

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 7, 2011
Administrative Center – Room 3220
2:30 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Vicki Burke, Joe Bilskemper, Ray Ebert, Maureen Freedland, Tammy Gamroth, Karin Johnson

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bridget Flood

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF & GUESTS: Steve O'Malley, Margaret Norden, Bev Heebesch, Jane Klekamp, Dave Lange, John Steers, Laurie Ripp

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Vicki Burke called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MAY 10, 2011

MOTION by Freedland/Bilskemper to approve the Committee Minutes of May 10, 2011.

Motion carried unanimously. Flood excused.

APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Bilskemper/Gamroth to receive and file the following consent agenda items:

- a. Criminal Justice Management Council Minutes of March 16, 2011, and Criminal Justice Executive Committee Minutes of March 9, 2011
- b. Joint City/County Emergency Medical Services Commission Minutes of February 24, 2011

Motion carried unanimously. Flood excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORTS

Chair Burke reported that the Urban Institute will have its last visit on transition from jail to community on June 28-29, 2011.

REPORT ON JAIL CHAPLAINS PROGRAM

Chaplain Skemp was unavailable to speak about the Jail Chaplains program, and the item was referred to the July 12, 2011, agenda.

REPORT ON COST EFFECTIVENESS OF WOMEN'S COMMUNITY BASED PROGRAMMING COMPARED TO JAIL

Jane Klekamp provided the following statistics for the Women's Community Based Program (WCBP):

	2008	2009	2010
Total expenditures	\$90,738	\$213,635	\$206,591
Bed days saved	568	1,536	2,391
Average daily population	3	4	7
Cost per participant	\$160	\$139	\$87

She reported that the women's jail population has been higher than usual recently. They continue to make the community facility as consumer and community friendly as possible to reduce recidivism. Supervisor Freedland asked about comparisons to other counties' programs, and Klekamp replied that the La Crosse County program is unique. Supervisor Ebert posed several questions regarding cost effectiveness of providing the same programs to the full jail population rather than operating a separate facility. Klekamp spoke about the value of applying skills learned in programming in the community setting. Programs that

are not offered to the full jail population include cognitive behavior programming, health education, work searches, substance abuse treatment, and trauma survivors programs. Klekamp reported that placements can be through sentencing, as an alternative to revocation or posting bond, and in situations where the resident is homeless, jobless, and/or in treatment court.

REQUEST BY RTI DONOR SERVICES TO MEDICAL EXAMINER FOR USE OF MORGUE

Steve O'Malley provided information on the request from RTI Donor Services to use the La Crosse County morgue for the purpose of recovering donor tissue. RTI Donor Services is a not-for-profit organization that provides tissue to RTI Biologics, Inc., a for-profit company that uses donor tissue, such as bone, tendons, ligaments, skin, and heart valves for transplant recipients. John Steers introduced Laurie Ripp from RTI Donor Services, who provided background on tissue procurement and use, and the relationship between the not-for-profit and for-profit companies. Discussion was held regarding other companies that provide services, and Ripp reported there are two organ procurement companies, one company that deals only with corneas, and four tissue recovery companies in the state. If RTI Donor Services would contract with La Crosse County, the advantages would include a toxicology report for use by the medical examiner that could prevent conducting an autopsy, and an increased number of tissue donations from being able to secure timely donations and prevent transfer to a funeral home before the family has an opportunity to consider donation. O'Malley said options for the committee could include: accepting the RTI proposal, issuing a Request for Proposal to any interested firms, or some variation of these ideas. **MOTION** by Freedland/Bilskemper to direct staff to work with Corporation Counsel and bring back a recommendation on options for the committee and County Board to consider whereby tissue can be harvested for the benefit of the community. **Motion carried unanimously.** Flood excused.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

Update on community service work crews

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: JULY 12, 2011

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Bilskemper/Johnson to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Flood excused. The meeting adjourned at 3:27 p.m.

Approved, July 12, 2011, Margaret Norden, Recorder