

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)
June 4, 2009 Minutes
8:00 a.m.
Hy-Vee Hall

CJCC Members Present: Tom Hockensmith, Bill McCarthy, John Sarcone, Donna Brooks, Valorie Wilson, Angela Connolly, Sally Kreamer, Judge Gamble

Others present: Captain Donna Brooks, Michelle Dix, Sue Elliott, E.J. Giovannetti, Lynn Ferrell, Terri Henkels, Brian Boyer, Bruce Bernard, Ann Sheeley, Cynthia Steidl, Jeff Riese, Representative Wayne Ford (appeared at end of meeting)

Approval of the May 6, 2009 minutes

Moved by Hockensmith, Seconded by Sarcone to approve the minutes as presented.

Disproportionate Minority Council (DMC) Update – Bruce Bernard (handout)

Bruce went over highlights of the program for the last twelve months:

- Set up the stakeholders group. They've met three times since September 2008
- They are following guidelines from the Casey Foundation to get started
- Fundamentals training was in December where they learned about core strategies
- January training was on risk assessment instrument (called a detention screening tool)
- There are representatives from Blackhawk, Woodbury and Polk County. Polk is in the process of drafting the screening tool (youth is brought in and questions are asked to get guidance regarding detention, release, etc).
- Subcommittees are set up. One of them will be gathering and entering data and another will be working on racial disparity (disproportionate of minority youth)
- In October there will be a site visit to Portland, Oregon where they've had the most success in addressing disparity.
- Development is being done on the eight core strategies.
- There are 25 stakeholders and a planning team of 6 to address milestones and information for Casey Foundation.
- There will be a powerpoint presentation that can be used for community involvement. Angela asked what other audiences are there? Bruce mentioned schools and neighborhood associations to start. John asked if there is cooperation from the schools? Bruce said they have a representative on the stakeholders group. Valorie asked the age group this is addressing?
It is 10-17 year olds. Judge Gamble asked how this is relevant to the adult system? The youth in detention now end up in jail later so we are trying to address this at the juvenile level to keep them out of adult jail.

Brian Boyer wanted to let the Council know they are also working on public safety issues and accountability with the community, which is important. John suggested a plan to follow these juveniles with the education (i.e. graduating) which will help them stay out of jail later. Brian said there are plans in the works to address that. Sally mentioned a grant that Creative Visions received for adults. She's trying to work with the families in that program.

H1N1 Flu – Terri Henkels

Terri Henkels updated the Board on the flu outbreak. We have five confirmed cases in Polk County. The WHO's (World Health Organization) overall assessment is now moderate. The CDC (Center for Disease Control) says there are ongoing outbreaks and these will continue over summer. CDC has shipped the virus out to see how it can be produced. There will be a decision in early fall. The CDC and the Iowa Department of Public Health are no longer requesting a case investigation when there is a confirmed case of the flu. This is the last week the Health Department will do briefings. A review of pandemic plans with schools is being done and there is a meeting scheduled in June with hospitals to coordinate the plans. There are also meetings with airport personnel and work is being done on plans for travelers that are arriving here. Funds are available to do stockpiling of personal protective equipment and anti-virus supplies. First responders need to have these. Tom asked how long it takes to get results back from testing? Terri said it should be 24-48 hours but is taking up to 7 seven days before they receive notice. There is daily surveillance going on with schools, daycares, absentee rates, etc). Work is continuing a continuity of plans. There could be high absentee rates going into fall when it is flu season. Terri said she believes there will be a vaccine for this flu, but doesn't know who would be first to receive (i.e. person with ongoing health problems). Terri stated that they expect a vaccine by the end of the summer. We are encouraging people to stay home when they are sick, wash their hands, perform good cleaning, use Kleenex or their sleeve. We will meet once a month with the multidisciplinary planning group. The virus is hitting younger adults and children, people with chronic conditions, asthma, heart disease and pregnant women. Angela thanked Terri and her staff for a good job handling this.

Mobile Crisis Unit – Mental Health – Cynthia Steidl

The work on getting funding is going slow but in the right direction. This program will be funded for the next two years, but not sure by how much money. The program won't change much. We are now working with Dallas County, per the State requiring this program be available to two counties.

The contract ends June 30th and should be signed by then.

Lynn Ferrell told the Board we can apply for County Risk Pool funds to be used for maintenance of this program. They will present that application to the Board of Supervisors and include funding for a shortfall, based on a decision not being made until October. Polk and Dallas can share the shortfall.

Dallas County has limited services right now (Monday through Friday, 3:00 pm to 9:00 pm) based on their trip calls and need.

Simple Misdemeanors – Sally Kreamer (handout)

Caseloads for the district are highest in the state. 575 offenders on supervision for misdemeanors, domestic, simple misdemeanors. Simple misdemeanors are ones that get deferred judgement. Ideas to reduce workload. If no cut this FY, next FY expect 5 – 10% cuts. Supervisor Hockensmith asked how this would affect staff levels? Sally stated that there will be staff cuts. Supervisor Hockensmith asked about the expansion. Sally stated that is planned for

2012. Additional staff will be needed for the expansion but we will need to reduce our existing workforce to accommodate. We look at the risk and are triaging as much as we can. 777 intensive supervision only 5 ISP Officers. They get the top 100 and 600+ go to regular POs who have caseloads of 100 – 110. 1,319 on probation risk assessment. I want the group to be aware that we are running out of options. The lowest parole release this year more prisons are releasing directly from prison. Judge Gamble stated that probation revocation orders can't be revoked if fines haven't been paid. The State is putting emphasis on collecting court data. End of Supervision if legitimate effort is made to pay cost within 60 days, if there is not good effort, a report of violation is issued.

Valorie Wilson questioned whether someone is on paper only. Sally stated that if they have time, then they have to do time. Judge Gamble stated that we should look at all processes with the County Attorney. Sally Kreamer stated that they have replaced laptops with aircards so staff can file reports at home. We are putting kiosks to get people to pay. Judge Gamble stated that n simples, this is not the best use of probation resources this is part of plea bargaining that needs to be addressed. Judge Gamble stated that times are tough and are going to get tougher. Valorie asked if we are keeping people on paper because they owe money? Do probation officers (POs) ask probation be extended? Sally stated that is the County Attorney's call. Judge Gamble stated that we will look at that. Valorie Wilson asked that in owing money, are they looking at what is owed to the jail? Sally stated it is everything, jail fees, court costs, etc. Valorie stated the problem with people owing the jail money. Judge Gamble stated that jail restitution is not part of the program we need to look at the orders. The new statute has a huge emphasis on collecting court data. Valorie asked if the County would garnish wages? John Sarcone stated that the County Attorney's Office works with the Sheriff on wage assignment.

Judge Gamble stated that the court issues notice of garnishment. John Sarcone stated that civil has recouped an incredible amount of money, \$3 million dollars.

Judge Gamble stated that they were issued new magistrates on May 28th. He is in the process of reviewing assignments. The jurisdiction will include small claims, traffic court, and mental health. Traffic court for the new magistrate will need space. He will be part time, two days a week and will need space at the Courthouse. Judge/court reallocation happens every four years. I have heard that there is space adjacent to traffic court that may be available. Judge Gamble will be sending a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the additional space issue.

National Center for State Courts (NCSC) – Sue Elliott

National Center for State Courts was engaged by the BOS on May 5th. The purpose of the study is to review and recommend configurations of court operations that are the most space efficient as possible. The completed report will outline recommendations for the most efficient use of space. They will be here the week of July 13th to conduct interviews, review buildings and observe operations. They will conduct a second site visit for 3 days the week of August 17th. A steering committee has been established consisting of Ron Olson, Angela Connolly, Judge Gamble, Judge Ovrom, Beth Baldwin, Ann Sheeley and myself. The steering committee will convene via conference call every two weeks throughout the process. A draft report will be presented to the steering committee on September 23rd. A charrette retreat is scheduled for October 23rd at the Chichaqua Longhouse. A final report and formal presentation is expected around November 19th.

Jail Activities – Donna Brooks

The second self-arrest program will take place on June 9th, 1:00 p.m. Letters (150) were sent out. Fifty-one letters were returned due to incorrect addresses, etc. There are 98 possible participants.

Equipment has been installed at the Jail for web conferencing. The next phase is court staging where 6 units will be installed and work is being done on how to staff that.

Leesa Shoemaker is progressing well since her biking accident. She'll return to work part-time in a week.

Judge Gamble mentioned that there will probably be budget cuts for FY 09. There was a \$2.9 million cut across the board in the judicial branch, but they are able to cancel two furlough days. He also mentioned possible layoffs and service cuts for FY 10. They might have to look at putting limits on jail court on the weekends due to paying employees overtime.

Valorie asked when the next courthouse furlough day was scheduled. Judge Gamble is not sure yet.

Representative Wayne Ford appeared before the Board regarding information on the incarceration of blacks. He's putting together something regarding the Disproportionate Minority Confinement issues and wants to gather information. The Council suggested he contact Bruce Bernard.

Next meeting will be August 27th at HyVee Hall.