



KANSAS

KANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION

Honorable Ernest L. Johnson, Chairman
District Attorney Paul Morrison, Vice Chairman
Helen Pedigo, Executive Director

KATHLEEN SEBELIUS, GOVERNOR

Minutes of the Kansas Sentencing Commission Meeting

November 9, 2006

The Honorable Ernest L. Johnson, Chairman, called the Kansas Sentencing Commission meeting to order on November 9, 2006, at 1:40 p.m. in the Senate Room of the Jayhawk Tower Building, Topeka, Kansas.

Attendance:

Members:

Honorable Ernest L. Johnson, Chairman
Honorable Larry Solomon
Honorable Christel Marquardt
Senator John Vratil
Senator Greta Goodwin
Representative Janice Pauls
Representative Kevin Yoder
Roger Werholtz, Secretary, Department of Corrections
Chris Mechler, Office of Judicial Administration
Kevin Graham, designee, Office of Attorney General
Captain Dale Finger, Public Member
Reverend Junius Dotson, Public Member

Staff:

Helen Pedigo, Executive Director
Natalie Gibson, Staff Attorney
Kunlun Chang, Research Director
Fengfang Lu, Senior Research Analyst
Lora Moison, Research Analyst
Jessica Brunton, Research Analyst
Brenda Harmon, Administrative Assistant
Janice Brasher, Grant Administrator
Jennifer Dalton, Accountant
Amanda Nations, Program Consultant

Guests:

Don Jordon, Commissioner, Juvenile Justice Authority
Tanya Keys, Director of Information Services, Juvenile Justice Authority
Heather Morgan, Director of Public & Legislative Affairs, Juvenile Justice Authority
Scott Schultz, Assoc. Gen. Counsel, Office of the Kansas Securities Commissioner

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Introduction of New Staff and Guests

Chairman Johnson introduced Helen Pedigo as the new Executive Director of the Kansas Sentencing Commission. Ms. Pedigo then introduced two new Commission staff: Amanda Nations, Program Consultant; and Jessica Brunton, Research Analyst.

Approval of the Minutes

The Chairman referred to the minutes of the October 5th & 6th, 2006 Kansas Sentencing Commission meeting and workshop. A motion was made to approve the minutes by Secretary Roger Werholtz and seconded by the Honorable Christel Marquardt. The motion carried.

Juvenile Justice Authority Population Projections

Ms. Pedigo presented a PowerPoint presentation of the JJA Population Projections for FY 2007 – FY 2016. A handout of the presentation was provided to Commission members. The model begins on July 1, 2006 and is based on data from July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2006. It is designed to simulate admissions to the four state juvenile correctional facilities for eight categories of placement matrix sentences, which take into consideration offense severity levels and criminal history. Misdemeanor offenders may be included in the juvenile correctional facility population. The judge sentences to a specific length of stay and a specific aftercare period. Offenders can be revoked and returned to a juvenile correctional facility.

- For FY 2006, total admissions were 489
- 66% of those admissions were new court commitments; 34% were conditional violators
- 86% were felony cases; 14% were misdemeanor
- 93% were male; 7% were female
- Projected population projection for June 30, 2007 = 419
- Projected population projection for June 30, 2016 = 459

A motion was made by Representative Janice Pauls to approve the juvenile correctional facility population projections for FY 2007 – FY 2016, prepared by the Kansas Sentencing Commission for the Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority. Mr. Kevin Graham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Council of State Governments Reentry Conference

Secretary Roger Werholtz provided information on a Reentry Conference scheduled for December 12th, 2006 in Topeka. The target audience includes the following legislative committees: Senate Ways and Means, Senate Judiciary, House Appropriations, and House Judiciary. All Legislators will be invited, along with city and county officials from the four largest counties in Kansas.

Presentations include:

- An update on the Reentry Programs
- The 3-R's Committee
- The Sex Offender Policy Board

Review Bed Space Impacts – Working options requested at October KSC Workshop

Ms. Pedigo reviewed the data response to five data requests from Commission members during the October Workshop. Handouts of the impacts were provided. The requests were made to help the Commission in their pursuit of options to present to the Legislature to fulfill statutory obligations. The data requests were as follows:

1. Probation condition violators released in FY 2006

- Distribution of length of stay in prison
 - Number by county
 - Most serious offenses committed
 - Most serious offenses committed by county
2. Probation condition violators admitted in FY 2006
 - Distribution of their LSI-R scores at revocation
 3. All probationers in Community Corrections
 - The alcohol and drug domain portion of their LSI-R assessments
 4. Probation condition violators and parole condition violators
 - Factors as determined by the LSI-R that are contributing to revocation to prison
 5. The target inmates as defined in this proposal include
 - Drug severity levels 3 & 4 probation condition violators, excluding SB 123 offenders
 - Nondrug severity levels 7, 8, 9 and 10 probation condition violators

JFA Institute Reports – Kansas Revocation Studies

Ms. Pedigo discussed the three JFA Institute Reports from Dr. Tony Fabelo, who presented at the October KSC Workshop. They have not been released for distribution yet, so only the Summaries were provided to Commission members at this time. NOTE: These reports were approved for distribution and were distributed to Commission members subsequent to this meeting.

2003 – Senate Bill 123 Update Conference Invitation

Ms. Pedigo provided information on the upcoming SB 123 Update Conference. It is scheduled for Wednesday, December 6th, 2006 in Topeka in the Florentine Room of the Jayhawk Tower from 10 am – 12 pm. Presenters will include Helen Pedigo and Kathleen Graves, Director of Community Corrections, Kansas Department of Corrections. Conference Topics will include:

- Sentencing/Intervention Activity Report
- Recent Results of SB 123 Process and Implementation Evaluation
- Invoice/Billing/Reimbursement Items
- Questions, Answers and Discussion

A similar Wichita conference is scheduled for May 22, 2007. Flyers describing these two conferences were sent to Judges, County and District Attorneys, Court Services officers and Community Corrections officers throughout the state.

Next Meeting

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 21, 2006 at 1:30 pm at the Senate Room of the Jayhawk Tower.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Senator John Vratil, and seconded by Ms. Chris Mechler. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.