

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)**  
**October 30, 2008 Minutes**  
**8:00 a.m.**  
**Room 6 / HyVee Hall**

Coordinating Council Members Present: Sheriff Dennis Anderson, Judge Arthur Gamble, Supervisor Tom Hockensmith, Sally Kreamer, Supervisor John F. Mauro, John Sarcone, Valorie Wilson.

Others Present: Captain Donna Brooks (Sheriff's Office), Sue Elliott (BOS), Supervisor E.J. Giovannetti, Chief Bill McCarthy, Linda & Bud Ripley, Nancy Robinson.

- I. Approval of the September 28<sup>th</sup> minutes.  
Moved by Sarcone, Seconded by Hockensmith to approve the minutes as presented.
  
- II. Legislative Services Agency Issue Review: County Jails and Probation Sentencing  
Presented by – Tony Bisignano, Polk County Legislative Coordinator

Supervisor Mauro stated that Tony Bisignano will be reporting at next month's meeting regarding this item. He will be working with the Legislative Services Bureau to develop hard cost numbers. Tony has been waiting to talk to the leadership and committee chairs to develop legislation to address these jail costs and it is his intent to talk with the majority party to carry the proposal forward this legislative session.

- III. Fort Des Moines Residential Beds  
Presented by – Sally Kreamer, Director, Fifth Judicial Department of Correctional Services

The State has engaged a consultant to work on the location of an additional 170 residential beds. They are looking within the judicial district for alternatives. The existing buildings are in disrepair. This study will prepare a long term plan. The consultants have met with south side leaders. The study will recommend possible relocation and appropriate use of residential beds. They will outline the setting needed for probation, work release and OWI in each section. The problem today is that the probation population is mixed, young with older, high risk, homeless, the study will look at functionality. I will come back and ask this group for their ideas for sentence alternatives. Currently, 28% of our residents are supervised mental health. When we are further along in the study I will ask for a subcommittee from this group to talk about functionality of beds and space needs.

IV. Prison Re-entry Subcommittee Report  
Presented by – Sheriff Dennis Anderson

This subcommittee met and outlined what each service provider contributes. Spectrum Resources is to prepare a document that outlines what services they provide that are not a duplication of current services and project the benefits that the County would derive from Spectrum's program as well as goals and objectives of their proposed program. Spectrum has not yet provided the documentation regarding why we need to support this initiative.

V. Update from Polk County Sheriff Dennis Anderson

a. Video Conferencing Cost

The service provider hook up is \$6,000 each. The state hasn't yet provided the ICN cost. We need assistance in getting the state to provide the ICN cost. Equipment is not an issue. Valorie Wilson mentioned that she met with the ICN staff recently. The Public Defender's Office will be the first office for installation prior to the jail. The Public Defender will have two monitors. Valorie will see if she can assist the Sheriff by contacting the state on the status.

b. Statistical Analyst Update

The statistical analyst has a lot of projects on her plate. If the committee wants certain things, they need to notify Captain Brooks. Sally Kreamer mentioned that information on the in-jail treatment program would be helpful. We need to be able to analyze the recidivism data. We need to determine what the recidivism rate is of those who fail and why. If they are doing well, what characteristics do they have in common? Valorie Wilson asked how would the jail know who succeeds or fails. Sally stated that by the data system risk level and number of prior charges, we should be able to pull out variables to know which are important to use. Pretrial would be able to have a better conversation with the County Attorney and Public Defender. Sally talked with the state to allow the sharing of the state's jail statistic data warehouse.

Valorie Wilson stated that she would like to know the number of inmates serving 365 days versus prison time. How many are probation violations, no bond? We need to look at the numbers sitting in the jail.

Chief McCarthy stated that the statistical analyst will be able to have the same information Hillsborough provides. There are eleven software programs that she needs to master to build a template. She is in the process of learning the software. We will be able to provide the information in statistical or graph form.

VI. Updates from CJCC Chair, John F. Mauro

a. EM SWAP Program Update

On 10/14/08, the BOS approved the creation of 3 Civilian Detention Officers to continue the EM SWAP program (at a cost of \$189,728 annually). These positions were previously scheduled to be assigned to the new jail and the continuation of the program was in peril.

Sheriff Anderson stated that the Board's approval of the EM SWAP staffing will allow the Sheriff to move forward with the self arrest program. A meeting will be set with Judge Gamble to get permission and approval from the courts. Grandview College has agreed to provide the space to run the program. A lot of the issue is financial. Consumer Credit will provide three people to counsel those with outstanding warrants and come up with a financial plan. Grandview's criminal justice program will make this one of their projects and provide a safe place for people to turn themselves in.

b. Polk County Law Enforcement Executive Association (PLEXA)

On 10/9/08, Supervisor Mauro spoke with this group regarding the establishment of the CJCC and its purpose encouraging their future participation in the Council. He explained that it was not our purpose to tell anyone how to manage their department or law enforcement and that the CJCC would invite them to the table eventually. Hillsborough had the Chief of Police on their council.

VII. Bylaws

Presented by – John Sarcone, Polk County Attorney and Chief Judge, Arthur Gamble

Supervisor Hockensmith stated that one of the things that stood out in the draft is the members participation on the council. Everything I have read from every jurisdiction states that it is a priority that the decision makers are at the table. We should identify a statement and purpose before we establish the bylaws. We need to establish a purpose and mission.

John Sarcone stated that the provision regarding alternates was included in case someone couldn't make it and would allow a designated representative.

Supervisor Hockensmith asked if the CJCC's main purpose is only to address the jail population or if the council is to identify other efficiencies within the criminal justice system? The council would then make a recommendation after collaboration to an agency.

Judge Gamble stated that the purpose is to collaborate to improve efficiency of the criminal justice system as a whole.

John Sarcone stated that we need to take steps to find other ways to analyze the population, save space, that is the reason the bylaws are written not to dictate to each agency. If the ideas are creative they can have a positive impact.

Supervisor Hockensmith stated that if a majority of the council comes forward with a recommendation, it should make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

Valorie Wilson stated that the initial purpose of the CJCC was so that the jail population did not increase. Realistically, to keep the numbers down, you need to talk about efficiencies of the criminal justice system.

Sally Kreamer stated that all initiatives combine to reduce the population. The problem with the Hillsborough bylaws was that the additional members would have more votes than the executive committee. Another caveat was that the appropriate people in supervision looking at the data and making decisions based on data do so in a way that keeps the community safety in mind. You can't look at the jail population and ignore the other piece.

Supervisor Hockensmith stated that the statistical analyst is important for the work of the CJCC. Building a database of information will assist the CJCC in identifying priorities for the CJCC to address. The establishment of the group's mission, purpose and bylaws will assist the CJCC in achieving its goal.

Supervisor Mauro stated that we will go through the bylaws at the next meeting to see if everyone is comfortable with the language.

Judge Gamble stated that in the option of Article Four: Individual Function of Members, we need to make better decisions on who is going to jail/prison. Judge Gamble asked Sally Kreamer if she saw the CJCC making recommendations to judges on sentencing? Sally stated that she believed the intent is to make the information available so that the judges can make better decisions, not dictate sentencing guidelines to judges. Judge Gamble stated that that would be a better way to present the information to the judges, by providing data, information and program studies. Sally Kreamer stated that the same information would be available for the County Attorney to educate them on what is appropriate for referral.

Mike O'Meara referenced Article Six: Quorum and Voting, stated that this establishes a quorum as a super majority, 5 votes out of 7.

Supervisor Hockensmith will draft a mission statement for the CJCC and the bylaws will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Judge Gamble asked what is typical for a quorum? Mike O'Meara stated one more than half.

Supervisor Hockensmith encouraged all CJCC members to attend each CJCC meeting.

Article Three: Purpose and Function, may need changes based on the purpose and mission proposed.

John Sarcone stated that he recently toured and attended the dedication of the jail and that it is a phenomenal facility. Staff did an excellent job on it, the County should be commended. The areas established for lawyers and family visitation were well planned out.

Valorie Wilson asked if the statistics requested by the CJCC would be available at the next meeting. Chief McCarthy responded that he did not believe the statistical analyst would be to the point to be able to provide the information by next meeting.

Supervisor Giovannetti stated that the criminal justice system and intent need to be defined by the CJCC.

#### VIII. Next Meeting Date

- The next meeting is scheduled for 8 a.m., Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>.