

County Chief Adult Probation and Parole Officers Association of PA
General Business Meeting
June 15, 2018
Days Inn
State College, PA

Chief POs in attendance: Laura Rowland (Adams), Frank Scherer (Allegheny), Bob Williams (Berks), Sean Ryan (Bucks), Rick Parsons (Carbon), Chris Murphy (Chester), Jason Foltz (Clinton), Don Coleman (Columbia), Darby Christlieb (Cumberland), Andrew Hathorn (Elk), Paul Markiewicz (Erie), James Caccimelio (Fayette), Dan Hoover (Franklin), Leonard Hahn (Huntingdon), Michael Hodak (Indiana), Paul Ruffner (Jefferson), Michelle Beaver (Juniata), Mark Wilson (Lancaster), Sally Barry (Lebanon), Michael Vecchio (Luzerne), Gary Seefeldt (McKean), Todd Harpster (Mifflin), Bernie Sikora (Monroe), Jim Miller (Montour), Roger Miller (Perry), Jeff Angradi (Pike), Brian Abel (Potter), Neil Stefanisko (Schuylkill), Bo Trawitz (Snyder), Jim Chapman (Wayne), April Billet-Barclay (York)

Others in attendance: Helene Placey (CCAPPOAP), Chris Franceschi (Armstrong), Amanda Moore (Blair), Chris Pawlowski (Chester), William Mann (Chester), Trevor Oates (Crawford), Mike Shrauder (Dauphin), Jonathan Doud (Elk), Carol Braceland (Huntingdon), Janis Baun (Indiana), Audrey Rakow (Lebanon), Carmen Lopresto (Luzerne), Maria Augello (Luzerne), Ryan Smeltzer (Mifflin), Brian Updegrove (Northumberland), Michelle Orris (Perry), Troy Freeman (Tioga), Jon Dusninger (Wayne), Michael Stough (York), Don Overmoyer (York), Rhys Kershaw (York), Kelly Ross (York), Robert Merwine (PCCD), Margaret Thompson (PBPP Interstate), Tom Dougherty (PBPP), Sandy Halicki (PBPP), Brandy Yassenchak (AOPC), Nevin Warner (AOPC), Ryan Meyers (PCS), Kelly Evans (PBPP), William Burrell (Consultant), David Mattson (CCAP – UCM), Alexis Noble (CCAP- UCM).

Meeting called to order: President Mark Wilson called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. with Pledge of Allegiance and introductions.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

President

- After a meeting with the PBPP in February 2018 a letter was sent to Chairman Dunn regarding the standards audit for Adult Probation Departments. It is recommended that the focus of the audit should pertain to standards that are related to Evidence-Based Practices. George Little from the DOC and Bill McDevitt from PBPP were involved in the discussions. The Association had requested another six-month suspension of audits but

that was rejected. Beginning in July, 2018 the Administrative Standards will be audited. Evidence-Based standards will be pushed out in the third year of this new cycle.

- PAPPC conference was held on May 21, 2018 in Lancaster. Mark Wilson, along with Sally Barry, Bill Burrell and Helene Placey were in attendance. An overview of the role of EBP in County Probation Departments was presented. The session was not well attended but it was well received by those that were present.
- The PBPP Annual Statistics Report is posted on the PBPP website. The Governor's Advisory Committee provided some recommendations a while back to eliminate some of the reporting questions. The Association independently sent out a survey monkey in early 2017 with additional reporting/data questions. There was a suggestion by a CPO to create a report similar to the annual report by JCJC. Mark stated the Association has limited staff and resources. The Association will need to determine what should be collected to avoid redundancy, and best use of time and resources for county staff. Also noted, the PBPP annual report typically receives full compliance from all county probation departments, whereas anything sent by survey monkey typically has around 50-60% response rate from counties.
- EBP Goal Team #5 (chaired by Sean Ryan) will look at these issues and also discuss outcome measures as part of the overall EBP implementation initiative.
- Recap of Chiefs-only meeting held Thursday evening, June 14, 2018 with discussions on:
 - Need for consistency between FETC instructors and those from the private vendor, PWT. This was referred to Michelle Beaver, Chiefs Association representative on the Firearms Committee.
 - Other topic of discussion was how County Probation and Parole Departments and Judges are dealing with medical marijuana in Pennsylvania. No county probation offices have a set policy in place, but Mike Shrauder noted Dauphin County is working on developing a policy. AOPC sent a survey out on this subject and 22 counties responded. There will be a panel discussion at the chief's conference in September.
 - Mark also discussed Com. v. Moriarity. A PA Superior Court ruling that originally dealt with ineffective counsel, but also ruled on detention of offenders for violations of probation for "new" charges prior to the preliminary hearing.
 - Discussion about sanctions for probation violations, such as credit for "street time" at the county level or "good time" for early terminations to avoid lengthy probation and parole sentences in order to utilize resources for offenders at high-risk.

Vice-President

April Billet-Barclay presented at the PJ-PACM conference on June 5, 2018 with Helene Placey and William Burrell, EBP Implementation Coordinator for the County Chief's Association. There were well over 100 attendees in the session. The presentation was very well received by Judges and Court Administrators.

Secretary

Minutes from the March 23, 2018 meeting were presented by Paul Ruffner. Motion for approval made by Dan Hoover, second by April Billet-Barclay. Motion passed.

Treasurer

Cory Seymour was absent. No report.

Executive Director

- Helene Placey reported the Drexel University's Community Lawyering Clinic's survey for probation in PA is underway. There are ten counties participating in the project. There has been no feedback from any of the counties in this initiative to date.
- RSVP's for attendance at quarterly meetings is very helpful to plan for meeting room accommodations, food and beverage.
- Helene will be attending the PA District Attorney's Association Annual Conference. She will be part of a DA round table discussion in July, 2018 to inform them of the Association's EBP statewide implementation project.
- EBP grant activities include: 47 counties registered for the Motivational Interviewing Readiness Workshops. There will be three held regionally in June to assist in identifying county staff as MI trainers and coaches.
- The association is offering three Implementation Leadership training regionally in July. The training will be presented by the Alliance for Criminal Justice Innovation and will teach about the science of change.
- The annual APPA conference will be held in Philadelphia July 30-August 1. Volunteers are needed.
- Chief's conference will be held September 17-19 at Toftrees Conference Center. The conference announcement and registration information will be sent very soon. Possible breakout sessions include: media relations, SORNA, specialized risk tools, and medical marijuana in PA. The agenda is still tentative but working on confirming speakers.
- Legislation updates:
 - As part of JRI 2, the association supported SB 1070 which would create an adult probation & parole advisory committee. It also supported the provision under SB 1072 that would streamline the process of county supervision fees (remove

the requirement that 50% of the money being sent to the State Offender Supervision Fund; allow 100% of the county supervision funds to remain at the county where the fees were collected). These bills has little movement within the House.

- Megan's Law/SORNA Update- Back on February 18, 2018, Act 10 of 2018 became effective implementing a 3-year consecutive probation term to sentences that reach their maximum in state prison. On June 12, Act 29 of 2018 became effective. It relates to registration of sex offenders sentenced between December 2012 and February, 2018.
- Paid Membership numbers include 60 paid members (5 non-paid members). Currently 98 associate members. This is an increase compared to last year.
- Paid annual assessments: 53 counties full pay, 4 partial pay, 9 counties non-paid. Assessment fees are on par with other years. The county code references \$10 per staff which creates an issue in a few counties. Discussion as to perhaps using supervision funds to pay the assessment.
- Regarding conference activities, the executive committee approved a 'co-pay' at this year's conference for those participating in golf (\$25.00) and sip and paint (or any activity that has a cost). Tours of SCI Benner and SCI Rockview were suggested.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Statewide EBP Committee

Co-chair Mark Wilsons reported the statewide committee is now meeting quarterly; however, monthly meetings will continue for a smaller sub-group of chief POs on the EBP leadership team.

Bill Burrell provided several updates:

- The Risk/Needs Blueprint volume 1 user guide is going to press.
- Michael Clark, and international expert in Motivational Interviewing will be conducting MI workshops this summer. Twenty (20) web-based courses and media guides will be available and the DOC/JCJC/APO will have license to use these materials in PA.
- The Science of Implementation Leadership, a 2 ½ day program will be presented regionally across Pennsylvania in July, 2018.
- Specialized risk assessments for Domestic Violence and Sex Offenders are part of Goal 1 attainment, as well as performance measurements and offender outcomes.

Firearms Committee

Chair Michelle Beaver reported on Course 3 updates and FETCMS software improvements.

Intercounty Transfer Committee

Chair Nick Honyara and the committee has suggested simplifying what is posted on the Association's website. The information has not been updated for many years. He asked if anyone uses the county-specific information posted on the website and one or two counties responded. If no one is using the information posted, it was suggested to simply post the county point of contact for intercounty transfers. Then the two counties can discuss if a case will be accepted for transfer. He will take back to the committee and will relay to Helene.

Training Committee

Chair Laura Rowland stated the committee has been working on the BTA curriculum to include 1) legal issues and mental health, pharmacology; 2) search and seizure and 3) tactical, officer safety. They are making progress but still have a lot more to discuss.

Program Committee

Chair Cory Seymour was absent. Nothing to report.

Legislative Committee

Chair Carl McKee was absent. Nothing to report.

By-Laws Committee

Chair Darby Christlieb stated there has been some ongoing discussion with the executive committee about possibly revising the standing committees listed in the by-laws. There is a need to take a closer look at some committees of one, and also eliminate redundancy of duties.

STATE AGENCY UPDATES

AOPC

Brandy Yasechak reported PAJCSIS is now operating as case management software for problem solving courts in PA. Pilot counties are implementing the software updates and working on a bridge with other providers (BTM and UCM) systems. JNET and PCCD are working to eliminate multiple duplications of data entry. Trainings for co-occurring disorders and drug court participants are scheduled. Scholarships are available to fund some participants attendance.

Department of Corrections

Kelly Evans reported on reentry projects with the DOC/PBPP.

JNET

No report (no representatives in attendance)

PBPP-Probation Services

Tom Dougherty reported that Grant-in-Aid will be coming out in two weeks, with no changes in its format.

The PBPP Audit will resume with changes in item standards. The new schedule will be forthcoming in two/three weeks.

Supervision funds 2nd payment will be issued shortly.

PBPP- Training Division

Greg Young was not present but sent his update to Helene Placey to read. He reported the next County-only BTA will be September 24 through October 12, 2018. Any county that has submitted names for that BTA need to confirm their personnel with Janet Collins or Greg Young. There will be a new BTA coordinator as Lou Perez retired. As soon as that person accepts the position, their contact information will be forwarded to all chiefs.

PBPP-Interstate Services

Margaret Thompson reported on rules committee meetings with Linda Rosenberg, the new Commissioner. Sex offender rules require registration in sending state. Also covers offenders who have sex offender conditions as part of their supervision plan.

She stated that training is a big initiative, and training is scheduled in Berks County. Judge Marcico (Dauphin County) was appointed, and one open position for a Judge remains.

ICOTS has enhancements

Travel restrictions in Hawaii, and beware of biker conventions this summer and use caution if need-be.

PCCD

Bob Merwine reported that IP grants received were \$2 million more than available. Therefore, a need to reduce requests from counties by \$2 million.

JNET-Recidivism-EBP- PAJCSIS-PCCD interested in JNET applying for grants to streamline data entry.

JAG solicitations (Tier II) are complete.

Keeping eye on SB 1071 and its effect on County IP funding. PCCD has hired Jim Anderson to take a close look at any impact.

Pa Commission on Sentencing

Ryan Myers reported on seminars held in Fayette County this summer. There was a lot of negative feedback on the risk assessment, so its implementation is on hold.

Resources is a legislative concern for JRI-2, and feedback and public comments are being solicited.

Working on pre-trial Domestic Violence risk tool.

PA DUI Association

No report (no representatives in attendance)

OLD BUSINESS

Feedback requested regarding current location of meetings (Days Inn) requested by Executive Director so the executive committee can decide 2019 meeting locations.

NEW BUSINESS

Vice President April Billet-Barclay made a motion to give the Executive Committee authority to approve up to \$6,000 maximum for lunch expenses at upcoming EBP training in 2018 budget, with the understanding that this will be contained in budget year 2019. Sean Ryan 2nd motion. Motion passed unanimously. No negative votes.

Discussion to have By-Laws committee examine proposal to have definition of the Executive Board expanded to include Committee Chairs. Darby will take a closer look at the by-laws and report back on potential impacts. Any decision or vote will be postponed until September.

Conference dates of September 17-19, concluding with membership meeting on September 19. The last quarterly membership meeting is scheduled for December 7, 2018 (with no Chief's only meeting).

Adjournment: Rick Parsons made motion to adjourn, seconded by Sally Barry. Motion passed. Meeting Adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Paul L. Ruffner
Secretary