

County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of PA
General Business Meeting
Friday, December 6, 2019
Days Inn State College, PA

Chief POs in attendance: Gale Kendall (Adams), Frank Scherer (Allegheny), Regina Himes (Armstrong), Bob Williams (Berks), Justin Popovich (Bradford), Christine Shenk (Bucks), Rick Parsons (Carbon), Chris Murphy (Chester), Jason Foltz (Clinton), Darby Christlieb (Cumberland), Chad Libby (Dauphin), Michael Raith (Delaware), Paul Markiewicz (Erie), James Caccimelio (Fayette), Steve Barnett (Forest), Leonard Hahn (Huntingdon), Paul Ruffner (Jefferson), Michelle Beaver (Juniata), Mark Wilson (Lancaster), Jamie Jendrysik (Lawrence), Sally Barry (Lebanon), Mark Surovy (Lehigh), Ed McCoy (Lycoming), Todd Harpster (Mifflin), Bernie Sikora (Monroe), Roger Miller (Perry), Jeff ANgradi (Pike), Dave Roman (Somerset), Scott Kerstetter (Union), Carl McKee (Warren), April Billet-Barclay (York).

Others in attendance: Kristi Fields (Adams), Ashlee Lynn (Allegheny), Brendan Harker (Berks), Dan Heydt (Berks), Joe Berke (Carbon), John Toner (Centre), Wendy Baigis (Chester), Sandi Larson (Chester), Rick Marinari (Chester), Trevor Oates (Crawford), Gretchen Anderson (Dauphin), Meredith Zurin (Dauphin), Jennifer Rager (Erie), Amber Snedeker (Huntingdon), Carmen Lopresto (Luzerne), Maria Augello (Luzerne), Todd Bergman (Montgomery), Michelle Orris (Perry), Donald Overmoyer (York), Rhys Kershaw (York), Kelly Ross (York).

Helene Placey (CCAPPOAP), Bill Burrell (Consultant), Nevin Warner (AOPC), Joe MacLaughlin (FETC), Eric Webb (JNET), George Little (DOC/PBPP), Tom Dougherty (PBPP), Sandy Halicki (PBPP), Margaret Thompson (PBPP – Interstate), Michelle Hair (PBPP -Interstate), Jackie Weaknecht (PCCD), Ryan Myers (PCS), Jennifer Hutton (PCS).

Meeting called to order: by President Mark Wilson at 9:0 a.m. with Pledge of Allegiance.

President's Welcome:

Mark Wilson noted that this is his last meeting he will preside at as President of the Chief's Association and is proud of the professional growth and organizational development that has occurred under his tutelage.

Mark Wilson introduced the new Chief Probation Officer appointments: Amanda Moore (Blair) and Doug Wilburn (Franklin).

Acting Chief PO's are Scott Kerstetter, (Union) and David Roman (Somerset).

Retiring Chiefs are Scott Lizardi (Union) and Vicki Saylor (Somerset).

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President

Mark Wilson will continue to serve on the Executive Committee as the Immediate Past President.

Vice-President

April Billet-Barclay had nothing additional to report.

Secretary

Paul Ruffner introduced minutes from the General Membership Meeting held on Wednesday, September 25, 2019. There were no additions or corrections. Motion made by Carl McKee, seconded by April Billet-Barkley to approve the minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer

Chris Murphy reviewed the quarterly Treasurer's report showing a balance of \$138,074.11. Motion made by Carl McKee, seconded by Sally Barry to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director:

Helene Placey noted the following:

- MI Training Update: Fifty-four (54) MI trainers have been certified representing 23 counties; approximately seven hundred (700) probation officers have been trained in MI 1 and MI 2; Ten (10) county Probation Offices have been fully trained and issued MI-20 web-course licenses; Twelve (12) county probation departments have been partially trained; and one (1) county beginning training in early 2020. Regional MI trainings will be scheduled and made available next year.
- MI/Supervisor 5 licenses are on hold since the MI-20 licenses were a larger expense in the grant. If future funds become available, we will revisit purchasing Supervisor 5 licenses.
- Implementation Leadership Academy follow up training offered by ACJI: This is virtual classroom series (Lead @Work) started in October 2019 and continue through September 2020. The web sessions are scheduled the second Wednesday of each month at noon, running approximately 45 minutes in length.
- Probation Reform (House Bill 1555): The House Judiciary Committee is scheduled to meet 12/9/19. Amendments are expected. There will most likely be no hard caps on probation terms. There is support for early terminations of probation supervision. There could be an amendment including warrantless searches. She indicated that movement on this legislation might take some time through the General Assembly.

- JRI-2 (Senate Bills 500, 501, 502): Helene Placey reported that this legislation passed in Senate back in June, 2019 and moves to the House Judiciary Committee on 12/9/19. There are some amendments possible (e.g. mandatory for firearms).

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statewide EBP Leadership Team

- Met on December 2 and also on October 9, 2019.
- **Goal Team 1:** Discussed specialized assessments for Domestic Violence, DUI and an update to CRN evaluation. Also looking at specialized tool for child pornography
- **Goal Team 2:** Bob Williams commented on the informative presentation from The Carey Group and the University of Cincinnati Corrections Institute (UCCI) yesterday afternoon. Both consultants will be paid under the grant with a focus of skills-based trainings for Probation Officers in: risk-needs assessment; EPICS; Case Planning. Forty-two (42) counties participated in the EBP informational roundtable yesterday. Plans to move forward with stakeholder forums (inviting CJABs). Counties are to submit their Implementation Checklist & Priorities to Helene Placey by December 20, 2019.
- **Goal Team 4:** Rick Parsons reported on APO dashboard in collaboration with JNET Recidivator Project and exploring possibilities for a vendor to support the dashboard.

Firearms Committee

No report (deferred to FETC under State Agency updates later in the meeting)

Intercounty Transfer Committee

No report

Training Committee

Dan Heydt reported that MI training will be added to curriculum at the BTAs beginning in 2020. There are three (3) BTA's scheduled for 2020. Helene will be asking for volunteer instructors. Andy Hathorn (Chief, Elk County) noted issues in the past with bedbugs at DOC housing in Elizabethtown. DOC/PBPP has addressed this issue and will continue to house all BTA participants in onsite lodging at the Academy. Counties would need to pay for any off-site housing. The Chiefs Association is working with Mike Dooley (Director of Training at DOC) on how to best utilize money allocated to PBPP for county probation training.

Program Committee

No report

Legislative Committee

Carl McKee reported that as of December 1, 2019 DNA collection is required on all M1 and higher graded offenses, and several M2 offenses.

By-Laws Committee

Darby Christlieb reported that the new committees approved under the new by-laws will become effective 1/1/2020. Volunteers are needed for these committees.

Action Item: Darby conducted the election of officers noting that individuals eligible to vote are Chief PO or their Proxy. The four offices on the ballot for election are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer.

Ballots were distributed, collected and counted. The results were: President, April Billet-Barclay; Vice-President, Rick Parsons; Secretary, Len Hahn; and Treasurer, Christine Shenk. They will serve a two-year term beginning 1/1/2020 and ending 12/31/2021

Mark Wilson will remain on Executive Committee as immediate past president, and members at large are Jamie Jendrysik, Paul Markiewicz and Darby Christlieb. The new Committee Chairs will also serve on Executive Committee commencing in 2020.

STATE AGENCY UPDATES

Public Safety Delivery Center

Eric Webb is Director of Business and Service Management. He supports functions of DOC, PBPP, PSP, PCCD and JNET. He discussed the current JNET steering committee which is comprised of 16 members and meets on a quarterly basis. Mark Wilson has served on this committee on behalf of county probation. If there are any Chief POs interested in serving on the JNET Steering Committee, they should contact Helene Placey.

JNET

Eric Webb reported the following JNET updates:

- Traffic Stop application-photo and warrant check. Good for probation/parole officers
- Reason for any JNET check must be criminal justice related. Be aware that misuse of system will result in sanctions for officers (e.g. looking up family members).
- Reverse address phone pick-up upcoming in Federated Search by end of 1st quarter 2020 (white pages). Put address in system, get people associated with that address; put phone number in and get people associated with that phone number.
- Recidivism project is ongoing; consultant is in place; contract has been signed. What does recidivism mean to Probation/Parole, DOC, Judges, PSP and the data science behind it? Flexible, hopefully in place for 2020.
- Misuse: Two cases active with the Courts. Zero tolerance for misuse, no verbal warnings will be given. Misuse will result in removal from JNET access.

AOPC

Nevin Warner reported that State Court Administrator Tom Darr is retiring in December and his replacement is Geoffrey Moulton.

Department of Corrections

George Little reported on behalf of Community Corrections and Re-entry Services. They expect budget with cuts of \$140 million on the SCI end. Possible closures of some SCI's. Cuts will not affect field services for state parole and no impact on grant in aid. However, there are no resource increases either.

DOC projects use of a 5th generation risk/needs assessment in operation by October, 2021.

FETC

Joe McLaughlin reported resources are available to help with in-house trainings and classes and they are available to certify Master Instructors at the county level.

There is no new computer system.

Contract bids were released, with three vendors submitting applications to provide continuing education classes.

All requalification at the county level need to be completed by October 31 of each calendar year.

PBPP-Probation Services is now Bureau of Central Services

Tom Dougherty provided the following:

- Responsible for Grants and Standards
- Grant-in-Aid payments will be dispensed in Jan/Feb. 2020

Department of Corrections Training Division

Mike Dooley, Director of Training, announced three (3) upcoming BTA's as follows:

- March 16 to April 3, 2020
- June 8 to June 26, 2020
- October 19 to November 16, 2020.

They are offering a training on "Medical Marijuana, What You Need to Know" on January 14, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

PBPP-Interstate Services

- Audit regarding warrants are being entered in a timely manner. Ten state cases (7 probation, 3 parole), reviewed informally. Most states failed the "timely manner" standard at 30 days, and there is a rule proposal for 15 days. A letter will be sent to sentencing Judges regarding this matter.
- ICOAS is a good reference resource for Judges and Attorneys, CORE-Compact Online Reference Encyclopedia
- Rule Amendments: 4/1/2020 sex offender rule: If registered in PA, are sex offender conditions imposed in other states Rules that passed will be sent soon.
- 1/1/2020 will be a list of special probation cases that are sent via interstate, cases will be tracked for years. Issues discussed regarding offenders detained in other states and special probation cases following a max sentence in which the probation is returned to the issuing county.

PCCD

Jackie Weaknecht reported out about Gun Violence Prevention and Reduction initiative created by an Executive Order from Governor Wolf. Counsel and office within PCCD, includes the following sub-committees: 1) Community Violence; 2) Mass Shooting; 3) Domestic Violence; 4) Accidental shooting and 5) Suicide. Described as “listening sessions” several meetings have been held in Philadelphia recently. Public comments posted on website. Recommendations will be made to Governor Wolf in March, 2020.

JAG grants will be released in January and they are competitive grants. Examples of use include updates to CJAB strategic plans.

Office of Criminal Justice Systems within PCCD is collecting death in custody data (county jails, law enforcement, DOC).

Funds for Restrictive Probation will be for a two-year grant cycle. Data needs to be updated on current grants, and submitted in a timely manner by due dates. Project Modification Requests for the current grant cycle are due to PCCD. There is still an 80/20 split on treatment and administrative costs.

PA Commission on Sentencing

Ryan Meyers reported their Annual Report for 2018 is complete. SGS Web data needs entered. In 2019, data has been entered.

Earlier this year, in response to legislative mandates, the Pennsylvania Commission on Sentencing adopted and submitted to the General Assembly three (3) proposals. Effective January 1, 2020. They are:

- 7th Edition, Amendment 5 - New enhancements and OGS assignments. Information is in SGS Web. Applies to all offenses committed on/after January 1, 2020.
- Resentencing Guidelines (pursuant to Act 81 of 2008)-enter resentences in SGS web.

Effective July 1, 2020 is the Sentence Risk Assessment Instrument (pursuant to Act 95 of 2010). It applies to all offenses committed on or after 7/1/2020. The Commission will conduct a six-month training and orientation for Judges and other practitioners related to the use of the Sentence Risk Assessment Instrument, its purpose, and the type of information recommended.

OLD BUSINESS

Conference Recap - The location, format, and registration rates will remain the same as 2019.

NEW BUSINESS

- Upcoming retirements of Vicki Saylor (Somerset) who worked in Somerset County probation for forty (40) years; twenty (20) as Chief Probation Officer.

- Also retiring is Scott Lizardi (Union) effective 12/16/19. He worked in Union County probation for forty (40) years; thirty-four (34) years as Chief Probation Officer.
- CCAPPOAP Clothing Orders need to be placed by January 17, 2020.
- Chris Murphy presented the 2020 proposed budget. The 2020 Operating Budget (action item) - Motion made by Paul Markiewicz and second by Rick Parsons to increase Executive Director Helene Placey's salary by 5% (2.5% for 2019 and 2.5% for 2020). Motion passed unanimously.

Bob Williams made motion to adjourn the membership meeting; seconded by Sally Barry. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul L. Ruffner
Secretary