

Minutes of the Kansas Sentencing Commission Zoom Meeting March 19, 2021

The Honorable W. Lee Fowler, Chair, called the Kansas Sentencing Commission (KSSC) Zoom Meeting to order on March 19 at 1:33 p.m.

Participants:

Members:

- Honorable W. Lee Fowler, Chair
- Honorable Benjamin J. Sexton, Vice Chair
- Honorable Stephen D. Hill, Kansas Court of Appeals
- Senator David B. Haley
- Representative Dennis “Boog” Highberger
- Representative John Barker
- Senator Carolyn McGinn
- Jonathan Ogletree, Kansas Prisoner Review Board
- Jessica Domme, Kansas Attorney General’s Office
- Spence Koehn, Office of Judicial Administration
- Jefferey Zmuda, Secretary of Corrections
- Mark Dupree, Wyandotte County District Attorney
- Jessica A. Glendening, Third Judicial District Public Defender’s Office
- Pat Colloton, Public Member
- Jermaine Wilson, Public Member
- Shelly Williams, Community Corrections Director

Guests:

Murl Riedel, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Chris Esquibel, Kansas Association of Court Services Officers
Marie McNeal, Kansas Department of Corrections

Staff:

- Scott M. Schultz, Executive Director
- Brenda Harmon, Special Assistant to the Executive Director
- Kunlun Chang, Director of Research
- John Grube, Senior Research Analyst
- Kira Johnson, SB 123 Program Director
- Trish Beck, Program Auditor
- Jamie Mai, Administrative Assistant
- Christopher Lyon, Staff Attorney
- Francis Givens, Special Projects Director
- Melissa Zoesch, Accounting Assistant
- Rachel Cole, Data Entry Operator

Approval of Proposed Agenda

Chair Fowler asked if there were any objections or additions to the agenda. The agenda was approved with no modifications.

Approval of January 22, 2021, KSSC Meeting Minutes

Chair Fowler referred to the January 22, 2021 Minutes. The Honorable Stephen Hill moved to approve the minutes. Jessica Domme seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Recognition of Director of Research Kunlun Chang

Executive Director Scott Schultz discussed the retirement and history of Director of Research Kunlun Chang, highlighting his accolades, experience, and accomplishments. Mr. Chang has been with the Commission since November 13, 1995, and will be retiring on March 31, 2021.

2021 Legislative Update

Executive Director Scott Schultz reported on the current status of the legislative session, discussing the number of bills being monitored, and prison bed space assessments completed. Mr. Schultz has provided legislative committee testimony on 21 occasions this session. Mr. Schultz referred to the handout, *KSSC Bill Status*, and discussed bills listed on the document.

Agency Report

Executive Director Scott Schultz informed the Commission about the recent activities of the staff.

- Effective April 1, 2021, John Grube will begin serving as KSSC's Director of Research.
- Interviews have been conducted for the Research Analyst position.
- Chris Lyon accepted a position with the Leavenworth County District Attorney's Office and will remain working with the Commission.
- Progress is being made on an appointment for a private defense attorney position.
- The next KSSC training webinar is in May. The topic is PSIs, which will be recorded and placed on the Commission website. Other upcoming webinars are LS/CMI training on May 26, by OJA and May 27, by the Commission for attorneys and June 15 for judges, and WRNA training on June 17 for attorneys.

Adjournment

Pat Colloton moved to adjourn. Jermaine Wilson seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

The next Sentencing Commission meeting will be Thursday, April 22, 2021, in the Senate Room of the Jayhawk Tower.