

Justice Assistance Council Meeting – Minutes

March 11, 2019 9:00 AM
Fallen Heroes Conference Room
Department of Public Safety
45 Commerce Drive
Augusta Maine 04333

Meeting called by: Chief Robert Moulton

Type of meeting: Council Meeting

Facilitator: Janet Joyeux

Attendees: Chief Robert Moulton, Ted Glessner, Amy Heino, Janet Joyeux, Lisa Marchese, Colin O’Neil, Heather Putnam, John Rogers, Commissioner Michael Sauschuck, Elizabeth Ward Saxl, Francine Stark

Guests: Robert Chicoria

**Attendees by
Telcon:** None

Absent: Ryan Thornell, Major Chris Grotton, Sheriff Jeff Trafton, Chief Jack Peck

Minutes

Agenda item: Minutes of last meeting

Presenter: Chief Robert Moulton

Chief Moulton asked if there was any discussion on the last meeting minutes.

There was no discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the last meeting Minutes

A vote was held and the JAC voted to accept the Meeting Minutes of December 10, 2018

Agenda item: Senior Planner Vacancy

Presenter: Janet Joyeux

Janet related that Tracy Poulin, the former Senior Planner, has taken a new position within the Service Center. The Department of Public Safety is in the process of selecting a replacement with 9 applications received. Five of the applicants have been granted interviews that are scheduled for this week. The interviewers will be Janet, John Rogers and a yet to be named individual from the Service Center.

There was no discussion.

Agenda item: Byrne JAG Grant Strategic Plan

Presenter: Janet Joyeux

General Discussion:

Janet opened the discussion. The FFY 19 Byrne JAG solicitation is yet to be released; however, it is expected that, similar to the FFY 18 STOP grant, the Federal government will ask for an updated Byrne JAG Strategic Plan. The Byrne JAG plan was last updated by the Muskie School of Public Service in 1999-2000.

There is funding available under the FFY 17 Byrne JAG Administration Subgrant to fund the contracting with the Muskie School or another analogous entity to develop a strategic plan. It was noted that New Hampshire is undertaking a like task. It was questioned if a contract could be awarded to the Muskie School as a sole source. The sole sourcing will have to be researched for a determination.

A motion was made, seconded (Rogers/O'Neil) and passed to begin the process of developing a Byrne JAG Strategic Plan by contracting with an outside agency.

Agenda item: RSAT RFP(s)

Presenter: Janet Joyeux

General Discussion:

Janet stated funding is available for grants from Federal FY 17 and FY 18. There is \$64,688 available in FFY 17 and \$142,932 in FFY 18 for a total of \$207,620. The FY 19 Federal RSAT solicitation and Maine's funding level have not been released but are expected by the end of April.

Her question was does the JAC wish to proceed with an RSAT RFP for FFY17 and FFY 18 now and wait for FFY 19 award to release a second RFP or simply wait until FFY 19 amount is known to release one RFP encompassing all three Federal Fiscal Years?

Only county jails and the state prison system are eligible for funding under RSAT.

There was some discussion that the state prison system has to deal with some significant items soon including Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT) for prisoners. It was also mentioned that the state budget is not finalized at this point and this adds another level of uncertainty to the process.

A motion was made, seconded (Stark/Ward Saxl) and passed table voting on releasing the RFP until the June meeting, but to have DPS begin the preparation for the RFP process now inclusive of FFY 17 through FFY 19.

Agenda item: STOP RFP

Janet Joyeux

Janet opened with a brief digest of the remaining funding available under the current FFY 16, FFY 17 and FFY 18 Stop grants funded by the Federal Violence Against Women Act. There are relatively substantial amounts still available for Law Enforcement and Prosecution areas. The total available is \$666,648. The FFY 19 Solicitation has not been released.

There was concern expressed that releasing an RFP now would not result in receiving proposals for the Law Enforcement and Prosecution categories. There was discussion of funding some aspects under the Law Enforcement and Prosecution areas over an extended period especially if the agencies can demonstrate that they have attempted to obtain funding from the Legislature or county governments and have been unsuccessful. Formerly these areas have been considered 'pilot projects' and only funded for a limited startup period. It was questioned how the JAC would then evaluate proposals. Currently the JAC does not have fixed parameters for such an evaluation. Federal STOP guidelines do support core services.

There was concern expressed that holding off on the RFP might leave some entities without funding, although there was agreement that for the two categories with the bulk of the funding holding off would be ok. Generally, except for Victim Services, the JAC has funded the first three years and it is expected that the agencies will get other funding for their efforts.

It was suggested that sending additional information out through the Maine Chiefs of Police Association might generate some interest in applying for these funds. They could highlight past and current programs that can be funded from this grant.

Francine would like to see a course offered to subgrantees to help them write proposals. Also sees difference between Victim Services being allowed to have ongoing projects, but Law Enforcement not being provided the same leeway. John says it hasn't been resolved because the group can't agree. He thinks 3 years is long enough and then let other entities apply. No consensus of opinion was reached.

A motion was made, seconded (Ward Saxl/Glessner) and passed to have DPS begin the preparation for the RFP process now inclusive of FFY 16 through FFY 19 funding but the actual vote to release an RFP will be held at the next JAC meeting in June.

New Business JAC Board Membership

Presenters: Elizabeth Ward Saxl,
Janet Joyeux

The JAC Board was established by executive order and last updated in 2000-2001. The composition needs an update, possibly to include a representative from the Tribal areas. Elizabeth and Francine Stark are to provide a recommended update to the Governor's staff to revise the executive order.

Current Board Members Actions:

1. Major Grotton – Submit application for reappointment.
2. Chief Moulton – Submit application for selection as chair.
3. Elizabeth Ward Saxl – Submit application for the Victims Services Representative seat with JAC approval.

Motion/second (Stark/Sauschuck), voted to move Ward Saxl to Seat #7 Victims Services.

New Business Future Meeting Dates

Presenter: Chief Moulton

The JAC agreed that future quarterly meetings will be held on the second Monday of the month from 9:00 – 11:00 AM at the Fallen Heroes Conference Room at the Department of Public Safety.

June 3, 2019

September 9, 2019

December 9, 2019

March 9, 2020

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.