Driscoll offered to answer any questions and noted the Committee of the Whole (COW) will meet a week from tomorrow at the Illinois Terminal Building from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The COW meeting will involve an in-depth review of the progress of the juvenile delinquency grant programs, particularly the work Rollins has done. Rollins distributed recidivism reports for the first and second quarters. She explained that figuring out how to track the recidivism has been a task. She commended the Champaign County Court Services Department, particular Connie Kaiser for being instrumental in enabling her to track recidivism. A system and a database have finally been established for tracking ongoing recidivism. Rollins walked the committee through the reports. She mentioned there is a great deal of overlap in the youth in the target population.

Driscoll added the A Woman's Fund program is located in the Village of Rantoul. Rollins said, at the request of the Quarter Cent Administrative Team, the youth are grouped by month, age, and gender. The final report is the unduplicated participant statistics of those being served under Project ACCESS requested by the Justice & Social Services Committee.

Anderson told of how she learned at a quarterly meeting held last Friday at the Juvenile Detention Center that Joe Gordon, Connie Kaiser, and other staff have been putting a tremendous amount of time and work into preparing the recidivism rates and collecting the data. It looks like it is coming together after a year of hard work.

Carter asked about the supervision of the kids. Rollins said the level of supervision depends on the program. Each program offers a different level of supervision and coordination of services. She offered to meet with Carter to give him a breakdown of what each program does. James asked if some of the programs provide outreach outside of regular office hours. Rollins said a few programs have on-call services and some programs have staff that are available after hours. This is something they are trying to work on. Driscoll said there is a meeting every other week at the Juvenile Detention Center where youth are assigned a care coordinator. The care coordinator is based on the availability of staff and who has the best resources available to serve the youth and family. This individual then makes contact with the youth and family to work with them in accessing other community resources. Rollins explained that each youth who comes into the JDC is screened and assessed for assignments to agencies and programs that would benefit the youth and family. Carter said he has wanted to get together with Rollins to discuss the programs. Rollins said she is available for Carter to contact her anytime.

NURSING HOME Monthly Report

A moment of silence was held for James Scheibly, a former Nursing Home Administrator who died in January.

MOTION by Putman to receive and place on file the Nursing Home January 2008 monthly report; seconded by James.

Buffenbarger pointed out that James Scheibly was the Nursing Home Administrator in the 1970's when the huge addition to the Nursing Home was constructed with bond proceeds. This was a hotly debated issue, so fights over construction projects in Champaign County are not new. Scheibly's son works for the Nursing Home as a CNA. Anderson noted the surprise Nursing Home inspection found minor deficiencies. Buffenbarger said it was a routine complaint survey from the Illinois Department of Public Health. There is a rule now being strictly enforced that nursing homes are to prevent any accidents. IDPH had an annual inspection lasting a week of the Nursing Home to determine whether the Home can continue to participate in Medicare and Medicaid. The Department of Public Health sent seven surveyors who inspected the Nursing Home over the course of several days and only found six minor deficiencies. None of the deficiencies related to the quality of care. Weibel asked if the move to the new facility eliminated some of the problems with surveys. Buffenbarger said at the least the new facility improves the morale and residents of staff and a new facility helps with the life safety stuff. Nudo commented that the Nursing Home can call its insurance company to do an audit to show the surveyors what was done in advance to prevent liability. Anderson asked about the nature of the accident. Buffenbarger explained the accident occurred during an evening shift when a CNA was using a mechanical lift to transfer a resident from a wheelchair to a bed. The resident was properly assessed for using that type of lift and the resident was approved to have only one CNA at the time perform the transfer. During the transfer, the resident's leg slipped off the platform and the leg was bent towards. Due to the resident's severe osteoporosis; the resident's femur was fractured instead of bending at the knee. Anderson applauded Buffenbarger for the recycling program.

Motion carried.

James requested the committee vote on the resolution regarding AFSCME next because the Policy Book discussion might take some time. Anderson agreed to do so.

Champaign County Nursing Home Board of Directors Policy Book

MOTION by James to approve the Champaign County Nursing Home Board of Directors Policy Book; seconded by Putman.

Putman and Nudo had both submitted suggested changes to the Policy Book in writing in advance of the meeting. These suggested revisions had been included with the mailed agenda packets. Because most of Putman's changes were editorial in nature, Anderson asked to address with all of Putman's changes at once. Weibel recommended Putman's editorial changes simply be accepted by the committee. Putman confirmed she held back on her substantive changes for this meeting. **James and Putman agreed to accept all of Putman's written changes as a friendly amendment to the motion.**

In Section I, Putman said there was a struggle at the County Board to have language that addresses profitability and a competitive market. Putman requested the mission statement of the Policy Book correspond to the mission statement in the Bylaws.

In Section II, Part A, Point 4, Nudo recommend the word "Financing" be changed to "Maintaining Financial Viability." The committee concurred. On the pages about the responsibilities of the governing body, Nudo recommended adding a Point D under Financing to state "To review revenues and expenditures for balance and monitor any shortfall of revenues and excesses of expenditures." He also recommended adding "Yes – Recommend" and "Yes" after Point B under Managing. The committee concurred with both suggestions. In Section II, Part B, in the third paragraph, Nudo asked that the last sentence reflect the absence of one year, not two, that was agreed upon in the Bylaws and to have the first term of appointments beginning with "Date of Appointment." Putman asked about the staggered terms of the Directors. McGrath and Busey explained the terms. Weibel asked for the last paragraph on the page to delete the reference to records and just have the records maintained in the minutes of the meetings. Busey pointed out the Bylaws require the Board of Directors to maintain a single document of qualified candidates and it would be inconvenient to only maintain this list in the minutes. James agreed and asked that the language reflect the records would be kept in the Nursing Home Administrator's Office. The committee concurred. Weibel recommended striking out the entirety of the Governing Body Member Data Sheet on Pages 7 and 8. The committee concurred. Nudo asked if Section II, Part C, was boilerplate language. McGrath explained it incorporates the County Ethics Ordinance. Putman stated the definition of material financial interest was needed under the List of Definitions. McGrath agreed to add the definition from the Ethics Ordinance. The committee discussed of the other definitions with no suggested changes. Nudo requested the word "Chairperson" be changed to "Chair" in the document for consistency. In Section II, Part D, Nudo requested "actual budget" be added after "operating and capital budget versus" to the seventh bulleted point. Putman requested "public participation" be added as a bulleted point in the same section. Putman asked to add another bulleted point for "input from employees." James felt that type of input would be covered by public participation, as it is at the County Board or committee meetings. Putman acknowledged that the "human resources" bulleted point would also cover employees' concerns and withdrew her initial request. Under Part E, Nudo requested "the Administrator" be added in front of "an officer or officers" for consistency. The committee agreed to these changes. Weibel requested, based on an idea by Nudo, to add "Operating Officer" to the "Nursing Home Assistant Administrator" box in the Nursing Home Organizational Chart. **James and Putman agreed to accept all the changes as friendly amendments to the motion.**

Motion carried as amended with one vote against by Carter.

Weibel requested the committee's acquiescence to prepare the Board of Directors application himself and advertise the availability of the appointments. He provided a draft to the committee. There were no objections from the committee or legal counsel.

Resolution Regarding Champaign County Nursing Home Board of Directors and AFSCME Local 900

MOTION by Putman to approve the Resolution Regarding Champaign County Nursing Home Board of Directors and AFSCME Local 900; seconded by James for discussion purposes.

James stated he felt the resolution was soliciting one specific group to come to the Nursing Home Board of Directors meetings. He did not think this was right because the Board of Directors meetings would be open to the public and follow the Illinois Open Meetings Act. If the committee does approve the resolution, he suggested changing the language to state "the Champaign County Board encourages all employees to attend the meetings of the Nursing Home Board of Directors" instead of "the Champaign County Board encourage representatives of AFSCME Local 900 to attend the meetings of the Nursing Home Board of Directors." **James and Putman agreed to consider this language change as a friendly amendment to the motion.**

Gladney asked McGrath to comment on the wording of the resolution. McGrath explained the issue came up a few months ago from questions raised by AFSCME about what their role could be in participating in meetings or other activities of the Nursing Home Board of Directors. With the union contract currently in place, the County Board cannot require that AFSCME have a representative at the meetings. AFSCME wanted to make it clear that their participation in the meetings is welcome and there would be some recognition of their role at the Nursing Home. The resolution was developed to avoid the need to reopen the contract, but to still encourage employees to come to the meetings and feel welcome to bring their concerns to the Board of Directors. It was asked if AFSCME members could be on the Board of Directors. This is not possible because there are too many conflicts with asking an employee to assume a management role.

Anderson asked if an employee could come to a Board of Directors meeting to talk about a particular individual. McGrath stated the union contract sets up a grievance structure to address the concerns of an individual employee. Individual grievances will not be a matter for the Board of Directors. Nudo thought that is the way the Bylaws were written and it is important for the committee to be consistent in addressing the Policy Book about what the Directors has the power to do. The County Board has the power for collective bargaining, not the Board of Directors. Nudo said the last paragraph in the resolution is so nebulous that it could be construed that other things could be brought to the Board of Directors. He agreed all employees should attend the Board of Directors meetings and they are aiming for transparency. But a Board of Directors does not really hear day-to-day operational issues. It is primarily the business aspect of the care and nurturing of the residents, not the daily operations. He was troubled by the last paragraph of the resolution so it is clear the Board of Directors is not a sounding board for employee grievances.

Anderson said this idea came from Tom Betz at the Democratic caucus because he thought rumors would spread about what was happening at the Board of Directors meetings. James said he thought it would more appropriate for union issues to be channeled through the union representatives.

Carter said he read the resolution and was trying to figure out what part the Administrator plays in all this. Anderson explained the resolution was about inviting employee representatives to the Board of Directors meetings. Carter said he could not support this.

Nudo he heard some troubling things while watching the County Board meeting. During the meeting, he thought Tom Betz said there was a lot of turmoil and everyone disagrees with the Board of Directors. Nudo wanted to know if the Nursing Home staff was overwhelming not in favor of the Board of Directors. Secondly, he heard Betz say that he was not asking that the employee be paid to attend the Board

of Directors meetings yet. Nudo said nothing was discussed about paying anyone but the Board of Directors to attend meetings. The Board of Directors would receive a per diem because they would provide specific expertise. McGrath addressed the second point because the issue of compensation is a matter of collective bargaining, not a something that would happen as a result of this particular resolution. There is no question of union members being paid to attend the meetings and the union representatives have not requested it. Issues of collective bargaining have to be negotiated, not settled by this resolution. Anderson agreed nothing was proposed at the County Board meeting about compensating union members. In answer to the first question, Buffenbarger said when he initially proposed the original idea of an operating board to employees, the response was overwhelming positive. Between his meeting with 200 Nursing Home employees and the County Board meeting, AFSCME representatives from Springfield arrived and mistook this idea as privatization, which it is not. This misunderstanding created the turmoil. The plan for the Board of Directors has not generated any discussion at the Nursing Home amongst employees at all, to his knowledge. James suggested the last paragraph in the resolution read "Champaign County Board encourages the Nursing Home Board of Directors to place on its regular meeting agendas an item allowing employees to present to the Board of Directors any recommendations or information they would like to bring to the Board's attention about concerns at the Nursing Home." **James and Putman agreed to consider this language change as a friendly amendment to the motion.**

James asked if anyone had been appointed to the Board of Directors. Anderson said no since any such appointment would have to be approved by the County Board just like any other appointment. Weibel said the application form would be discussed tonight. If approved, the application form would be posted on the County's website and a press release would be issued. The committee continued to discuss the language of the resolution and its intended meaning.

Motion carried as amended with one vote against by Carter.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Anderson wanted to hold a committee meeting at the Nursing Home or have a tour of the Nursing Home. James suggested waiting until the weather is better, such as in April or May. Putman thought it would be meaningful to periodically hold meetings at the Nursing Home. Buffenbarger said any County Board member is welcome to tour the Nursing Home at any time. He would be happy to set up a tour with some advance notification. Busey noted the County Board is invited to help the Nursing Home celebrate its anniversary on Wednesday.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

DESIGNATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

Anderson designated agenda item VII A for the consent agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:50

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.