

**BRIAN P. KEMP**  
GOVERNOR



**JAY NEAL**  
DIRECTOR

## Minutes

Full Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 22, 2020 | 10:30 A.M.  
Conference Line: 1-470-645-0776 | Pin: 523 471 560#

### Attendees

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The following members were present via conference call: Chairman Scott Maurer, Vice Chairman Ron Freeman, Ms. Jacqueline Bunn, Chief Bruce Carlisle, Director Cynthia Clanton, Mr. Chris Clark, Mr. Brian DiNapoli, Judge C. Andrew Fuller, Commissioner Liz Hausmann, Mr. Joe Hood, Judge Lisa Jones, Commissioner Oliver, Director Pete Skandalakis, and Commissioner Timothy Ward.

The following Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) staff members were present via conference call: Deputy Director Steven Hatfield, Robert Thornton, Kristy Carter, Rachel Kilgore, Laura Thompson, Mia Smith, and Stephanie Mikkelsen.

### Welcome and Call to Order, *Chairman Scott Maurer*

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Chairman Scott Maurer called the meeting to order at 10:38 AM and called for a review of the minutes of the June 16, 2020 meeting. Sheriff Ron Freeman made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Chris Clark seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

### Executive Committee Reports, *Mr. Robert Thornton*

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Mr. Robert Thornton then presented the Executive Committee Report from the July 21, 2020 meeting. At this time, Chairman Maurer began experiencing technical difficulties and, after several attempts to rectify the issue, Vice Chairman Freeman continued the meeting in his place, asking if there was a motion on the meeting minutes and decisions of the Committee. Mr. Joe Hood made a motion to accept; Director Pete Skandalakis seconded, and the motion carried.

Secondly, Mr. Thornton presented the Executive Committee Report from the July 27, 2020 meeting. With no questions or discussion, Judge Fuller made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and the Committee's decisions, and Commissioner Liz Hausmann seconded. The motion carried.

### Criminal Justice Grants Committee Recommendations, *Mr. Robert Thornton*

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The Criminal Justice Grants Committee met on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, and made the following recommendations for the Council's consideration:

I. Regarding the **Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program’s Part-Time Program Case Managers for Accountability Courts Grant** - The Criminal Justice unit received a FY2019 Adult Drug Court Discretionary Grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) to address the increasing need for case managers within rural areas of the accountability court system. In coordination with the Council of Accountability Court Judges (CACJ), a Request for Proposal (RFP) for existing programs was made available and nine applications were received before the deadline and each included all the applicable attachments. Based on the available funding, \$250,000, the CACJ Funding Committee recommended a total allocation of \$245,828. In addition to the grant funds, each program is required to provide a 25% match. CJCC staff are working to determine the greatest use for the remaining funds based on the scope of the grant. The CJ Grants Committee followed the following decisions from the CACJ’s funding committee and recommends the Council approve also.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Recommended</i>
Enotah Mental Health Court	\$28,728	\$29,640*
Douglas Adult Felony Drug Court	\$39,000	\$30,607
Fayette County DUI Court	\$39,000	\$30,607
Rockdale County DUI Court	\$39,000	\$30,607
Rockdale County Adult Felony Drug Court	\$39,000	\$30,607
Bartow Family Treatment Drug Court	\$23,400	\$22,955
Pataula Adult Felony Drug Court	\$23,400	\$23,400
Ocmulgee Adult Felony Drug Court	\$27,000	\$27,000
Blue Ridge Circuit Accountability Court	\$20,405	\$20,405
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$278,933</i>	<i>\$245,828</i>

*\*The recommended amount is greater than the requested due to an error that was made in the initial amount requested, though it was corrected and increased.*

II. Regarding the **Surveillance Technology for Rural Accountability Courts Grant** - CJCC received eight applications, four of which were from multijurisdictional courts where all courts did not meet the rural designation. Those programs will be advised that services may only be provided to court participants who reside in counties which meet the rural designation. Of the \$250,000 available in funding, applications were received for \$96,325 in viable requests. In addition to the grant funds, each program is required to provide a 25% match. CJCC staff are working to determine the greatest use for the remaining funds based on the scope of the grant. The CJ Grants Committee followed the decision of the CACJ funding committee listed below and recommends the Council approve also.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Recommended</i>
Carroll County Adult Felony Drug Court*	\$1,360	\$1,360
Alapaha Adult Felony/ Mental Health Courts	\$12,000	\$12,000
Lookout Mountain Adult Felony/Mental Health	\$2,880	\$2,880

Mountain Adult Felony/Mental Health/Family Treatment Drug Courts*	\$26,740	\$26,740
Ocmulgee Adult Felony/Mental Health Courts	\$19,000	\$19,000
Tallapoosa Mental Health Court	\$6,089	\$6,089
Ocmulgee Family Treatment Drug Court*	\$15,674	\$15,674
Enotah Mental Health Court	\$12,582	\$12,582
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$96,325</i>	<i>\$96,325</i>

- III. Regarding **the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program (Byrne JAG)’s Deaths in Custody Reporting** - To comply with the DICRA reporting requirement, the Georgia Statistical Analysis Center (GASAC), a division of CJCC, engaged with the GBI’s medical examiner and metro-Atlanta medical examiner’s offices to identify deaths in law enforcement presence or custody. The SAC developed a reporting partnership with the Georgia Department of Corrections and is working to develop a similar partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice. The GASAC has agreed to continue to collect and report this data. The recommendation of the CJ Grants Committee is to continuing funding the GASAC for DICRA reporting in the amount of \$41,825.
- IV. Regarding the **Medicaid Study** - The Georgia Statistical Analysis Center, in partnership with Applied Research Services, is taking part in a State Justice Statistics Program study to determine the magnitude of persons within county jails that would benefit from the expansion of Medicaid Mental Health Services. While both Baldwin and Pierce Counties have agreed to participate in the study, they are requesting assistance to fund the cost of extracting data. The CJ Grants Committee recommends funding \$4,000 for this purpose out of the Byrne JAG grant.

After hearing these four recommendations from the CJ Grants Committee, and with no questions or comments, Judge Fuller made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented. Mr. Brian DiNapoli seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Next, Mr. Thornton presented CJCC staff’s recommendations regarding the **Juvenile Justice Opioid Affected Youth Initiative (OAYI) Grant** (\*Please note, this RFP did not close in time to be reviewed by the CJ Grants Committee) - The OAYI Steering Committee has been meeting regularly since September 2019, Georgia’s OAYI Strategic Plan was approved by our federal partners in June 2020, and an RFP was released in early June for programming designed to respond to the growing number of youth who are opioid involved or opioid affected. From the first RFP, five awards were approved by the Executive Council totaling \$323,394 (for a total of seven projects) to local programs to address opioid misuse. This left a total of \$295,112 for a second RFP. The second RFP closed on September 14, 2020, and the OAYI Steering Committee met on September 16, 2020 to review applications and make recommendations. Twelve applications were received. Of the \$295,112 available in funding for this RFP, \$1,013,367.72 was requested. The OAYI Steering Committee based their recommendations on the strength of the application, programs awarded in the first RFP, a desire to reach as much of the state as possible, and consideration of programs that would assist in meeting the goals of Georgia’s Opioid Affected Youth Initiative Strategic Plan. Staff recommends following the OAYI Steering Committees’ decisions listed below.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Requested</i>	<i>Recommended</i>
Young People in Recovery	\$99,075	\$0, it was decided by the Steering Committee that this program would have a very difficult time getting the necessary agreements in place to implement programming on time.
Family Connection of Columbia County	\$64,500	\$0, given the competitive nature of this RFP, the Steering Committee was not able to recommend this project. This applicant received funding in the first RFP for a neighboring county and the Steering Committee hoped to reach as much of the state as possible.
Augusta Partnership for Children	\$100,000	\$0, given the competitive nature of this RFP, the Steering Committee was not able to recommend this project. This applicant received funding in the first RFP for a neighboring county and the Steering Committee hoped to reach as much of the state as possible.
Augusta Partnership for Children	\$100,000	\$0, given the competitive nature of this RFP, the Steering Committee was not able to recommend this project. This applicant received funding in the first RFP for a neighboring county and the Steering Committee hoped to reach as much of the state as possible.
J. Thomas Mobile Drug and Alcohol Testing, LLC	\$60,950	\$0, the applicant may have mistakenly uploaded their supporting documentation (assurances) and deleted their project narrative. Without a narrative, the application was incomplete. Applicants who experienced trouble with Formstack were given the opportunity to resubmit by 5 PM on 9/15/20. This applicant did not resubmit and was disqualified as incomplete.
The Council on Alcohol and Drugs	\$100,000	<b>\$130,000</b> , the Committee recommended funding this applicant by combining their Category 4 and Category 5 applications into one award and initiative. This applicant will implement in an area that was not served by awards from the first RFP.
The Council on Alcohol and Drugs	\$100,000	\$0, please see above.
The Davis Direction Foundation	\$48,689.48	\$0, given the competitive nature of this RFP, the Steering Committee was not able to recommend this project. The Steering Committee recommended funding this applicant for another project submitted.
The Davis Direction Foundation	\$87,003.54	<b>\$66,491</b> , the Steering Committee recommended funding this project pending budget review. After staff's budget review, laptop computers for youth and other unallowable costs were removed, reducing the overall recommended award amount.
The Davis Direction Foundation	\$95,390	\$0, given the competitive nature of this RFP, the Steering Committee was not able to recommend this project. The Steering Committee recommends funding this applicant for another project submitted.
Georgia Council on Substance Abuse	\$99,047	<b>\$98,621</b> , the Steering Committee recommended funding this project pending budget review. After staff's budget review, travel costs were adjusted to be the same on both training grants awarded under this RFP.

Bulloch County Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council	\$58,712.70	\$0, given the competitive nature of this RFP, the Steering Committee was not able to recommend this project. This applicant received funding in the first RFP and the project described was not as strong as the initiatives recommended for funding.
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$1,013,367.72</i>	<i>\$295,112</i>

\*Please note, applicants were required to submit separate applications for each category they applied under.

Vice Chairman Freeman asked for a motion regarding the staff’s recommendations. Ms. Jacqueline Bunn motioned to accept all recommendations; Commissioner Timothy Ward seconded, and the motion carried.

At this time, Chairman Maurer was able to reconnect to the meeting and thanked Vice Chairman Freeman for continuing while he was unavailable. Chairman Maurer then turned to Ms. Kristy Carter to present the Victim Assistance Grants Committee Recommendations.

Victim Assistance Grants Committee Recommendations; Ms. Kristy Carter

Ms. Kristy Carter presented the recommendations of the Victim Assistance Grants Committee, which met on September 18, 2020. The recommendations were as follows:

- I. Regarding the **FFY20 Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Assistance Formula Grant Program** - The VOCA Formula Grant Program, created under the 1984 Victims of Crime Act, provides federal funding to support victim assistance and compensation programs, to provide training for diverse professionals who work with victims, to develop projects to enhance victims’ rights and services, and to undertake public education and awareness activities on behalf of crime victims. The Federal Crime Victims’ Fund is the source of funding for these programs. Millions of dollars are deposited into the Crime Victims’ Fund annually from criminal fines, forfeited bail bonds, penalties, and special assessments collected by U.S. Attorneys’ Offices, federal U.S. courts, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The VOCA Continuation Award totals \$78,914,975, of which the Victim Assistance Grants Committee recommends allocating as follows:
  - a. Award the child abuse victim service agencies at current award amounts for a total of \$18,838,724. *See TAB A.*
  - b. Award the community-based victim service agencies at current award amounts for a total of \$26,939,849. *See TAB B.*
  - c. Award the domestic violence victim service agencies at current award amounts for a total of \$21,140,141. *See TAB C.*
    - i. The Committee recommends that the continuation award for Clayton County Association Against Domestic Violence be conditioned to require the agency to enter into an MOU or subcontract agreement with Atlanta Legal Aid for the provision of legal services until a time that the agency can provide the legal advocacy services or identify another provider to provide legal advocacy services.
  - d. Award the sexual assault victim service agencies at current award amounts for a total of \$7,538,304. *See TAB D.*

- e. Award the human trafficking service agencies at current award amounts for a total of \$2,457,957. *See Tab E*
- f. Award the set-aside funding for the Victim Notification System at its current amount for a total of \$2,000,000.

After hearing the recommendations from the Victim Assistance Division regarding the VOCA Assistance Formula Grant, Chairman Maurer asked if there were any questions or further discussion. At that time, Director Cynthia Clanton made a motion to accept the recommendations as presented. Judge Fuller seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

- II. Regarding the **OVC Training and Technical Assistance Grant Program** – (Continuation award total - \$350,000) The goal of this program is to provide training and technical assistance to VOCA victim assistance service providers and others who work with crime victims. Activities funded through this program may include, but are not limited to, the establishment or enhancement of state victim assistance academies (SVAA), statewide training initiatives, crime victim-related conferences, basic training for new programs, or scholarships to attend conferences and/or training for service providers and others who work with victims of crime. The Victim Assistance Committee recommended the following:
  - a. Award the victim service training agencies at current award amounts for a total of \$350,000. *See TAB F.*
  - b. Award Georgia Center for Child Advocacy at its current award amount of \$100,000, with the contingency of an approved project proposal outlining any program scope changes and the transition of project staff. *See TAB F.*

After hearing the OVC recommendations from the Committee and with no further questions or discussion, Director Pete Skandalakis made a motion to accept the recommendations presented; Mr. Joe Hood seconded, and the motion carried.

Finally, Ms. Carter presented the following updates to the Council on behalf of the Victim Assistance Division:

- I. Regarding the VOCA Emergency Assistance Awards -In response to unforeseen needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, VAD released an emergency assistance application/request on Monday, March 30, 2020. VAD has reviewed these applications on a rolling basis, two-times per week, and made recommendations for final approval on a weekly basis. Requests included: safety and sanitation – PPE, cleaning supplies, hygiene supplies, etc.; hotel expenses for program participants seeking safe shelter; emergency housing and financial assistance for clients; food and supplies for outreach clients and those in hotels; staff overtime/stipends; and equipment and technology to allow for teleworking. CJCC has made 97 awards totaling \$2,802,101. *See TAB G.*

- II. Regarding the Georgia Survivor Advisory Council – The GSAC was established to advise and assist the CJCC on matters related to victims of crime, including but not limited to education and awareness initiatives, grant funding priorities, training efforts, and policy recommendations. Its purpose is to ensure that these state efforts are victim-centered, effective, and responsive to the needs of diverse victims. The goal of GSAC is to provide an ongoing dialogue between survivors and the state – discussing gaps in services and the need for additional services, while supporting those who have experienced trauma. Members will share their unique thoughts and experiences to impact positive change in Georgia communities. Applications were accepted earlier this year and CJCC received over 40 applications. Applications were reviewed by CJCC staff and narrowed down to the top 20 ranking applicants. Interviews with the applicants concluded Friday, June 19, and final selections for the initial 15 members of the Survivor Advisory Council were notified at the end of August. CJCC plans to release another application opportunity in 2021 to fill the remaining 5 vacancies.
- III. Regarding the Georgia Human Trafficking Response - As of October 1, 2020, the Children’s Advocacy Center-Georgia (CACGA) will assume the role as the statewide service provider for minor human trafficking services in Georgia. Intake reports and all victim services currently offered through Georgia Cares will transition to CACGA for newly reported victims and will also continue without interruption for victims who are currently receiving services. A new hotline number is forthcoming and will be promoted internally and externally in partnership with the Governor’s Office, state agency partners, and non-profits in the coming days to promote awareness ahead of the October 1, 2020 transition date. Five applicants responded to the competitive RFA and proposals were reviewed by an external review panel that consisted of representatives from the Governor’s Office, DFCS, DJJ, OCA, Georgia Court Appointed Special Advocates, CJCC, and the Safe Harbor Commission. CACGA was determined to have the strongest proposal and was selected as the new provider for service delivery. Since the close of the RFA selection process, CJCC has been working closely with CACGA, the Governor’s Office, DFCS, DJJ, OCA, the Receiving Hope Center, and the Safe Harbor Commission to update the statewide service delivery plan and coordinate the transition of services.

Chairman Maurer then thanked Ms. Carter and Mr. Thornton for their reports and for all the work of the Committees.

## Adjourn

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With no further business, Chairman Maurer also thanked members of the Council for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:42 AM. The next full Council meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2020 and will be held virtually.