



## **JOINT LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

**February 11, 2016**

**Room 643 of the Legislative Office Building**

The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Justice and Public Safety met on Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 1:00 PM. The meeting was held in Room 643 of the Legislative Office Building. Members present were: Representatives Burr, Daughtry, Faircloth, G. Graham, Hurley, Jackson, McNeill, Stevens, Turner, Jordan, W. Richardson, Speciale; Senators Bryant, Daniel, Randleman, and Robinson.

The following staff members were present: Debbie Holder, Jeb Kelly, Committee Clerks; Kristine Leggett, John Poteat, Lisa Fox, Fiscal Research Division; Jennifer Bedford, Jan Paul and Susan Sitze, Legislative Analysis Staff; Emily Johnson and Nicole DuPre', Bill Drafting; Dylan Watts, Senate Staff.

Chair Hurley presided and called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone at 1:10 pm. She welcomed the NC Council for Women. She also welcomed Director Byrd's parents, Jimmy and Sandra Byrd from Representative Steven's and Senator Randleman's districts. She recognized the Sergeant at Arms Staff present, Young Bae, Dean Marshbourne, David Leighton, Jim Hamilton, and Hal Roach. Representative Turner made a motion to approve the January minutes seconded by Senator Randleman. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

Senator Randleman stated that at the last meeting, staff was asked to draft corrective legislation for the Department of Public Safety. This has not been completed and she would like an update later in the meeting.

Chairman Hurley recognized John Byrd, SBI Crime Lab Director for a presentation of the Crime Lab's Annual Report. Director Byrd brought in his staff from the Western and local State Crime Lab and had them stand to be recognized. Director Byrd gave a PowerPoint presentation (see Attachment 1) of the annual report and the North Carolina



State Crime Laboratory. He stated they broke ground for the Edneyville Lab and had completed a study of the two accreditations they had in the past and had reverted back to

only one from the dual. They are using ANAB. The turnaround time is dropping due to more employees, and there is currently no backlog. They currently have 214 positions, 196 are filled with an 18% vacancy rate. The Sergeant at Arms distributed a letter from the Forensic Science Advisory Board (see Attachment 2), which asks for additional Laboratory resources for scientific supplies and equipment. There was a period of question and answer.

Chairman Hurley recognized B. W. Collier, SBI Director for a presentation of the State of North Carolina's Public Safety Preparedness (see attachment 3). She thanked him for his service as the SBI Director, as he will be retiring soon. The committee was provided a time for questions and answers.

Chairman Hurley recognized Lanier McRee, with the Fiscal Research Division to make your PowerPoint presentation on the Correctional Officer Pay Plan Implementation (see Attachment 4) Ms. McRee indicated the new grades range from 63-66 depending on the prison custody. The original classifications were all grade 62. There was a time for questions and answers from the members.

George Solomon, Director, DPS Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice-Prisons was recognized by Chairman Hurley for a PowerPoint presentation on Correctional Custody Reclassification Study Implementation (see Attachment 5). Director Solomon indicated the Reclassification Study Implementation had been put into place. There was a time for questions and answers.

Chairman Hurley recognized John Poteat, with the Fiscal Research Division for a PowerPoint presentation on Prison Mental Health legislative Action (see Attachment 6). There was a time for questions and answers.

Dr. Karen Steinour, Health Services Compliance Director and Dr. Gary Junker, Director of Behavioral Health, both of DPS Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice Prisons were recognized for a PowerPoint presentation on Prisons Mental Health Update (see Attachment 7). The committee members were given the opportunity to ask questions.



As the time was getting late, the Juvenile Justice Update by Lisa Fox, Fiscal Research Division will be postponed until the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Lisa Fox addressed the question Senator Randleman asked for an update on the status of the language/legislation needed to address some concerns about the merger of adult correction and juvenile justice by stating the attorneys in bill drafting are working on this language, and it will be presented to the committee when Mr. Lassiter gives his presentation on juvenile justice.

Chairman Hurley adjourned the meeting at 4:15 pm

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Chairman Pat Hurley, Presiding

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Deborah Holder, Committee Clerk