

**Minutes of the Kansas Sentencing Commission Teleconference Meeting
March 21, 2014**

The Honorable Evelyn Z. Wilson, Chair, called the Kansas Sentencing Commission teleconference meeting to order on March 21, 2014 at 1:39 p.m.

Participants:

Members:

- Honorable Evelyn Z. Wilson, Chair
- Honorable W. Lee Fowler, Vice Chair
- Honorable Patrick D. McAnany
- Senator David B. Haley
- Representative Janice L. Pauls
- Representative John J. Rubin
- Senator Carolyn McGinn
- David W. Riggan, Kansas Prisoner Review Board
- Steve Karrer, Designee, Kansas Attorney General's Office
- Chris A. Mechler, Office of Judicial Administration
- Secretary Ray Roberts, Department of Corrections
- Kevin N. Berens, Thomas County Attorney
- J. Shawn Elliott, Attorney
- Elizabeth M. (Betsy) Gillespie, Director of Corrections, Johnson County
- Jennifer C. Roth, 3rd Judicial District Assistant Public Defender
- Edward (Eddie) J. Regan, Public Member
- Reverend Junius B. Dotson, Public Member

Guests:

Tim Madden, Department of Corrections

Staff:

Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director
Brenda Harmon, Special Assistant to the Executive Director
Sean Ostrow, SB 123 Program Director/ Staff Attorney
Kunlun Chang, Director of Research
Trish Beck, Program Assistant
Fengfang Lu, Senior Research Analyst
Ebo Browne, Research Analyst

SB 123 Report

Sean Ostrow, SB 123 Program Manager, reported the SB 123 Treatment Provider Working group meetings have been very beneficial and informative. The group's primary objectives involve reducing residential length of stay limits starting July 1, 2014, and finding other efficiencies in the program that will necessitate future budget cuts. In addition, Sean reported that the Commission is preparing a federal grant application, which is available to each state's Statistical Analysis Center (SAC). The proposed grant will assist in funding a SB 123 Utilization Review position to ensure that treatment providers are providing care that is appropriate under the ASAM Criteria and evidence-based practices, and provide funding for the software programming necessary to track multiple factors regarding individual offenders in the program. In addition, the Working Group has set the objective of sharing LSI-R data between Court Services, Community Corrections and treatment providers, which should increase the reliability and validity of current assessment procedures.

The next meeting for the SB 123 Subcommittee is tentatively scheduled for April 9 or 10.

Legislative Update

Scott Schultz, Executive Director, provided a legislative update on legislation the Sentencing Commission has supported. The following bills were discussed: HB 2703, HB 2497, HB 2495, and HB 2655.

Staff is currently tracking 60 bills that which are significant to the Kansas Sentencing Guidelines Act.

Approval of the LSI-R Study

Scott Schultz, Executive Director, reported the LSI-R Subcommittee was formed as a result from 2013 HB 2170, which mandated the KSC to determine a cutoff scores for the LSI-R when determining community supervision. Dr. Alex Holsinger, Associate Professor and Director of Graduate Programs at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, was contacted for his expertise in developing a methodology to gather and analyze LSI-R assessments from court services and community corrections. An estimated contract with Dr. Holsinger for the norming process has been proposed at \$14,062.50.

Betsy Gillespie moved to proceed in contracting with Dr. Holsinger to conduct the norming to assist the Commission in establishing cutoff scores with a compensation of \$14,062.50 for approximately 250 hours of services. Judge McAnany seconded the motion and the motion carried.

The next LSI-R meeting will be April 21, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. with Dr. Holsinger presenting his findings to the Subcommittee.

Approval of KSC Minutes

Chair Wilson referred to the Sentencing Commission meeting minutes from January 17, February 10, and March 5, 2014.

Secretary Ray Roberts moved to approve the minutes. Chris Mechler seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

New Business

Senator Haley expressed appreciation to the Commission, Executive Director Scott Schultz and others who have provided technical support on sentencing issues this year at the statehouse. The Senator indicated that the Commission maintained and provided additional credibility throughout this busy legislative session.

Next Meeting

The next Sentencing Commission meeting will be at 1:30 p.m. April 25, 2014 at the Jayhawk Tower, Senate Room.

Meeting adjourned 2:10 p.m.