

# Alaska Criminal Justice Commission

## Meeting Summary

Thursday, October 31, 2019

12:00 – 12:30 p.m.

Audio-teleconference only

Commissioners Present: Joel Bolger, Sean Case, Samantha Cherot, Matt Claman, Nancy Dahlstrom, Shelley Hughes, Greg Razo, Stephanie Rhoades, Steve Williams

Commissioners Absent: Kevin Clarkson (John Skidmore served as proxy for AG Clarkson), Adam Crum (Laura Russell served as proxy for Commissioner Crum), Amanda Price, Brenda Stanfill, Trevor Stephens

Participants: John Skidmore, Laura Russell, Lauree Morton, Nancy Meade, Tony Piper

Staff: Brian Brossmer, Staci Corey, Susanne DiPietro, Barbara Dunham

### **Review and Approve Annual Report Draft**

Chair Claman explained that staff had sent out an updated version of the annual report with proposed revisions. Most of the proposed revisions were from the Dept. of Law, one was from himself. The plan for these proposals, as discussed at the last meeting, was to try to take them up in a single vote. He asked for the Commission's thoughts as to whether that plan was reasonable given the quantity and substance of the changes proposed.

Chair Claman noted that there was not enough time in the space allotted for this meeting to take up the proposals one by one, and he believed that if the Commission wanted to discuss the substance of the proposals, it would need to meet the next day at 9 am. There was meeting space already reserved for the Commission to meet in person if need be.

Commissioner Cherot said that the proposed changes appeared extensive to her and went beyond what she thought would be proposed given the conversation at the meeting a few days previously. She was not prepared to adopt changes this extensive in this timeframe. She thought the proposals changed the tone of the report, particularly in the executive summary, and had not had sufficient time to review them thoroughly such that she was comfortable moving ahead with them. Commissioner Razo agreed.

Commissioner Williams said having reviewed the proposed changes, he saw some of them as technical and beneficial, while other changes were substantive, and might need reworking. He thought it would be better to go over them in person.

Judge Rhoades said that she had looked at the proposed changes and had not had sufficient time to assess them, but at first glance at least two of them appeared to be speculative as to cause and effect, and she was not comfortable moving forward with them. She reviewed the statutory language on what

the Commission was supposed to report, and thought that the report that staff put together satisfies those requirements. She was not comfortable moving forward with last-minute changes.

Chair Claman said it sounded so far as though Commissioners would either reject the changes now or go through them substantively the next day.

Judge Rhoades said that there was a reason the Commission tried to schedule meetings well in advance; she was not available the next day. She thought such an ad-hoc process was not fair to those who have done the work and tried to be responsive and give feedback on time. There was time to do this at planned meeting times. She felt there ought to be a motion to adopt the report with no additional changes.

Commissioner Razo said that he had an MRI scheduled the next day and agreed with Judge Rhoades' idea. Commissioner Cherot said she had interviews scheduled throughout the day the next day and would also not be able to make it.

Chair Claman noted on Monday, the Commission adjourned with a motion to approve report still on the table. There was also Mr. Skidmore's motion to amend the report, which he ruled out of order or moot. He thought the appropriate procedure was to let Mr. Skidmore move to adopt Law's proposals. He asked whether there was any motion to amend motion to approve the report as drafted by staff.

Mr. Skidmore said he appreciated the concerns about timing. He had no opportunity to review the report until Monday. Chair Claman asked him to limit his commentary in the interest of time and asked him to make a motion. Mr. Skidmore moved to adopt the changes in to the annual report's executive summary that were proposed by the Dept. of Law. Commissioner Dahlstrom seconded the motion.

Chair Claman called for discussion and there was none, so he called the question. The Commission voted against Mr. Skidmore's motion by a vote of 6-2. (Commissioners for the motion: John Skidmore, Nancy Dahlstrom. Commissioners against the motion: Joel Bolger, Sean Case, Samantha Cherot, Greg Razo, Stephanie Rhoades, Steve Williams.)

Chair Claman asked for any other motions, and there were none. He called the question of the motion to approve the report as drafted by staff. The report was approved by a vote of 5-3. (Commissioners for the motion: Joel Bolger, Samantha Cherot, Greg Razo, Stephanie Rhoades, Steve Williams. Commissioners against the motion: Sean Case, John Skidmore, Nancy Dahlstrom.)

### Public Comment

There was an opportunity for public comment but none was offered.

Chair Claman noted it was 12:20. Staff noted that public comment had been noticed as open until 12:30. Commissioner Razo moved to adjourn the meeting effective at 12:30. Commissioner Cherot seconded the motion and the motion passed without objection. The teleconference line remained open until 12:30.