

# PIS Minutes

**November 13, 2008**

**2:30 – 5:00pm**

**150 East 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**Attendance:** David Kaplan, Paul Herman, Germaine Miera, Carl Blesch, Caroline Turner, Tim Hand, Greg Mauro

## **CCJJ Retreat update:**

- Altogether 97 recommendations were created → oversight committee, in two meetings reduced to 74 → 2 day CCJJ retreat reduced to 66 (some done away with, some combined).
- Recommendation document:
  - Items were originally numbered by task force, now broken into categories (legislation, business practice, general principles, and cost savings) and renumbered.
  - Governor has seen recommendations with discussion, but will not see whole report until after the next commission meeting.

## **Governor's Meeting**

- Review of the Governor's Meeting with the CCJJ Commission and OSPB's recidivism reduction package.
  - The Governor met with the group two weeks ago.
  - Discussed the Governor's OSPB Recidivism Reduction plan and how that correlates (or not) with the CCJJ recommendations.
  - The Governor tried to present the two plans as being complimentary to each other. However, a lot of what the Governor said was tentative about the amount of support would be that he would give to the recommendations.
  - The Governor's legislative liaison will be attending the Commission meeting tomorrow to talk about what recommendations might be pushed forward legislatively.
  - We are on the right track, the first step was the 'what', the next steps are the 'how'
  - Can some of the recommendations go to the legislation drafting group to start getting words on paper.
  - We will get this process more defined after the meeting tomorrow.

## **Review Proposed Next Steps**

- Identify issues that surfaced in the summer session of Task Force meetings but were not pursued due to time constraints
- Develop an action and implementation plan for the recommendations approved by the Commission.
- Explore the possible issues that were not initially identified or pursued.

## **Approved Recommendations → identify plan/next steps for items given back to TF**

- L11
  - What are the steps to move this forward?

- The belief is that this would cost millions per county to launch.
- From an implementation standpoint, what can we do with this recommendation?
- This is going to cost a large amount of money, without funds this cannot work.
- This would really help to place 'hard to place' offenders. This would really benefit the higher risk populations if they are on secure land.
- In Denver, the sheriff's department does have a hand in running the community corrections facilities and community corrections violators can easily be sent back to jail.
- Could this end up in a recidivism reduction package?
- L12
  - This does not need to be legislative, there is nothing in statute that would prohibit this from happening simply administratively now. However, if there is a change in the parole board or board chair, it may not work.
  - This change could be pushed through administratively by Ari, but again, without legislation to back it up it could veer off course.
- BP60
  - There will be push back from the DA's council, this should be legislative.
  - Should we have the chair of the parole board approve this plan for a year and do research during that year and then see the outcome. Can we sell it to 'try it' for a year, and then try to sell it legislatively.
- CS64
  - Should this be a cost savings issue or a legislative issue?
  - This needs legislative change because if you want to give credit on the back end, the parole board can do that. If you want credit against incarceration time (your inside time), then that needs to be credit for time served.
  - Legislative change will make this recommendation cleaner. Let's make this a legislative recommendation.
- CS65
  - Officers are funded by caseloads, so a TV unit would require FTE (that DOC does not have).
  - However, it looks like there might be some potential to move this forward (in collaboration with probation) under a JAG grant.

### **What happens next?**

- The newly incoming Executive Director will take on a lot of the work that needs to be done by the Commission in regards to moving recommendations forward.

### **Issues Not Yet Pursued → don't want to lose items that were never really pursued.**

- Take a look at the parole board, do we want to revamp it?
  - The request is going to go in soon for funding for the analysis of the parole board, this may be done in the first quarter of the next calendar year, assuming the request gets off to JHET soon.
  - Let's see what happens with the JHET evaluation and then revisit the matter.
  - This is part of the Commission's work

- As JHET looks at and analyzes parole, maybe PIS should continue looking at the **structure** of the system (look at the Virginia model-should you even have parole?).
- JHET will look at improving **current** system, but maybe the Commission (and PIS Task Force) should look at a **different system** altogether.
- Revisit Christie Donner's evaluation document.
- We should have a recommendation that addresses the homeless population problem. This is a huge problem, especially in the Denver Metro area.
  - We have a recommendation that addresses this (that came forth from the Transition Task Force).
  - Denver is in the process of opening up 15 beds for homeless pilot project, if this pilot is successful, the Denver city jail will look at 50-60 beds and DCJ's office of Community Corrections will pay for them.
  - Two parole officers are currently assigned specifically to homeless, this is a huge issue.
  - The DOC re-entry folks are trying to address this issue but more resources need to be located.
  - According to the Piton Foundation, the population of homeless parolees is 38%. Of the ten guys releasing from prison, 4 of them have nowhere to go.
  - Again, we do not need to pursue this in the PIS Task Force as the Transition Task Force along with the Executive Director working group will be addressing this issue.

**Identify New Items → anything you may have thought of over the last few months.**

### **Escape White Paper**

- The white paper that was requested by the Task Force is circulated
- There is a recommendation to have an Escape statute that addresses Escape in the first degree and Escape in the second degree
- Offenders escape in first 30 days and again at 4 months. Are the 4 month escapes really an 'economic escape'? They realize they will just never get ahead financially with all their payments and throw in the towel.

**Review Charter → are we following, does anything need to be tweaked**

### **Other Miscellaneous issues**

#### **Future meetings:**

A meeting is set for Friday January 9<sup>th</sup> at 9a.m.

At that point we will revisit the direction and future of the PIS Task Force