

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

February 16, 2011

Administrative Center Room B190

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Doyle, Ramona Gonzalez, Vicki Burke, Tim Gruenke, Jason Witt, Tom Locate, Steve Helgeson, Bill Feehan, Ann Quinlisk, Sharon Hampson, Troy Harcey, Mike Desmond, Michael McHugh, Keith Belzer

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Dennis Montabon, Bill Hammes, Jim Nesbitt, Robert Lawrence, Rita Zindorf, Geva Thole

OTHERS PRESENT: Jane Klekamp, Bev Heebsh, Anne Jungen, Judge Bjerke, Thom Downer, Bridget Todd, Doris Daggett, Vicki Gunderson

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 19, 2011 MINUTES OF THE CJMC

MOTION by Hampson/Burke to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2011 Criminal Justice Management Council **carried unanimously**. (Montabon, Hammes, Nesbitt, Lawrence, Zindorf, Thole & Doyle excused)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VETERANS COURT UPDATE

Judge Bjerke and Thom Downer were present to give the council a brief update on Veterans Court. The Veterans Court Program started up in November on Veterans Day. No one is in the court yet. This is a two entity program – the first part being the Mentors Program, of which Thom Downer is the Director. This part started up in January of last year. For veterans who have been in combat, either recently or back in a previous war, the negative effects of combat can cause behavioral problems, which can lead to other issues. Some of the surrounding agencies, i.e. City of La Crosse and Onalaska, identify veterans at the point of contact. These names are given to Jim Gausmann, our Veterans Service Officer, who sends those Veterans a letter asking them to come in to talk to him. If they don't come in, then the mentors give those Veterans a call to try to connect with them. If they are in the system and are evaluated by a VA Psychiatrist or Psychologist, and are found to have PTSD, or some other type of behavior health issue, they will get the treatment they need. This should reduce the risk to reoffend. Veterans Court is for those Veterans that can't make it through a diversion or standard probation, etc. This will be run similarly to the OWI Court and Drug Court. If you know of any honorably discharged veterans, they are recruiting for other mentors.

STATUS REPORTS

Sheriff – The DOC will be doing their inspection tomorrow of the new LEC addition and hopefully give their approval so that we can move the females over from the old facility next week. Also the video visitation should be up and running next week.

Public Defender – Under the new legislation, their office will be getting a new attorney position and some new staff hours.

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Human Services – The Family & Children’s Services Section Manager position, replacing Mary Ellen Prinsen, has been advertised. They hope to have this position filled in April. Jane Klekamp and Nancy Pohlman continue to provide interim supervision for the juvenile justice workers. They are working on a plan and framework to integrate evidence based practices throughout the juvenile justice program. The CARE Center Steering Committee is meeting this afternoon and is looking at continued operations of the CARE Center into 2012 where there are some fiscal challenges. There is a shortfall in MA money, as well as, not as many community contributions coming in.

Public Relations & Outreach Committee – The PR Outreach presentation as been given at several different locations and some are scheduled in the near future. These include the Jailers, County Board, Rotary, School District, Family Policy Board & Winona CJMC. Jane distributed a rough draft of a brochure regarding the CJMC and Chemical Health & Justice Sanctions. They plan to have it finalized by the Town Hall meeting on March 3rd. Those planning to attend should meet at 5:30 – go into the jail at 6:00 for a warm-up followed by the actual live program from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. on WXOW with Scott Hackworth. Both the La Crosse Tribune and WXOW are sponsoring the event. There will be a Grand Opening in late May once everything is complete with the new LEC addition.

District Attorney – Law enforcement has agreed to keep people that are operating without a driver’s license in municipal court - these used to be criminal and go to circuit court. This should save at least 5-6 cases a week. They are still trying to come up with something similar for OAR’s.

Judges – Attorney contracts have been sent out again. They will be more diligent in making sure that the poverty guidelines are met before they appoint counsel.

County Board – Steve Doyle clarified that with the Governor’s Budget Repair Proposal, jailers are not exempt like the law enforcement officers are. There is major concern with what will happen at the County, especially with what’s mandated and not mandated. The expectation from the WCA is that the cuts in shared revenue could be somewhere between 40-70%.

TOURS OF LEC ADDITION? JAIL, DOC AND CHJS?

If anyone would like a tour of the new Chemical Health & Justice Sanctions area, please stick around after the meeting today and Jane will give a tour. Keith will set up a couple of dates with Captain Daggett if anyone on the council is interested in a tour of the jail.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT FOR OJA APPLICATION

The State of Wisconsin, Office of Justice Assistance has a significant grant available relating to Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils.

1. There is a group of Criminal Justice Coordinating Council coordinators who are trying to work together in data collection so that they are all collecting the same data and reporting the same things. They are writing a grant. **MOTION** by Doyle/Gonzalez to approve writing this letter for a grant **carried unanimously**. (Montabon, Hammes, Nesbitt, Lawrence, Zindorf & Thole excused)

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2. The same grant could potentially cover some of the shortfall we have concerning the CARE Center. Matt Strittmater from Mental Health Recovery Services is also asking for a letter of support from the CJMC. **MOTION** by Hampson/Burke to approve **carried unanimously**. (Montabon, Hammes, Nesbitt, Lawrence, Zindorf & Thole excused)

DISPROPORTIONATE MINORITY CONTACT TRAINING AND PLANNING

A training session by Dr. Lori Fridell on Disproportionate Minority Contact Training was held in La Crosse on December 2010 and several members of the CJMC attended. All who attended thought the training was very good and well presented. The CJMC Executive Committee has agreed that this should be a focus for the year and the City of La Crosse is interested as well so hopefully we can bring Dr. Fridell back and do the training with the various law enforcement agencies. The CJMC Exec Committee will continue to follow up.

COLLABORATION SURVEY

If you haven't filled out your Collaboration Survey, please do so today and return to Jane. This is something that The Carey Group felt that we should do on a yearly basis.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Juvenile Justice Disproportionate minority Contact – Jason Witt
- CARE Center

ADJOURN

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Gonzalez/Gruenke to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 a.m. **carried unanimously**. (Montabon, Hammes, Nesbitt, Lawrence, Zindorf & Thole excused)

The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next Council meeting.

Recorded by Terri Pavlic