



STATE OF MINNESOTA

Violent Crime Coordinating Council

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St. Paul Asst. Chief Ken Reed, Chair ; Duluth Chief Gordon Ramsay, Vice- Chair

MEETING MINUTES FOR 4/11/2012 OF THE VIOLENT CRIME COORDINATING COUNCIL (VCCC)

Council members in attendance: Carol Kayser, Assistant U.S. Attorney (for B. Todd Jones); David Voigt, Deputy Attorney General ; Cari Gerlicher DOC; Dave Bjerga (for Wade Setter), BCA; Chris Benson, White Earth Police Department; Sheriffs Representatives: John Kirkwood (for Matt Bostrom), Jim Jensen and Kip Carver (for Rich Stanek); Chiefs of Police Representatives: Gordon Ramsay, Michael Goldstein, Scott Gerlicher (for Tim Dolan), and Ken Reed; County Attorney Representative: Hilary Caligiuri; Citizen Representatives: Hector Garcia and Melvin Carter.

Guests: Jared Jordal, Director of Government Relations, Department of Public Safety, Dan Rothstein, DOC.

Office of Justice Program staff: Sue Perkins, State Program Administrator and Kristin Lail, Grants Manager.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions followed by the meeting being called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chair Ken Reed.

Meeting materials included: agenda, 2/08/2012 meeting minutes, letters to councils of color, multijurisdictional task force funding state survey results, statewide coordinator's report, MPCA 3M permit process information, and VCCC committee structure handout

Action on 2/08/12 meeting minutes: Motion by Voigt and second by Ramsay to approve with two changes- Previous meeting minutes approved were from the 12/14/11 meeting and noting that Hilary Caligiuri was present but not representing Ben Bejar. Motion passed.

Action on 4/11/12 agenda: Goldstein asked that data update be moved up on the agenda as he had to depart early. Motion was made by Goldstein and second by Jensen to approve revised agenda. Motion passed.

DPS LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Jared Jordal provided a handout and an update on new laws passed by the 2012 legislature, pending bills that were still alive, and dead initiatives that are no longer under consideration in this session.

DATA SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT (Chief Goldstein)

- 1) Criminal Intelligence bill: Law enforcement representatives from Hennepin County, Bloomington and Plymouth testified at the hearing and met with a high level of misinformation and distrust from legislators. He recommends viewing or listening to the March 13th hearing online to hear the tenor of the exchanges. The bill did not pass out of committee. Other law enforcement topics, like MNJAC, just had just a few minutes remaining in the hearing after the lengthy criminal intelligence discussion. VCCC will target legislators for educational efforts in coming year.
- 2) Subcommittee meeting at BCA: Subcommittee members had a good meeting at BCA reviewing the gang module in the case management system. The vendor would like to work with the state and it appears to be a good system. Action must wait until decision is made about the pointer system. The state auditor is also looking at data systems.
- 3) Feedback on gang criteria: Copies of written comments received were distributed including thoughtful feedback from attorneys on VCCC. Subcommittee can to respond to each submission in the method it was sent (e-mail, letter, etc.) Carter and Reed have met to discuss specific concerns such as parental notification, which may require a legislative change. Golstein noted that the three main components are a) identification via the criteria, b) intervention, which would include parental notification and auditing and c) data management, including data review and purging process. Caligiuri agreed that not all input must be incorporated into the criteria, but should be included in the package for context. Voight noted that the Commissioner needs to be informed of community concerns in the presentation of the revised gang criteria. Golstein agreed and identified several comments which were particularly directed toward the criteria. Garcia agreed that the context is as important as the criteria.

Action on gang criteria: Motion by Ramsay and second by Garcia directing the Data Subcommittee to incorporate appropriate changes to the gang criteria based on community input and prepare a package for the Commissioner of the Department of Public Safety that includes the revised criteria, documentation of the revision process and highlights community concerns. Motion passed. Reed noted that the subcommittee will complete a draft of the criteria and package in May and will note any issues for VCCC discussion. NOTE: All VCCC members will be informed of the date of the subcommittee meeting and are welcome to attend.

OJP UPDATE

Perkins reviewed letters to Councils of Color from the Attorney General's liaison and thank you to Hector Garcia for his participation. She also handed out a task force map with grant amounts and highlighted a few revisions and appeals which were settled. Bushman was at a meeting in Washington DC and provided a written report including training, audit process and MPCA drug disposal process. Contact information is included in the handout.

Perkins highlighted a survey of state agencies on funding sources noting that JAG remains the primary funder, but some also have state appropriations, dedicated revenue sources, other funding sources such other federal grants and forfeiture. A confidential list of task force commanders and cell phone numbers was also provided.

The state auditor's office has completed three task force audits and four more are pending. There were a few findings in each but no significant red flags. They will be reviewed by the professional standards subcommittee and remedial actions will be tracked by Bushman.

The final handout is a revised VCCC subcommittee structure combining professional standards and accountability and adding a new subcommittee on community engagement.

Professional Standards & Accountability Committee

Caligiuri noted that monitoring task force performance is a key responsibility of VCCC and all members should review auditor's and Bushman's reports. Gerlicher agreed and proposed changing the final performance monitoring bullet to read, "...recommendations to the Council who will then make recommendations to the Commissioner of public Safety..." She also requested a timeframe for subcommittee review suggesting that all audits reviewed 14 days before a VCCC meeting will be reviewed at the meeting. Others will carry over to the next quarterly meeting. The committee will plan to review the first seven audits for the June meeting.

11:30 Break for lunch—VCCC reconvened at Noon.

Community Engagement Committee

Perkins reviewed the VCCC subcommittee structure and highlighted the new Community Engagement Subcommittee, developed from the roundtable idea, which is part of the strategic plan and the tactical plan. A first task for this committee will be engaging a representative from the Hmong Council. Continued participation from the Latino, African American and American Indian communities will support the VCCC.

Governance Committee

Chief Ramsay reviewed progress on the priorities in the Tactical Action Plan. Priority 1 is working with the Chief's Association to educate state legislators about the data practices statute. Goldstein, Caligiuri, Reed and Kirkwood volunteered to assist. Priority 2 includes conducting a post-mortem on gang net. Priority 3 is new ground and performance measures will need to be established for community engagement. Perkins recommended a few good task force models including Owatonna's community meetings and Dakota County's annual report. Garcia recommended the roundtable process and Carter volunteered to participate. Priority 4 was supported by Perkins' survey of other states on financial support for task forces. Priority 5 will be completing the Statewide Strategic Framework which highlights the VCCC strategic priorities and links to the tactical plan. Comments on the draft are due to Perkins by May 1st and final will be presented for approval at the next meeting.

Retreat Planning

Perkins also asked for input on the fall annual retreat topics, location and format. Members suggested the following topics:

- update on the tactical plan
- discuss community input issues--separate from the 9 point criteria
- update from Bob on Task Force issues
- highlight changes to the new forfeiture law
- highlight changes to the operating guidelines from audits

Recommended location will be in Northeast Minnesota and ideas for meeting format include:

- invite community leaders from that area in for feedback
- invite legislative leaders from that area and judiciary committee members
- work with Chiefs' and Sheriff's Associations to survey legislators about law enforcement issues and concerns
- Consider that October may be campaign time and that the December meeting may be better to reach newly elected legislators
- reaching individual members 1-on-1 before and after VCCC is critical
- partner with Rich Neumeister in meetings with legislators—check his blog for latest focus

The Governance Committee will put together a draft agenda for the fall retreat.

NEW BUSINESS

Reed will be moving to a new position at the SPPD, but will continue at VCCC chair.

There have been a number of good cases made recently by task forces, some have made the news and some have not, but all have made a difference in communities.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Gerlicher, seconded by Bjerga and passed. The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Kristin Lail, OJP