

Draft—Awaiting Formal Approval
**MINUTES OF THE
EXECUTIVE OFFICES AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE
APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**
Friday, January 27, 2017 • 8:00 am • 25 House Building

Members Present:

Sen. Daniel W. Thatcher, Senate Chair
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings, House Chair
Rep. Bruce R. Cutler, House Vice Chair
Sen. Curtis S. Bramble
Sen. Margaret Dayton
Sen. Lincoln Fillmore
Sen. Jani Iwamoto
Sen. Peter C. Knudson
Sen. Ralph Okerlund
Rep. James A. Dunnigan
Rep. Brian S. King

Rep. Tim Quinn
Rep. Angela Romero
Rep. V. Lowry Snow
Rep. Logan Wilde

Members Absent:

Rep. Merrill F. Nelson

Staff Present:

Mr. Gary R. Syphus, Fiscal Analyst
Mr. Alexander R. Wilson, Fiscal Analyst
Ms. Debbie Benson, Administrative Assistant

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at le.utah.gov.

House Chair Hutchings called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

1. Office of the Governor

Mr. Alex Wilson, Fiscal Analyst, spoke about relevant issues regarding the Governor's Office budget and performance measures.

Mr. Duncan Evans, Budget Manager, Governor's Office of Management and Budget discussed the relevant issues regarding the Governor's Office Budget.

House Chair Hutchings and Sen. Okerlund asked questions about the relevant issues. Mr. Wilson answered these questions. Mr. Phil Dean, Budget Director & Chief Economist, Governor's Office of Management and Budget also spoke about these issues.

2. Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice

Mr. Ron Gordon, Executive Director, Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice, gave a presentation regarding CCJJ.

Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice Budget Presentation

Ms. Joanna Landau, Executive Director, Indigent Defense Commission discussed the purpose of this commission as well as grant and funding items involved with these services.

House Chair Hutchings asked several questions regarding this funding item. Mr. Gordon and Ms. Landau answered these questions. House Vice Chair Cutler asked a question regarding performance measures for public defenders. Ms. Landau answered this question.

Sen. Okerlund asked when data would be available. Ms. Landau answered that this will be a long-term project, but they are beginning the process of collecting data.

Mr. Gordon highlighted several important CCJJ issues.

House Chair discussed the successful effort regarding the information now available about the judge election process.

Ms. Jennifer Yim, Executive Director, Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission discussed the work of the Commission.

Rep. Snow discussed the great work of the Commission.

Sen. Iwamoto expressed appreciation for the information available to the public regarding judges.

Rep. King expressed appreciation for moving JPEC forward in a positive way.

Mr. Gordon continued with his presentation regarding CCJJ.

Mr. David Walsh discussed CCJJ budget issues and budget requests.

House Chair Hutchings gave some clarification to committee members about regarding jail contracting and jail reimbursement.

Mr. Walsh gave more information regarding budget allocations.

Mr. Gary R. Syphus, Fiscal Analyst, spoke about potential budget options to consider requested by the Executive Appropriations Committee.

Mr. Walsh continued his presentation regarding daily incarceration rates and jail reimbursement issues.

House Chair Hutchings explained the budget process to committee members.

Mr. Walsh discussed federal funding for CCJJ. House Chair Hutchings asked for more clarification from Mr. Walsh and Mr. Gordon.

House Chair Hutchings asked if new federal funding is becoming available. Mr. Walsh explained that the money is from the Victims of Crime Act. House Chair Hutchings asked how this new funding is being utilized. Mr. Gordon answered these questions.

Rep. Dunnigan asked about the outcomes measurements for these victims advocates.

Mr. Gary Scheller, Director, Office of Victims of Crime answered this question.

Rep. Dunnigan asked for a report about the actual services provided for the victim. Mr. Scheller replied that they would provide more detailed information for committee members.

Mr. Gordon continued to discuss federal funding.

House Chair Hutchings asked if the Legislature and/or the Governor's office was aware of the new federal dollars. Mr. Gordon answered that both the Governor's office and EAC were aware of this new funding.

Mr. Gordon explained some of the performance measures submitted to the fiscal analysts from their office.

Vice Chair Hutchings complemented CCJJ on their great work and asked them to keep the committee up-to-date on their successes.

3. Division of Juvenile Justice Services

Mr. Wilson explained why JJS reports to the committee and discussed the fact that they have one line item with a very complicated budget. He wanted to make sure the committee was apprised of the Juvenile Justice Reform. He also discussed performance measures.

Juvenile Justice Services - Base Budget Presentation - 2017 GS

Ms. Susan Burke, Director, JJS introduced other individuals from her office. She gave a presentation about JJS.

Rep. Snow mentioned how impressive the early invention program has been. He asked Ms. Burke to comment on the working relationship with the schools. Ms. Burke discussed this very positive relationship with the schools.

Rep. King asked what JJS has in place to assist youth and families with private health insurance specifically for mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Mr. Cecil Robinson, Budget Director, JJS answered this question and Ms. Burke added some clarification.

House Chair Hutchings asked JJS to communicate with the committee when they witness any type of cost shifts in the industry.

Sen. Dayton asked for information regarding respite care. Ms. Burke answered the question and continued with her presentation regarding detention reform and strengthening of their services.

House Chair Hutchings asked about evidenced-based information about the success of these programs. Ms. Burke answered this question.

Ms. Burke discussed the difficult work completed by the JJS workforce and the certification process.

House Chair Hutchings asked about the shortage of qualified workers. Ms. Burke responded to this question.

House Vice Chair Cutler mentioned that school principals are looking for full-time social workers and counselors. He asked if JJS could help with this critical need. Ms. Burke answered their work in this area.

Ms. Burke discussed recent improvements in infrastructure as well as critical needs for additional infrastructure. House Chair Hutchings asked for more detail regarding the future closing of the Decker Lake facility. Ms. Burke answered that question.

Ms. Burke discussed reallocations which have allowed them to improve employee compensation. She also discussed future needs for JJS.

Rep. Snow stated that Ms. Burke has done an excellent job of reallocating resources for a better way to assist youth.

Ms. Burke discussed the proposed reductions to the base budget. House Chair Hutchings asked for clarification regarding the budget. Mr. Wilson gave further clarification.

House Chair Hutchings explained the budget process for larger line items which provide more flexibility for the agencies. He asked for more detail from Mr. Robinson and Ms. Burke.

Ms. Burke explained that some things that are functioning well; but there are also inequities in the system.

4. Office of the Attorney General

Mr. Sean Reyes, Attorney General, briefly discussed the meeting held the night before attended by Rep. Romero regarding the perils of human trafficking. He gave an orientation to the inner-workings of the AG's office. He also discussed the challenges with budget reduction considerations.

Senate Chair Thatcher asked Mr. Reyes to discuss the criminal appeals process.

Ms. Kimberly Schmeling, Attorney General's Office distributed a handout regarding the Office of the Attorney General and the FY 2018 Budget.

MOTION: Rep. Dunnigan moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

House Chair Hutchings adjourned the meeting at 10:52 a.m.