

Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)

August 26, 2010

8:00 a.m.

Hy-Vee Hall

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

Others present: Lynn Ferrell, Dave Higdon, Ron Olson, Major Donna Brooks, Jan Sears, Dillon Kraft, Curtis Pion, Leesa Shoemaker, Candy Morgan, Nancy Robinson, Brian Boyer, John F. Mauro, Marilyn Lantz, Jeff Riese, Rox Laird, Kyle White.

I. Approval of the June 3, 2010 minutes

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

Sheriff McCarthy stated that Captain Tim Krum will be replacing Major Donna Brooks on the CJCC for the next three months as she attends training.

Sally mentioned they are starting to fill positions vacated by retirements. Ft. Des Moines has 27 R.O's running the facility, 18 of those will be new. In the past, there were 40 R.O.'s for the 300 beds. Staff continue to look for ways to safely manage offenders given the shortage in staff. She attended the National Institute of Corrections meeting regarding measuring risk within the community. Her agency is going to pilot this tool and follow the outcomes which will take approximately two years to validate. The hope is that this can eliminate some work for staff given our staffing shortages and better identify offenders who are not stable or safe to be in the community. Sally will provide more information later.

II. In-Jail Assessments

Lynn Ferrell, Director, Polk County Health Services suggested that CJCC establish a small work group to look at inmates who go from Jail to Mt. Pleasant. Last year, there were 280 admissions at a cost of \$20,000/month billed back to the County (plus Sheriff's transportation expense) and medication issues that occur when they are held at Mt. Pleasant. He said it might be worth looking at this issue for other alternatives. The Sheriff agreed and said he would recommend 3 -4 people for this committee. The issue is when they go to Mt. Pleasant for substance abuse treatment, if they have mental health issues; they have to stop taking their medications. Persons are placed in Mt. Pleasant due to other facilities being full. Judge Gamble asked if there is pod capacity and that is what we need to look at. Lynn Ferrell and Dave Higdon, along with Sheriff representatives, will be on the committee. Lynn will coordinate the meeting.

Harry Teel and Tammy Hoyman, EFR (powerpoint)

In 1980 substance abuse service began at EFR and in the late 80's, assessments started at the Jail. Counselors are now at the jail to do assessments and referrals. They determine the appropriate level of care, report recommendations and provide case management services (i.e. transportation, transition of care, etc). In the

last two years, there have been more than 1,600 jail assessments. Recent changes include: funding decrease, one position eliminated at the jail and a counselor change at the jail.

A current issue is we are not serving clients as efficiently as before, consultation with judges has been reduced. Judge Gamble said he wasn't aware of any meetings scheduled with judges. Mr. Teel said Judges Price and Brandt were there. John asked about people seeking help if their records may be accessed in the future. EFR counselors say there are legal limitations to releasing records. John suggests checking this based on new laws regarding records. Valorie asked about the change in personnel, stating the defense attorneys have noticed a decline in treatment referrals since the change. Those sent to Mt. Pleasant come back and just sit in Jail and Valorie asked if there has been a change in philosophy. Mr. Teel said there has been no change; they are working with new counselors at the Jail to determine referrals and what choices are out there. They are also looking at other options besides Mt. Pleasant, possibly other community based facilities (i.e. UCS, Mecca, Broadlawns, House of Mercy), except these facilities don't take prisoners. Clients on mental health medications go off of them to get treatment. EFR does need another person to help with case management.

Angela said there is a need for a work group to discuss this issue. Dave Higdon, Health Services, said it is in the best financial interest of Mt. Pleasant to stay with mental health units. Committee names recommended: Leesa Shoemaker, Jan Sears, Linda Ford, Candy Morgan, Valorie Wilson, a District Judge and an Associate Judge and a Pre-Trial person (maybe Sally).

III. I-Leads Committee Update – Dillon Kraft (handout)

Due to time constraints, Dillon briefly went over the handout of Jail Operations and Statistical Report. The number of in-custody was down slightly, 859 males, 122 females. Valorie asked if juveniles were held in Marshall County. Dillon said only those that can't be held here due to behavior issues and females. There was a brief period in June where the jail hit their ceiling; one reason could be that there was a furlough day for the courts. Judge Gamble said there are no planned furlough days for this fiscal year and they are operating on Saturdays now, not Sundays.

IV. Juveniles and Intake – Brian Boyer, CFYS and Marilyn Lantz, Juvenile Court

Marilyn stated that the criteria to hold youth is stated in the Code of Iowa, 232.22, are more restrictive than adults. There has been some confusion on the part of law enforcement which comes from 1994 where a process was developed at central intake collaboratively by the County, State Juvenile Court and Des Moines Police Department. County staff were there 24/7. Police were there until funding was eliminated. There were five positions. Now they call someone on-call from Intake to do a risk assessment of youth but Polk County is still there 24/7. Polk County continues to staff the intake center.

A process was in place that operated for one year where law enforcement would call and take juveniles to wait for a parent to arrive to separate the juvenile from a situation. Juveniles charged as adults were at the jail and then transferred to the detention center which resulted in confusion.

The Polk County facility manages juveniles until they are released to a parent. Juvenile Court is working with Polk County and the Des Moines Police Department on protocol. Brian Boyer is trying to facilitate Juvenile

Court Services needs. Polk County is not part of the system of who decides to hold a juvenile. Once the decision is made, Polk County is always there to assist and law enforcement can always bring the juvenile to intake for assistance.

Polk County Juvenile Court and Community, Family & Youth Services met with Des Moines Police Department roll call. Yesterday, Des Moines Police Department confirmed that was their understanding. This will help get law enforcement back on the street as soon as possible. Tom thanked Brian and Marilyn for their support of the program and their willingness to work this out and also mentioned that the Supervisors are hearing from constituents about this issue at neighborhood meetings. Marilyn said 94% of the kids don't start at the detention center. It's the 6% that are imminent risk that create the problems. Angela said the perception is that there is no follow through. Sheriff McCarthy stated that the entire system is lacking and in need of an overhaul.

V. In-Custody Drug Treatment – Sarah Lee, UCS (handout)

The Jail Treatment Program Referral Process

Clients must meet the classification and criteria to get into the program. Some do not meet the criteria (i.e. violent crimes, etc). John asked about violations after they get out of program. Are they getting credit for time served? Sarah stated yes, and that's been a frustration for the program. The goal is to keep them on probation for a year so case management can be done. These are misdemeanors.

Angela mentioned the trip that the Sheriff took to San Antonio to see their jail diversion program. She said maybe we could get a team together to visit the facility this fall.

Next meeting – 8 a.m., Thursday, September 23, 2010, at Hy-Vee Hall, Room 6.

Meeting adjourned.