



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Department of Criminal Justice Services

The Honorable Jackson H. Miller
Director

Tracy Louise Winn Banks, Esq.
Chief Deputy Director

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Criminal Justice Services Board Grants Committee Meeting (VIRTUAL)

February 22, 2024

Members Present

Chief Craig Branch, Chair
Sheriff Brian Hieatt
Maria Jankowski
Officer Bennie Evans, Jr.
Ebony Clark
Russell (Rusty) McGuire
*Kristi Wright (Proxy for
Karl Hade)

Members Absent

I. Call to Order

Chief Craig Branch called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM

II. Roll Call

Chief Branch asked DeAndrea Williams to conduct the Roll Call. DeAndrea stated there was a quorum with seven members present.

III. Introductions

Chief Branch officially welcomed Rusty McGuire to the Grants Committee.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Chief Branch called for corrections, deletions, and/or additions to the minutes from the November 20, 2023 meeting. A motion was made by Sheriff Brian Hieatt to approve the minutes and was seconded by Maria Jankowski.

V. Grant Review

- a. **Byrne/Justice Assistance Option 5 Out-of-State Lateral Grant Program for Independent Criminal Justice Training Academies (BJAG) – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section Manager, Tracy Matthews**

The purpose of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (“JAG”) funds is to allow states and units of local government, including tribes, to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime based on their own state and local needs and conditions. As the State Administrative Agency (SAA), DCJS has the responsibility of managing the coordination and distribution of JAG funds in a manner that supports and improves the overall criminal justice system of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

This funding opportunity was used to fund reasonable expenses associated with operating an Option 5 Out-of-State Lateral Training Program through the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Training Academy.

DCJS received and reviewed one (1) application. Staff requested approval to award \$129,524.00 in federal JAG funds to support Option 5 Academy at the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Training Academy.

No applications were denied.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund one (1) award, totaling \$129,524.00, for an 18-month period (4.1.2024 - 12.31.2025), using federal JAG funds allocated for this purpose.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Rusty McGuire. The motion passed by majority vote.

b. Byrne/Justice Assistance Regional CJTA Equipment and Training (BJAG) – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section Manager, Tracy Matthews

This formula-based funding opportunity was open to Regional Criminal Justice Training Academies only. Many factors were utilized, including a base allocation, financial stress, and number of officers trained to determine the maximum amount of the award for each agency.

DCJS received and reviewed applications from ten (10) of the eleven (11) eligible regional academies. Staff requested the approval to award \$854,880.00 in federal JAG funds to 10 Regional Criminal Justice Training Academies.

No applications were denied. One eligible academy did not apply for internal reasons.

DCJS staff requested approval to fund ten (10) projects for the 9-month period (4.1.2024 - 12.31.2024), totaling \$854,880.00, using federal JAG funds allocated for this purpose.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Rusty McGuire, seconded by Ebony Clark. The motion passed by majority vote. Recusals are noted in the attachment to the minutes.

c. Byrne/Justice Assistance VSP Violent Crime Strategy Grant Program (BJAG) – Law Enforcement Grants and Programs Section Manager, Tracy Matthews

This funding opportunity was offered to assist the Virginia Department of State Police (VSP) with carrying out the provisions of Executive Order 26 and some of the priority areas identified by the Governor and Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security. These priorities include but are not limited to: reducing violent crime, preventing gun violence, and reducing drug overdose fatalities.

DCJS received and reviewed an application from VSP. Staff requested the approval to award \$2,000,000.00 in federal JAG funds to VSP for the above stated purpose.

No applications were denied.

DCJS staff requested approval to make one (1) award to VSP, for the 18-month period (4/1/2024 – 9/30/2025), totaling \$2,000,000.00, using federal JAG funds allocated for this purpose.

After much discussion, a motion was made by Rusty McGuire, seconded by Sheriff Brian Heatt. Ebony Clark opposed. The motion passed by majority vote.

VI. Old Business

No Old Business was brought forth at this meeting.

VII. New Business

No New Business was brought forth at this meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

No Public Comment was brought forth at this meeting.

IX. Announcements

Chief Branch announced the future meeting dates for 2024.

X. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:37am. A motion was made by Maria Jankowski, seconded by Ebony Clark. The motion passed unanimously.

Recusals

Chief Craig Branch, Chair

- Application # 523819 – Rappahannock Regional Criminal Justice Academy

Sheriff Brian Heatt

- Application # 524903 – Southwest Virginia CJA