

**Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)**  
**September 24, 2009**  
**8:00 a.m.**  
**Hy-Vee Hall**

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

CJCC Members Absent: John Sarcone

Others present: Donna Brooks, Candy Morgan, Fred Gay, Ron Olson, Sue Elliott, Sandra Loney,

E.J. Giovannetti, Nancy Robinson, Jeff Riese, Anne Sheeley, Rox Laird, Jason Pulliam.

Approval of the August 27, 2009 minutes:

Moved by McCarthy, Seconded by Wilson to approve the minutes as presented.

Overview of Jail Diversion Programs

Sheriff McCarthy made opening statements. He previously mentioned there were 1300 currently in the jail. That was not accurate, we are at 1104. Females, and juveniles, had to be moved due to lack of space. We are at that point now. We're within 80 males before running out of space in that area.

We could open the other wing but that would cost money. We can't continue to go down the same path we have traditionally gone down. Polk County has a very strong diversion program in place. Captain Brooks will go over the different programs offered. Next month there will be a statistical analysis presentation. After that, CJCC will decide as a committee where to go and look at adding members to the CJCC and look at things to further deflect the jail population. Also, brainstorm about different ideas to explore over a period of time. We will get to a point where we need to say things that may not be comfortable for us.

**Police Citation/Citation Release**

Officers determine if a person stopped gets a court date issued and is then released (i.e. OWI's first offense, if cooperative, call sober adult to pick up) or if they get taken to jail.

**Mobile Crisis**

Sheriff mentioned if we didn't have this program, we'd probably have 1600-1800 inmates in the Jail. This is a good process to reduce the numbers but we need to go further.

**Electronic Monitoring – Sgt Garvey, Deputy Bracelin, Officer Watermilller**

Valorie asked how many bracelets do we currently have in use? Department of Corrections distributes these and 18-20 are currently issued. If more bracelets were issued, there would not be staff to monitor them. Valorie asked who decides who is released on the bracelets? There is an interview process based on charges and then information is sent to the Judge, who determines who receives the bracelet. Pre-plea, pre-sentencing, etc., persons are sent to jail or waiting for Ft. DSM facility. Valorie asked if more input is needed from defense attorneys? If they think someone qualifies, they can call and a bracelet can be checked out. There are usually 18 bracelets checked out most of the time. Judge Gamble asked if they are felonies or

misdemeanors? Most are below a D felony. The sentencing judge always makes the determination. Supervisor Connolly asked what disqualifies a person? Escape history, assault on officers, domestic charges, etc. Sheriff asked if we can add more bracelets if we had staff? How many more would be eligible that are currently in jail? 30 more would be eligible. Supervisor Connolly asks how this is monitored. It's a web patrol system – monitor at home connected to a phone, bracelet is on ankle, internet system keeps track. This can track when a person comes and goes. Home checks are done once a week or more (breath tests, etc). Sometimes they're sent to the jail for UA/drug testing. They also attend substance abuse meetings. Judge Gamble asked with the electronic monitoring and work alternative programs how are violations handled? Use of alcohol, drugs is immediate incarceration. A curfew violation receives a verbal warning if not incarceration. These are reviewed and are pretty strict. Judge Gamble stated that the program is good; there were some issues with violations in the past where judges were not notified but judges are fine with electronic monitoring and SWAP as it is being run now. Sheriff asks why the sentencing judge needs to be contacted? Judge Gamble stated that the sentencing judge knows more about the case than the jail judge. Sheriff stated that he will look at the program and if there is a potential 30 eligible we need to look at the cost of incarceration versus the program and report back to CJCC. Supervisor Hockensmith asked about options for work release (weekend stays, etc) to serve time and use the bracelets for that. That is something the Judge would consider. Captain Brooks mentioned the work release program would require more staff. Sally asked how much time are spent checking reports because they have a command center that is staffed 24/7 and they have time to do that. They receive a printout in the morning and initial, it takes approximately 10 minutes. Valorie asked how many SWAP (Sheriff's Work Alternative Program) people are out on bracelets (working or community service)? SWAP program has 18-20 out on electronic monitoring. Valorie asked is the community service ordered by the courts? It's not, just jail. Sally said they have a community service program too. Sheriff will analyze the programs in six months, will have staff review and take to the County Administrator to see if changes make sense.

### **Pre-Trial Release**

Nancy Robinson was available to answer questions. In August there was a \$31,000 savings due to people being in pre-trial release. Eligibility for pre-trial release goes by eligibility and is based on level of risk. There could be 25 out on intensive program now, 10 a day on pre-trial release.

Sally will have someone do a presentation on this at next month's meeting.

### **Mental Health Diversion – Tim Larson and Kurt Grevig, Eyerly Ball**

Supervisor Connolly asked how many people we serve? Currently 17, on an average month 40 people (case management services-housing, medications, etc). In the last year there have been almost 300 persons served. The Sheriff asked how we know who to help? Tim and Kurt explained they check the initial appearances each morning and see if that person has a case manager. They will go to the jail or court, make mental health referrals, work with the Judge in the Jail Court who makes the decisions.

Who checks these people to make sure they are taking their meds? The case managers set up appointments, get medications (although it's ultimately up to the individual to take their meds), transition from jail to community, locating a mental health professional. Supervisor Connolly stated that the key is the connection to the community, a support system. Judge Gamble asked if

this is limited to people already within the mental health system? Everyone is eligible. Supervisor Connolly mentioned the wait list for adult services is large, in the 800s. The chronically mentally ill is sometimes a revolving door since it can't be required if they are not a danger to themselves or others some have been in as many as twelve times on many charges. Eyerly Ball's wait list for mental health evaluations takes a month to get in.

#### **EFR – Gabi Twohey and Andrea Pecina, Employee and Family Resources**

EFR does most assessments for substance abuse and treatment in the jail. They do an assessment, get a referral and try to get them out quickly. The judge decides the treatment referral or half way house. 130 – 150 per month. The goal is to serve the client. Most go to Mt. Pleasant for treatment, they work with all programs. The Governor is looking for funding for Mt. Pleasant and possibly closing another residential treatment facility. Sally suggested drafting a letter of support and having the CJCC sign it and send to the Governor's Office. Judge asked if recidivism was tracked out of the facility. Currently, there is no tracking of this information. Sheriff stated that jail transportation costs could drastically increase if Mt. Pleasant is closed.

#### **In-Custody Drug Treatment Program-Kimberly Brangoccio, United Community Services**

UCS provides staffing for Polk County In Custody treatment program, a 120 day in jail intensive drug abuse treatment program. There are two pods of 64 beds for the men and women. Four months in jail with intensive treatment of 9 to 12 hours per day and then 6-8 months when they're out of jail, in groups. There is a 60-70% success rate. They need a substance abuse diagnosis with criminal activity to keep them in the jail and on probation after that. Judge asks how they get into the program? Usually someone will let them know, i.e. probation officer, then assessment counselors will go into the jail and check. They have to agree to follow jail rules, abstain from drugs/alcohol, go to groups, stay involved. Recommendations are made to dismiss by jail staff and then a decision will be made to remove from program. Judge Gamble asked if the Judge notified that the person is removed from program? A letter is sent and filed with the Clerk's Office and also sent to everyone involved.

#### **Jail Services/Programs – Sandy Loney, Polk County Sheriff's Office**

There are 95-100 class lists each week offering in-house services/programs at the Jail. Included are: bible studies, AA, NA, tobacco education, Cage Your Rage (anger management), clothing closet, bus tokens, resource booklets, job placement program, library, DSM schools, health education, health issues/stress management, parenting, gamblers education, GED, life skills, ESL (English as second language). All are voluntary, the inmates sign up at breakfast to participate in the various programs. Inmates being held in the "shoe" cannot participate due to risk factors. Sally asked if the program was voluntary? Sandy stated yes, notice is sent out on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at breakfast. Supervisor Connolly suggested Eyerly-Ball and/or our jail medical services staff can help out with some of the programs. Cage your Rage participants are given a certificate after successfully completing 10 classes. 12 participants are allowed in each class.

#### **Warrant Resolution (Self-Arrest) Program – Captain Brooks**

Approximately 182 letters were sent out for the September 29<sup>th</sup> date.

**Web Conferencing – Captain Brooks**

Starts October 5<sup>th</sup>, with training on September 30<sup>th</sup> for 5<sup>th</sup> Judicial and Public Defender. Information is also being sent out to the private bar association to make them aware. The web conferencing hours are from 1 to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Valorie asked about sending the letter to the Governor regarding the closing of the residential treatment facility. Sally will draft the letter and coordinate with CJCC to have it signed and sent.

Next month we'll have a statistical data report.

Sally mentioned a new sex offender law where individuals can ask to be removed from the registry.

She suggested a process be put in place to address these requests.

Next meeting scheduled for October 22, 2009 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 4 at Hy-Vee Hall.