

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, November 2, 2010
Administrative Center – Room 3220
2:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Burke, Joe Bilskemper, Ray Ebert, Maureen Freedland, Tammy Gamroth, Brad Konkel

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bridget Flood

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Steve O'Malley, Steve Helgeson, Doris Daggett, Margaret Norden, Gary Ingvalson, Mary Powell, Maqueda Smith, Andrew Walter, Jane Contreras, Sharon Hampson

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vicki Burke called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m.

APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 12, 2010

MOTION by Bilskemper/Konkel to approve the Committee Minutes of October 12, 2010.

Motion carried unanimously. Flood excused.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bilskemper/Freedland to receive and file the following consent agenda items: Criminal Justice Management Council Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2010, and August 18, 2010. **Motion carried unanimously.** Flood excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT

Chair Burke reported on the site visit by the Urban Institute and National Institute of Corrections on transitioning from jail to community. She stated they met with Jail and Justice Sanctions staff. They were impressed with direct supervision in the jail, and very complimentary about the jail facility.

REVIEW HPL MEDICAL SERVICES

The Committee reviewed HPL's follow-up reports from July 1, 2010, and October 29, 2010, to the recommendations from the NCCHC Report on La Crosse County Jail Health Services. Andrew Walter, HPL's Vice President of Operations, and Maqueda Smith, HPL Contract Manager, provided an explanation of current staffing and professional licensing. Walter and Smith responded to questions on the following:

- Administrative meetings and reports: Meetings are being held quarterly;
- Health policies and procedure manuals: HPL is doing random audits to be sure every aspect is in compliance;
- Clinical mortality review: They are currently setting up policy and procedure;
- Grievance mechanism for health care complaints: They have added individual, in-person interviews to discuss grievances. Complaints are down to approximately two per month from three to four, or more, per month;
- Training for staff: HPL has conducted training on mental health issues, as requested, and have assisted with other in-services.
- Administration of prescription medications in timely manner: Explanation was provided regarding verification of medication, and where medications are obtained;
- Nurse practitioner hours and other staffing at contracted hours: HPL has added a physicians' assistant position for an additional four hours; staffing appears to be adequate for the jail population;

- Timeliness of consultations: Explanation was given regarding physician review. Walter added that tracking is done more closely to ensure compliance;
- Chronic care log: The log can be used to track care on a monthly, bi-annual, and annual basis;
- Medication refusals: Explanation was given that some adverse reactions can sometimes be attributed to medication being taken under different lifestyle circumstances than the inmate has during incarceration.

Captain Daggett stated that HPL has responded well to any concerns. Sheriff Helgeson added that he has not had concerns raised by jail staff, or received complaints from families or attorneys regarding jail health care, for the past year. Discussion was held regarding pursuing jail accreditation, and Walter responded that HPL's standards are in line with national standards, but would still require a year of work on documentation to obtain accreditation.

2011 BUDGET REVIEW FOR DEPARTMENTS THAT REPORT TO THIS COMMITTEE

Steve O'Malley asked for any questions from the committee regarding the 2011 budget before it goes to County Board. He explained that an item had been added to the Executive Committee agenda about amending Aramark's contract with the jail kitchen facilities. He responded to Supervisor Ebert's questions about the Sheriff's budget line items for D.A.R.E. donations and jail overtime.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None requested.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING – DECEMBER 7, 2010, AT 2:30 P.M.

Steve O'Malley stated there will also be an LEC Construction Committee meeting on December 7, 2010.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Bilskemper/Freedland to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Flood excused. Meeting adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Approved, December 5, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder