



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

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Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee Meeting October 3, 2019

Members Present

Chief Craig Branch
Ms. Angie Carrera
Ms. Francine Horne
Mr. David Johnson
Mr. Edward Macon
Ms. Victoria Pearson
Chief James Williams

Members Absent

Sheriff Vanessa Crawford

I. Call to Order

Chief James Williams called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.

II. Roll Call

Chief Williams asked Ms. DeAndrea Williams to conduct the Roll Call. Ms. Williams stated there was a quorum with five members present (Ms. Pearson and Ms. Carrera arrived after the roll was taken).

III. Adoption of Agenda

Chief Williams announced that, without objection, the Committee would adopt the meeting Agenda as presented. There were no objections.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Chief Williams called for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 2, 2019 meeting. Mr. Edward Macon made the motion, seconded by Chief Craig Branch, to accept the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Grant Review

A. Law Enforcement

An overview of the Law Enforcement grants that were before the Committee for consideration was provided by Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) staff.

Byrne JAG Law Enforcement Equipment (ANTI) FY20

Mr. Thomas Fitzpatrick, Division Director of Programs and Services presented on the Byrne/JAG 18 month grants for Programs and Services section. Grants were independently scored within each division by DCJS Monitors. He provided recommendations for the following funding areas, for a total recommendation of \$666,939:

- Automated System Notification: 2 grants
- Gun Violence: 2 grants
- Youth Engagement: 5 grants
- Trauma Informed Care: 1 grant
- Gang & Drug Crime Redc.: 0 grants

Byrne JAG Law Enforcement Equipment (ANTI) FY20

Mr. Erik Smith, Acting Division Director of Law Enforcement presented on the Byrne/JAG 18 month grants. He noted that they had the same review process with a couple of outside reviewers. Each grant application had two reviewers to come up with the initial score, and then went onto the other rounds of internal review. DCJS received 23 applications on the Law Enforcement side and recommended funding for 15. The different applications all went through various internal and external reviewers, all utilizing the same scoring process. Bonus points were awarded for accredited agencies and certified crime prevention communities and campuses as noted in the solicitation.

Mr. Smith also presented on the Byrne/JAG 9 month grants. DCJS received approximately 80 applications. The vast majority of them were equipment related. DCJS recommended funding for 36. Applications were reviewed by internal and external reviewers all utilizing the same scoring sheet. Bonus points were awarded for accredited agencies and certified crime prevention communities and campuses. Because this grant had a focus on smaller agencies, agencies under 50 officers also received bonus points. The cut off was 57 points and that was due to funding limits.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. David Johnson commended Mr. Fitzpatrick on his document. He also mentioned Woodrow Wilson State Police looking out of place. Mr. Smith commented that they were asking for a utility vehicle and that wasn't allowed. Mr. Albert Stokes noted that the criteria for Law Enforcement agencies changed in 2016 and mentioned that Woodrow Wilson was not a Law Enforcement agency.

Mr. Smith also presented the Byrne/JAG Continuation grants. There were 15 localities that were eligible. 14 requested continuation funding. DCJS recommended that they all be funded. Law

Enforcement Monitors have reviewed their progress reports and all are keeping up with their requirements and making satisfactory progress.

A motion was made by Chief Craig Branch, seconded by Mr. Edward Macon, that the Committee recommend approval of the \$3,843,260 to the Board. The motion passed unanimously; there were two recusals (Chief Williams – Staunton City Sherriff’s Office and Chief Branch – Germanna Community College, Culpeper Police Department, and Spotsylvania County Sherriff’s Office).

B. Adult Services

An overview of the Adult Services grants that were before the Committee for consideration was provided by DCJS staff.

Comprehensive Opioid and Addiction Program (COAP) FY20

Mr. Andy Warriner, Manager, DCJS Adult Services Section, presented on the Comprehensive Opioid Abuse Site-based Program (COAP) grants which are federally funded for the purposes of assisting localities develop, implement, and enhance existing services to help individuals that come in contact with the criminal justice system after opioid use disorder. For this round of solicitations there was \$792,000 available. DCJS received 6 applications for a total request of \$1,133,429. The selection team consisted of the Department of Behavioral Health staff and DCJS staff. DCJS recommended reduced funding for Loudoun County as the amount of rent for housing program participants was excessive. The selection team did not recommend funding for OAR Jefferson because the team had concerns about sustainability, and Central Va. CSB because of the concerns for demonstrated needs for that area and sustainability.

The team recommended that the remaining funds of \$72,770 be made available to the four selected programs to be used to train staff to facilitate Moral Recognition Therapy (MRT), which is a type of behavioral therapy aimed at decreasing the likelihood of someone returning to abusing substances or alcohol. MRT utilizes a combination of psychological practices to improve moral reasoning and positive identity.

DISCUSSION:

Chief Williams asked if there was going to be a process for the MRT Training. Mr. Warriner explained the selected programs will be asked to apply for training funds via a letter. DCJS staff will vet the applications for training and allocate funding based on the needs of the programs. Chief Williams asked would that process require them to come back to the Grants Committee for approval. Mr. Albert Stokes, Grants Manager suggested “No” with a follow-up clarification by Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick.

A motion was made by Mr. David Johnson, seconded by Ms. Angie Carrera, that the Committee recommend approval of the four selected applicants in the amount of \$719,230 and allow DCJS to utilize the leftover funds and distribute as they see fit for those invited to apply for the MRT Training program. The motion passed unanimously; there were no recusals.

Comprehensive Community Corrections Act (CCCA) FY20

Mr. Andy Warriner, Manager, DCJS Adult Services Section, stated that at the May meeting the Committee recommended \$24,873,360 to fund all CCCA/PSA programs at the amount they requested (continuation, 12 month funding). After funding all CCCA/PSA programs, \$72,495 of the FY20 CCCA/PSA appropriation was unallocated.

DJCS asks the permission of the Committee to distribute the \$72,495 in unallocated funding to the CCCA/PSA programs. DCJS will work with the Virginia Community Criminal Justice Association (VCCJA) to help identify needs that fall within the parameters of the CCCA/PSA appropriation.

DISCUSSION:

Mr. Tom Fitzpatrick mentioned that state appropriation ends June 30, 2019 and stated that DCJS Director, Shannon Dion has spoken to the association to see how they think the funding would be best spend. Mr. Johnson asked if these funds could be used for any purpose. Mr. Fitzpatrick mentioned that it cannot be used for DCJS administrative costs as that's the way the appropriation is written. He also mentioned that they would report back to the Committee at the next meeting on how the decision was made and how the funds were allocated out for reassurance. For previous years, the same applicants have received the same amount of money with some adjustments based on the review of the Appropriations Act. Mr. David Johnson mentioned that he felt like the request was too open ended and he wasn't sure what he was voting on. Mr. Fitzpatrick provided additional information for clarity. Ms. Victoria Pearson asked in regards to those that were previously approved by the CJSB, was everyone approved to the max of what they requested. Mr. Fitzpatrick responded yes with additional explanation. Ms. Angie Carrera asked what's the likelihood that it could still be unspent. Mr. Fitzpatrick said if they can make a determination in the next month or two, the funds would likely be spent.

A motion was made by Chief Craig Branch, seconded by Ms. Francine Horne, that the Committee recommend approval of staff allocating to pay additional funds to programs that the CJSB has already approved (either Pre-Trial or Probation). The motion passed unanimously; there were no recusals.

C. Juvenile Services

An overview of the Juvenile Services grants that were before the Committee for consideration was provided by DCJS staff.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (JJDP) FY20

Ms. Laurel Marks, Manager, Juvenile Services Section, explained that the Committee is receiving this report for information purposes not for a vote, as the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act requires that the advisory committee formed under the JJDP Act, in Virginia, the Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice and Prevention (ACJJP), have an opportunity to review and comment on each competitive grant application. The ACJJP met on September 18 and reviewed grants.

DCJS had three solicitations and received application in each:

- Alternative Interventions for Status Offenders: 4 Applications Received
- Racial and Ethnic Disparity Planning and Interventions: 2 Applications Received
- One-Time Needs: 8 Applications Received

The ACJJP is recommending funding as indicated in the handout.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Victoria Pearson asked for a breakdown of the grants so the Committee would know which localities applied for what solicitation. Ms. Marks provided the breakdown.

D. Victim Services

An overview of the Victims Services grants that were before the Committee for consideration was provided by DCJS staff.

Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) CY20

Ms. Kristina Vadas, Manager, DCJS Victims Services Section, explained that these grants are supported through federal funds from the Office on Violence Against Women under the Violence Against Women Act. This was a competitive solicitation for CY20 awards and DCJS received 20 applications for this project. DCJS is recommending awards to 19 local sexual and domestic violence agencies or stand-alone sexual assault agencies as both were eligible to apply. The one that was not recommended was Hope House and they scored significantly lower on their application than all the other programs. The review team felt that the applicant did not significantly describe the need or how the project would be managed or how the project would be implemented. Their score was an 8. The total recommended is \$446,931.

A motion was made by Chief Craig Branch, seconded by Mr. Edward Macon. The motion passed unanimously; there were no recusals.

Violence Against Women Continuation (VAWA) CY20

Ms. Kristina Vadas, Manager, DCJS Victims Services Section, explained that these grants did not require a vote but she did want to provide an update on the 2nd year of a three year cycle award. This is for programs that support sexual assault and domestic violence and stalking. This also falls under the Office on Violence Against Women under the Violence Against Women Act. There are 90 grant awards totaling \$4,156,959. No funding under this grant program supports Victim Assistance Academies.

Ms. Kristina Vadas, Manager, DCJS Victims Services Section also presented the Special Initiative VSTOP grant to the Va. Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance totaling \$338,104 including match for the underserved populations learning collaborative project. Statewide initiative among the Action Alliance, DCJS, and VDSS. They are finishing up the first cohort at the beginning of 2020. They have 20 local programs participating. They will be starting the second cohort soon thereafter. This grant supports two staff positions.

A motion was made by Chief Craig Branch, seconded by Ms. Angie Carrera. The motion passed unanimously; there were no recusals.

VI. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to report.

VII. New Business

Grants Manager Albert Stokes presented to the Committee that at times sub-grantees do not spend their full allocation of funding. Despite monitoring each grant's progress, staff is not made aware of this until near the end of the grant period. This scenario often results in unexpended federal funds that are returned to the federal government. In an effort to minimize this occurrence, Mr. Stokes inquired whether the committee was comfortable permitting the Director, Shannon Dion the authority to expend those funds as we near the end of a grant period. He also noted that timing is generally an issue given the set meeting dates for the committee and the full CJSB.

DISCUSSION:

Ms. Angie Carrera asked what types of expenditures the agency would consider with the remaining funds. Mr. Stokes explained that it depends on the funding stream and allowable costs associated with the funding stream. He responded that funding would not be used internally and would support field based programs and/or initiatives.

Chief Craig Branch inquired as to whether there is an option that DCJS can state on the solicitation that remaining funds not expended by a given date would revert back to DCJS. Chief Branch also asked if there is there a penalty for sub-grantees that are repeat offenders. Mr. Stokes mentioned the issues would still remain. DCJS does have risk assessments in place for some of our programs, but not across the board. Program and Services Division Director, Tom Fitzpatrick provided an explanation and example of how we end up with leftover funds due to position vacancies or program restraints.

Mr. David Johnson provided a suggestion that we put parameters on the delegation of authority such as a dollar amount. Mr. Mark Fero mentioned that consistently we are sending back about 10% of the award. Chief James Williams mentioned he didn't have a problem with the idea, however there is always accountability. The Director would need to subsequently report back to the Committee how the funds were spent. Mr. David Johnson asked would it always be additional spending on programs that the CJSB previously approved. Ms. Victoria Pearson stated the need to establish some type of governance and have the reporting consistent with that governance. Mr. David Johnson asked Mr. Stokes to place this topic on the agenda for the next meeting as a very specific proposal mentioning the authority we would be giving the Director and what a reasonable amount would be based on our past history on what goes unspent so that she has specific parameters so that she is accountable. The recommendation should be presented each year based on DCJS's projections of what will go unspent and as outlined in the policy that will give the Director the ability to allocate funding. Ms. Victoria Pearson suggested that the Committee have the parameters by the next meeting and then a future meeting with the Director should be set.

VIII. Announcements

Chief Williams announced that the next meeting would be determined at a later date.

IX. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

X. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:56 AM with a motion by Ms. Angie Carrera.