BRIAN P. KEMP GOVERNOR



JAY NEAL DIRECTOR

Minutes

Full Council Meeting Wednesday, December 4, 2019; 10:30 AM State Bar of Georgia; Auditorium 104 Marietta St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30303

Attendees

The following members were present: Chairman Judge C. Andrew Fuller, Director Homer Bryson*, Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Director Cynthia Clanton, Mr. Chris Clarke, Mr. Brian DiNapoli*, Chairwoman Sonja Fillingame, Chief Judge Kathlene Gosselin*, Commissioner Liz Hausmann*+, Mr. Joe Hood, Ms. Cheryl Karounos, Assistant Commissioner Maurer, Commissioner Tyrone Oliver*+, Judge Juliette Scales, Director Pete Skandalakis+, and Mayor Jim Thornton*.

The following Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) staff members were present: Director Jay Neal, Deputy Director Steven Hatfield, Robert Thornton, Nathan Branscome, Rachel Kilgore, Laura Thompson, Stephanie Mikkelsen, Kristy Carter, and Ursula Kelley.

The following guests were present: Deputy Director Scott Dutton, GBI; Lalaine Briones, Prosecuting Attorneys' Council (representative for Director Pete Skandalakis); Deputy Commissioner Shawanda Reynolds-Cobb* (representative for Commissioner Tyrone Oliver); and Michael O'Conner*, Fulton County Commissioner's Office (representative for Commissioner Liz Hausmann).

*Via conference call

Welcome and Call to Order

Chairman Judge C. Andrew Fuller called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM and called for a review of the minutes of the September 16, 2019 meeting. Sheriff Ron Freeman made a motion to approve the minutes; Chairwoman Sonja Fillingame seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Agency Updates, Director Jay Neal

Executive Director Jay Neal gave a brief update on the status of the agency and welcomed the Council's two newest members: Ms. Cheryl Karounos, designee for Chairman Christopher Cohilas from the Georgia Public Defender Council and Mr. Chris Clark, designee for Commissioner Timothy Ward of the Department of Corrections.

Mr. Joe Hood then presented the recommendations for the Nominating Committee, which met on Wednesday, November 13th to elect a slate of officers to stand for election for the 2020 calendar year. The committee's recommendations were as follows: (1) Regarding the position of Chairman of the Council, the Committee recommended Assistant Commissioner Scott Maurer of the Department of Community Supervision. (2) Regarding the position of Vice Chairman of the Council, the Committee recommended Sheriff Ron Freeman of Forsyth County. After hearing the Committee's recommendations and allowing for nominations from the floor, Chairman Judge Fuller asked if there was a motion. Sheriff Freeman made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented; Chairwoman Fillingame seconded, and the motion carried.

Criminal Justice Grants Committee Recommendations, Mr. Robert Thornton

Mr. Robert Thornton presented recommendations on behalf of Criminal Justice Grants Committee regarding the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. The Committee, which met on November 18, 2019, made the following recommendations:

The Byrne JAG application was only open to existing local projects and was not established as a competitive process where additional funding would be considered. The local DTF applicants requesting increased funding did not articulate needs through increased coverage area or other qualifying change. In the past year, the only instances where additional funding was awarded to a task force was where a task force has expanded as a regional drug task force (co-located with a GBI regional office and expanded to include a greater number of counties). Therefore, staff recommended funding at the current levels.

Drug Task Force Agency (by Fiscal Agent)	Current Funding Level	Amount Requested	Committee Recommendation
Haralson County (Haralson-Paulding Drug Task Force)	\$172,432	\$215,540	\$172,432
Lafayette, City of (Lookout Mountain Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force)	\$152,838	\$318,532	\$152,838
Upson County (Upson County Narcotics Task Force)	\$111,766	\$306,128	\$111,766

The Georgia Public Safety Training Center (GPSTC) applied for additional funds to provide training to law enforcement from across the state. Two series of courses are currently undergoing revision, along with the development of a new executive level course. GPSTC will offer four new courses to supplement narcotics training. Additionally, GPSTC is requesting that CJCC fund one additional full-time instructor position, for a total of six instructors and one administration position. The Committee recommended tabling this request until the next council meeting.

State Projects	Current Funding Level	Amount Requested	Committee Recommendation
Georgia Public Safety Training Center	\$414,483	\$545,882	\$414,483 (table
			additional request)

Chairman Judge Fuller asked for a motion regarding staff recommendations. Mr. Joe Hood made a motion to accept all recommendations as presented by the Committee; Chairwoman Sonja Fillingame seconded, and the motion carried.

Ms. Kristy Carter presented the recommendations of the Victim Assistance Grants Committee, which met on November 26, 2019. The recommendations, as detailed in the attached memorandum (Appendix A), were approved as follows: Director Cynthia Clanton made a motion to accept all recommendations, excluding the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant awards, which she recommended voting on separately. Mr. Hood seconded the motion. There were two abstentions (Chief Judge Gosselin regarding both the Rape Response and The Gateway Center, Inc., awards for reasons of conflict of interest.) The motion carried, and all awards listed in Tabs A, C, and D, as well as the Judicial CSEC Benchbook Project were adopted.

Regarding the VAWA grant awards (Tab B), Mr. Hood made a motion to approve all awards as recommended by the Committee; Sheriff Freeman seconded. The motion passed with the following abstentions for reasons of conflict of interest: Director Clanton abstained regarding AOC – Judicial Council of Georgia; Chairwoman Fillingame and Assistant Commissioner Scott Maurer abstained regarding the three awards to the Georgia Department of Community Supervision; Director Skandalakis abstained regarding the Prosecuting Attorney's Council of Georgia; and Judge Scales abstained regarding the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.

Adjourn

Chairman Judge Fuller thanked members of the Council for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:21 AM.