

HANDOUTS

- Meeting Agenda
- Justice Reinvestment Approval Letter
- Case Review Mechanics

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 8:43 AM

Welcome and Announcements

Michelle Lancaster (County Manager’s Office) opened the meeting and noted the agenda order would be rearranged to accommodate her need to depart the meeting early. There were no objections.

State Budget Update

Todd Nuccio (Trial Court Administrator) informed members of the direction of the State’s Justice & Public Safety Sub-Committee budget recommendations. At present the committee is considering reducing or eliminating funding from various court programs including: Drug Treatment Court, Family Court, and Custody Mediation. In addition, the elimination of over 100 AOC IT positions, victim/witness coordination staff, and the Trial Court Administrator’s Office is being debated. Members may be asked to contact representatives in order discourage such reductions and to protect the gains that have been realized locally.

CJAC

Michelle Lancaster alerted members to the Board of County Commissioners’ request that CJAG choose and implement one recommendation of the CJAC Annual Report. She suggests increasing transparency for citizens by providing explanations of the methods used to record and report criminal activity in Mecklenburg County. The website would link to the various local and national agencies necessary to facilitate answers to questions citizens might have about criminal justice statistics and reports.

Arrest Processing Center

Sheriff Chipp Bailey shared with members his proposal to close the Jail Annex during the next budget year as a result of the declining jail population. In addition, the Annex will be remodeled in order to serve as a temporary arrest processing center while renovations of the existing center take place. The temporary processing center is expected to open in January 2012 and will be operational through the Democratic National Convention.

Updates

Tom Eberly (County Manager’s Office) informed members of the strong likelihood that the AP/KBCOPS interface would receive funding in the next budget year. This project would eliminate duplicative efforts of information entry during arrest processing.

Eberly reported the Bureau of Justice Assistance had selected Mecklenburg County for participation in Phase I of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative. The initiative is a collaborative effort among national experts and local officials to assess the effectiveness of the County’s criminal justice system and to form recommendations for its improvement.

Eberly reminded members the first anniversary of the 2010 Bail Policy was approaching and the Bail Task Force would reconvene as planned on May 4th to assess progress and reach agreement on any changes necessary to continue improvement. In addition, the consultant Luminosity would return to provide refresher training to the magistrates.

Case Reviews

Tom Eberly informed members the CJAG sub-committee, Justice in the Community, intends to begin performing case reviews during the summer. The detailed review of a case's movement through the criminal justice process will identify systemic weaknesses and opportunities for change.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 09:27 AM

ACTION ITEMS:

None