



VIRGINIA JUVENILE JUSTICE ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center
September 14, 2007 – 9:00 a.m.

Present (members attending listed in bold print):

Beth Mohler Stinnett, President; **Robert Bermingham**, Immediate Past President; **Jim Woolf**, Vice President; **Ronald Telsch**, Secretary; Donna Baker, Treasurer; Robert Foster, Blue Ridge District Chair, Marie Bristow, Capital District Chair; R. Lynn Dotson, Northern District Chair; **P. Doug Poe**, Southwest District Chair; Paul Greggs, Tidewater District Chair, **Samantha Higgins**, Valley District Chair and Membership Chair; **Scott Warner**, Awards Committee Chair; **Lewis Wright**, Bylaws Committee Chair; Gary Conway, Editorial/Publications Chair; Katherine Farmer, Institute Planning Chair; **Sheila Hightower**, Institute Vendor Relations Chair; **Colleen French**, Public Relations Chair; Richard Hagy, Retired Member Representative; Rick Teague, Scholarship Committee Chair; **Diane Shelton** (*nee* Floyd), Training Consultant; Tina Casper, Website Committee Chair; Anthony Drakeford, Blue Ridge District Vice Chair, **Susan Farmer**, Blue Ridge District Secretary, Ben Morgan, Blue Ridge District Treasurer, Lynn Robbins, Capital District Vice Chair; Debbie Dugger, Capital District Secretary; Mishell Fricke, Capital District Treasurer; Elaine Butkiewicz, Northern District Vice Chair; Tammy Deihl, Northern District Secretary; **Ellen Patterson**, Northern District Treasurer; Jim Cornett, Southwest District Vice Chair; Neil Bramlette, Southwest District Secretary; Ron Belay, Southwest District Treasurer; Katherine Grimm, Tidewater District Vice Chair; Robin Bailey, Tidewater District Secretary; Patrick Delauder, Tidewater District Treasurer; David Smith, Valley District Vice Chair; Nancy Fenton, Valley District Secretary; Arthur Price, Valley District Treasurer.

I. Welcome and Announcements

Mr. Charles Dockery, Assistant Superintendent – Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center, welcomed the arriving Board members and provided a brief preliminary tour of the renovated conference building where our meeting was held. A facility tour was scheduled later in the day.

President Stinnett welcomed the Board and called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Including the Districts represented by proxy, the Bylaws Chair certified that a quorum was present.

Dr. Michael Ito, Superintendent – Beaumont Juvenile Correctional Center, welcomed us to his facility. He described recent changes in program and physical plant.

The Board took time to individually provide personal and professional updates from the past few months.

II. Minutes of Last Meeting

Minutes from the May 31, 2007 meeting of the Board were distributed. Lewis Wright moved and Doug Poe seconded a motion to approve them as read. The motion carried.

The Secretary distributed an updated directory of Board members and District officers for the Association. Corrections were solicited.

III. New Business

A. Bob Bermingham reported on the Nominating Committee's recent activity. The Nominating Committee is preparing its recommendations for the Annual Meeting. It was reported that interest in serving on the Board has increased this year.

B. On November 8th the VJJA will hold its Annual Business Meeting. President Stinnett asked that Bob Bermingham, Lewis Wright, and Ron Telsch coordinate the meeting.

C. President Stinnett addressed the issue of state government budget concerns and the potential impact on our conference planning.

D. JLARC and Crime Commission studies were addressed. Ron Telsch spoke on his desire to stimulate membership responses to the issues facing juvenile justice. Bob Bermingham added his concept of panel presentations by experts to address issues at our various conferences and training events.

E. President Stinnett distributed a draft proposal on 2008 Mission, Goals, and Focus Areas for the Association, and asked that the newly elected Board in 2008 begin working on establishing targeted areas of concerns on which the Association may positively impact advocacy positions.

F. President Stinnett reviewed the latest developments of the discharge planning workgroup.

IV. Finance

A. State account balances: the Treasurer was not present but sent a report indicating that as of August 31, 2007 the General Account balance was \$20,000.06 and the Institute Account reflected \$6,579.54. It appears that the IRS has now assessed taxes for 2004, and that it also appears an error in tax payments has been corrected by the State of Virginia. Coincidentally the amounts were the same. The Treasurer is authorized to pay the taxes that are due.

Jim Woolf moved and Lewis Wright seconded to accept the treasurer's report as submitted.

B. District account balances: if submitted, see individual district reports.

V. District Reports

A. Blue Ridge: Susan Farmer reported that efforts are underway to build membership within the District. They are focusing on assistance they can provide the Fall Institute, and they recently met with Katherine Farmer and President Stinnett.

- B. Capital: Lewis Wright reported that the annual Crab Feast was well attended and the afternoon training on inhalants was very informative. He also shared information on a one-day conference that was held in June that included automatic membership in VJJA as part of the training fee. Another event is being planned for January with an emphasis on expanding the membership base by involving more diverse practitioners within the juvenile justice system.
- C. Northern: Ellen Patterson reports that the District is having a slow year due to numerous and various, personal member's setbacks. They have a planned training on Anger and Depression in Adolescents that will be held on October 30th.
- D. Southwest: Doug Poe reported they also have had a slow year. They are anticipating the Fall Institute. They are looking for more membership, particularly from residential care staff.
- E. Tidewater: Diane Shelton reported on behalf of Robin Bailey, District Secretary, that they held a LAB meeting in September, and their last training was in June, *Media and Mental Health* presented by Jeff Burns. Their treasurer reports a balance of \$4064.94. They have invited Judge Jerrold Jones to help moderate their spring conference on March 27/28, 2008 to examine the differences within the system. They also are planning a training session in the fall/winter.
- F. Valley: Samantha Higgins also reported a slow period of time within the District. They are concentrating on training possibilities and sponsorship of other events.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Awards and Recognition: Scott Warner requested nominees from the Districts to be recognized at the Fall Institute being held in Roanoke.
- B. Bylaws: Lewis Wright distributed the latest official copies of the Bylaws.
- C. Institute Planning: a written synopsis report was distributed and discussed by President Stinnett. Various meetings and training events are all being planned in conjunction with the conference including the next VJJA Board meeting. The brochure and flyer has been developed; it and the registration process should be online soon. Conference rates for attendance, lodging, and, meals and incidentals are comparatively less expensive compared to previous years.
- D. Institute Vendor Relations: Sheila Hightower reported that finalized material is now prepared and will be distributed next week. They have examined marketing concepts to aid our ability in providing a better return for vendor expense.
- E. Legislative: Previously addressed during the meeting. Please forward ideas and concerns to President Stinnett. Delegate D. Marsden has sent us an official copy of his "transfer" bill that we helped garner support for during last year's General Assembly. Approval to have it framed was requested with no opposition.
- F. Membership Benefits: This post is currently vacant.

- G. Membership Recruitment and Records: Samantha Higgins reported that we closed out June with 1187 members, and that starting this year we already have 891 members renewed. Using PayPal has been a positive experience and we are in the process of adjusting our use of this service.
- H. Program Standards: This post is currently vacant.
- I. Publications: Gary Conway forwarded a written report to the Board regarding the budget for the Advocate.

The Board discussed concerns expressed by members regarding the Advocate's article on the detention of juveniles. The Board expressed interest in providing the membership with acknowledgement of the concerns in the next Advocate, including the organization's response (letter by President Stinnett), and any rebuttals offered by our members.

The eAdvocate publication has received positive feedback on its expanded format. The next deadline for submission is October 1st.

- J. Public Relations: Discussion continued on advocacy and our ability to promote best practices. Please forward suggestions to Colleen French.
- K. Resource Development: This post is currently vacant.
- L. Scholarship: Rick Teague was not present, but another request was made for requests for scholarship nominations.
- M. Training: See other sections of this report.
- N. Website: A continuing increase in website traffic. During the month of July, slightly less than 38,000 hits (inquiries) were made to our site. Sheila Hightower indicated that web presence hits are a good marketing tool for vendors.

VII. **Additional Agenda Items**

None.

Adjournment

At 2:00 p.m., Jim Woolf made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Diane Shelton and carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 6, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. in Roanoke at the annual conference site.

The next General Membership meeting will be held at the annual conference in Roanoke on November 8, 2007.

Respectfully submitted by,

Ronald E. Telsch
VJJA State Secretary

Approved this _____ day of _____ 2007

(DRAFT – not officially approved by the VJJA Board)