

LA CROSSE COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING

COMMITTEE OR BOARD: JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE
DATE OF MEETING: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2020
MEETING PLACE: COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE CENTER, CONF RM 1107
LA CROSSE WI 54601
TIME/PURPOSE OF MEETING: 4:30 P.M.

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment*
3. Approve Committee Minutes of January 7, 2020
4. Consent Agenda (informational):
 - a. CJMC – January 15, 2020
5. Review of the 2019 Jail Inspection Report – Sheriff Jeff Wolf
6. Introduction of Emergency Services Administrator – Brian Hitchcock
7. Next Committee Meeting: March 10, 2020
8. Items for Future Agendas
9. Adjourn

NEWS MEDIA

La Crosse Tribune
Other Media

OTHERS

Emails:

Jim Speropulos
Peg Isola
Bev Heebisch
Bryan Jostad

DEPARTMENTS/STAFF

County Board Chair
County Administrator
County Clerk

Facilities

Emails:

Pam Radtke
Elizabeth Wright
Jeff Wolf
Tim Gruenke
Jay Loeffler
Tim Candahl
Lisa Stablier

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kim Cable, Chair
Vicki Burke
Margaret Larson
Isaac Tahiri
Noelle Weber Strauss

***PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Committee may receive information from the public, but the Committee reserves the right to limit the time that the public may comment and the degree to which members of the public may participate in the meeting.

MEMBERS: If unable to attend, call the County Clerk's Office at 785-9581.

PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES: If you need accommodations to attend this meeting, please call 785-9581 as soon as possible.

This meeting may be recorded, and any such recording is subject to disclosure under the Wisconsin Open Records Law.

DATE POSTED: February 6, 2020

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE

Tuesday, January 7, 2020

Room 1107, Administrative Center, La Crosse, WI

4:30 p.m. MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Kim Cable, Margaret Larson, Vicki Burke, Noelle Weber Strauss, Isaac Tahiri
MEMBERS EXCUSED:	None
MEMBERS ABSENT:	None
OTHERS PRESENT	Steve O'Malley, Sheriff Jeff Wolf, Jay Loeffler, Mandy Bisek, Alice Sorenson, Bev Heebisch

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Kim Cable called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None**APPROVE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2019****MOTION** by Weber Straus/Tahiri to approve the Committee Minutes of November 5, 2019.**Motion carried unanimously.****CONSENT AGENDA:**

- a. CJMC – November 20, 2019

MOTION by Weber Straus/Burke to approve the consent agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.****APPROVAL OF 2020 PUBLIC SAFETY RADIO MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT**

Jay Loeffler requested approval of the Public Safety Radio Maintenance Agreement.

BAYCOM provides complete maintenance services for the dispatch and radio equipment of the La Crosse County E911 system. It includes the tower sites, radio consoles and the microwave system. It provides 7/24/365 coverage. The cost of the contract this year is \$71,857.05 which reflects a 5% discount if it is paid in full in January. This amount has been approved in the 2020 Budget. **MOTION** by Burke/Larson to approve the Maintenance Agreement. **Motion carried unanimously.**

UPDATE ON EVIDENCED BASED DECISION MAKING

Mandy Bisek, Manager of Justice Support Services, presented an update on the status of Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) in La Crosse County by covering the following:

- What is EBDM?
- EBDM Principles
- La Crosse County Change Targets:
 - #1: Using Risk and Needs assessments for informed plea negotiations and sentencing.
 - #2: Best way to collect money for non-payment obligations, including child support?
 - #3: Modify the pre-trial bond and diversion policy.
- The Full Scope of the Change Targets

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: February 11, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.**ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:**

- Review of the 2019 Sheriff's Annual Report
- Jay Loeffler's Last Meeting

JUDICIARY AND LAW COMMITTEE
Tuesday, January 7, 2020
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ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Weber Straus/Tahiri to adjourn at 4:59 p.m. **Motion** carried unanimously.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting. Alice Sorenson, Recorder

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
JANUARY 15, 2020
LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER – ROOM 1615**

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Tim Gruenke, Kim Cable, Ramona Gonzalez, Troy Harcey, Jeff Wolf, Jerri Hertel, Monica Kruse, Margaret Larson, Araysa Simpson, John Medinger, Jayne Rifenberg, Joella Strieble, Jason Witt, Stephanie Young, Suthakaran Veerasamy, Mai Chao Duddeck
MEMBERS EXCUSED:	Lisa Kruse, Chuck Ashbeck, Sharon Hampson, Rob Abraham, Carrie Rein
OTHERS PRESENT:	Scott Horne, Jim Verse, Jane Klekamp, Kristi Arenz, Becky Spanjers, Mandy Bisek, Jordan Vian, Mike Kiefer, Al Bliss, Sam Seefeld

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Tim Gruenke called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 20, 2019 MINUTES OF THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL RETREAT

MOTION by M. Kruse/Wolf to approve the November 20, 2019 minutes of the Criminal Justice Management Council Retreat. **Motion carried unanimously**; L. Kruse, Ashbeck, Hampson, Abraham and Rein excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

STATUS REPORTS:

Sheriff/Jail – current jail population is at 141; we've been holding extended supervision inmates (we are under 20).

Public Defender - Private bar rates went into effect January 1st, so they are seeing a little bit of the backlog begin to get under control. If you know of any attorneys who are willing to take these cases, please encourage them to get certified and take some of these cases.

Department of Corrections – busy end of year; their division went through a reorganization.

Human Services – last Wednesday, the Human Services Department had an all-agency kick-off for Trauma Informed Care. They've had many sections that have done a lot with trauma informed care, but this was an effort to bring up the whole agency.

Sam Seefeld was hired to replace Donna Christianson as the Crisis Intervention Supervisor.

District Attorney – hired 2 new people, both of whom will be going on maternity leave soon; they still have one position to fill.

Judges – happy that more individuals are having attorneys appointed to them, but the backlog will take awhile to get it under control. Judge Gonzalez is appointing Judge Horne to take her place on the CJMC, as her position as President of the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges is taking up more of her time than anticipated.

County Board – the County Board passed the 2020 budget; at their last meeting they received a report on the Holmen Community Center; also Administrator Steve O'Malley provided the County Board with an overview of the effects of reassessment in the County

Pretrial Workgroup: met yesterday and have a good handle on the level of data that they would like to collect on an ongoing basis; they did review of 2019 pretrial data; they have decided to meet on a quarterly basis now.

JAIL MENTAL HEALTH & MEDICATION ASSISTED TREATMENT (MAT) OFFERED IN THE JAIL – SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

This topic came out of the CJMC retreat. We will start off with this topic, which will then lead us into topics outside of the jail, i.e. lack of housing, homelessness, mental illness, lack of services, etc.

Sheriff Jeff Wolf discussed MAT (Medically Assisted Treatment) for those suffering from addictions, and what they are doing for the jail population. These individuals need to be on some type of program, such as Methadone, Suboxone, Vivitrol, etc. Inmates coming in to the jail that are dope sick, recovering, or currently using, are highly intensive on jail staff. A couple of things happened in 2018, one of which was the jail went to a new Medical Provider, ACH. At approximately the same time, the Alliance to Heal was rebranded from the Heroin Task Force, and a number of subgroups were set up within the Alliance to Heal. One of these subgroups was identified to target MAT and what we could do for these inmates in the jail.

The previous Medical Provider did provide Vivitrol, however, we had not established a Vivitrol program with ACH when they took over the jail medical. This program is now up and running and are now focusing on other programs that individuals were on prior to coming into the jail. Members of the MAT subgroup, Dr. Jackie Jaeger, Carrie Sulter, R.N., Al Bliss, Health Education Coordinator, Mike Kiefer, Program Coordinator, and Sam Seefeld were present to discuss.

Al Bliss distributed a couple of handouts from the Alliance to HEAL: Alliance to HEAL Summary of Work Group Activity September 27, 2018 – December 31, 2019, and the Alliance to HEAL Driver Diagram.

The main outcome of the Alliance to Heal is "Reversing the Opioid Crisis in our Community" with the four primary drivers being:

1. Limit supply of opioids.
2. Prevent opioid use disorder – raise awareness of the risk of opioid use disorder
3. Identify/assess individuals at high risk for opioid use disorder
4. Treat individuals opioid use disorder

10 different work groups were formed, as well as subgroups.

Dr. Jaeger and Carrie Sulter, R.N. discussed the collaboration on getting successful coordination of all of the issues involved with individuals of MAT. There are several different types of programs, and various things to consider when inmates arrive in jail, including starting them on Vivitrol, the withdrawal process, treating symptoms, needing frequent vital sign checks, etc. There are 2-4 inmates withdrawing from Heroin every day in the jail.

In 2018, out of 6,000 coming through the jail, approximately 2,700 were on some type of detox protocol. There are several complications that can arise, and MAT is a very complex

topic. Suboxone, Vivitrol, and Methadone are the 3 drugs used when a person enters the jail suffering from addiction, and helps them to move forward in their addiction. In addition to these medications, these individuals need ongoing therapy, counseling, engaging in services, assess motivation for change readiness, etc.

NACO ACTION ALERT – SUPPORT LEGISLATION PROTECTING FEDERAL BENEFITS FOR PRE-TRIAL DETAINEES

Included in the packets was information regarding pending federal legislation regarding Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy (MIEP). MIEP strips federal health benefits from individuals admitted to jail before they are convicted of a crime. This policy violates constitutional rights and individuals' fundamental presumption of innocence and strains our local judicial, law enforcement, public safety and human services systems and results in higher rates of recidivism and poorer health outcomes. There are currently two bills in the US Senate that would aid pre-trial individuals who have not yet been convicted of a crime:

- The Restoring Health Benefits for Justice-Involved Individuals Act, which would allow for continued access to Medicare, the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and veterans' health benefits while an individual is awaiting trial.
- The Equity in Pretrial Medicaid Coverage Act, which supports continued access to Medicaid benefits while an individual is awaiting trial.

We need more research and information on this topic, and will be put on next month's CJMC agenda.

INFORMATIONAL/MISC ITEMS:

Article about republican "Tough on Crime" bills. Chair Gruenke will get a summary and send out to the CJMC.

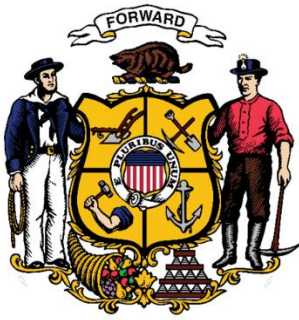
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

- Viterbo's Criminal/Community Justice System Program

ADJOURN: There being no further business, Chair Gruenke adjourned the meeting at 8:42 a.m.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Recorded by Terri Pavlic



Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Governor Tony Evers | Secretary Kevin A. Carr

Office of Detention Facilities

December 2, 2019

Sheriff Jeff Wolf
La Crosse County Sheriff's Department
333 Vine St. #1500
La Crosse, WI 54601

Re: 2019 Annual Inspection

Dear Sheriff Wolf:

On October 22, 2019, the annual inspection of the La Crosse County Jail was conducted pursuant to WI Statute 301.37(3). The inspection compared the facility and its operation to applicable state statutes and Department of Corrections' Administrative Code Chapter DOC 350. This inspection consisted of a tour of the facility; interviews with administration, staff and inmates; review of inmate files; a review of the policy and procedure manual; and a review of facility records and documentation.

The maximum rated capacity of the facility is 274. On the day of the inspection, there were 180 inmates incarcerated in the facility.

Improvements since previous Inspection

- Continued with 16 hours of in-service training in February, followed by 8 hours of in-house POSC training scheduled throughout the year.
- Expanded the JTO Program to include an initial two week training, teaming up with the patrol division.
- Fostered the jail's participation in Hostage Negotiations Training, teaming up with the patrol division.
- Enhanced inmates' communication with friends and family by upgrading to the latest technology. Recently, the jail added video visitation from home and e-messaging.
- Coordinated mental health needs with the County Mental Health Team led by Sam Seefeld.
- Implementing a robust rounds tracking system to replace the Pipe system and paper logging we currently use.
- Manage and support the recently created Police Officer Support Team (POST) at the Sheriff's Office, which includes both jail and patrol staff.
- Purchased and installed a body scanner for the detection of contraband before it enters the jail.
- Trained and educated staff on the newly updated strip search policy.
- Trained and educated the public on the new incoming mail policy.

Goals and Initiatives

- Upgrade the rounds tracking system to provide live tracking and the ability to maintain all logs electronically.
- Continue to offer and support educational classes such as job training through WTC and the La Crosse School District.
- Participate and support monthly Criminal Justice Management Council meetings.
- Coordinate Sergeant meeting every six weeks in order to discuss operational and managerial topics, to include a reoccurring agenda item dedicated to POSC training.
- Facilitate weekly “inmate staffing” meeting with the Jail Captain, Admin Sergeant, Duty Sergeant, Program Coordinator, Chaplain, Mental Health Staff, Nursing Supervisor, Classification Officers, and Probation and Parole Liaison.
- Work with Probation and Parole regarding their incarcerated inmates.
- Reduce the number of overdose incidents in the jail. Reduction efforts have been successful, starting with the change in the incoming mail policy and the implementation of the body scanner.
- Expand video intake court by encouraging more judges to utilize this service, as it is more efficient and creates a safer environment for all involved.
- Change the key control strategy by reducing the number of keys on each duty station ring. The jail will also ensure each key ring is numbered and secured to prevent keys from being removed.
- Cross-train all Jail Sergeants on all of the Sergeant duties.
- Restructure the JTO DOR to reflect the recent changes in the training program.
- Train all of the jail staff and patrol staff in gender responsive training.
- Promote in-house communication through Jail Sergeant Shift reports which are emailed to all Sergeants, the Sheriff, the Chief Deputy, the Jail Captain, the Investigative Captain and the Office Supervisor.

Summary of Jail Operations

I met with the administrative, security, healthcare, and foodservice staff to conduct the annual inspection. The site visit included a review of the facility records and documentation, as well as a walkthrough of the detention areas.

The facility appeared to be clean and in good condition. The intercoms, radios, and doors and locks appeared to be in good working condition, and no visible defects to the facility were found.

While walking through the facility, I received no repetitive complaints from inmates regarding their conditions of confinement or staff supervision. The biggest change from last year’s inspection was the implementation of tracking staff rounds. The facility is currently in transition to the new procedure, so the staff are documenting their rounds in a log until the new system is fully installed.

Programs

The following are programs that the La Crosse County Jail provides for both male and female inmates:

- Coping Skills Group
- AODA
- Dual Diagnosis Group
- Self-Management and Recovery Training Group
- AA
- NA
- Moral Recognition Therapy
- Seeking Safety Group
- PROVEN Employment Class
- Careers Class
- High School Diploma Class
- General Education Diploma Class
- College Success Class
- Credit for Prior Learning Class
- UW-La Crosse Literacy Class
- Library/book exchange
- Sunday Worship Service
- Bible Study
- Prayer Groups
- Storybook Program

Inspection Findings:

- There were no violations noted during this inspection.

Recommendations:

- Although the jail does have a disciplinary procedure in place, it is hard to determine if all the procedural steps are being met. It is recommended that a procedure be implemented to ensure all the required due process steps are being met.

Approval

The La Crosse County Jail is approved by the Department of Corrections for the secure detention of adult inmates with the maximum capacity of 274.

I wish to thank Captain Verse and his staff for their assistance, cooperation and professionalism during the inspection process.

If you have any questions regarding the inspection results summarized in this letter or if I may be of any assistance regarding correctional matters, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brad Hoover", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brad Hoover
Detention Facilities Specialist

cc: Captain Jim Verse, Jail Administrator
Melissa Roberts, Director-ODF
File