

**Minutes of the Waukesha County Criminal Justice Collaborating Council
Executive Committee
June 14, 2010**

Judge Davis called the meeting to order at 12:40 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Judge Mac Davis (Chair), Peter Schuler, Brad Schimel, Dan Vrakas, Sam Benedict, Jim Dwyer

Also Present: Judge Kathryn Foster, Vanessa Allen, Karen Phillips, Rebecca Luczaj, Sarah Spaeth, Sara Carpenter, Ellen Nowak

Approve Minutes from May 10, 2010 Meeting

The minutes of May 10, 2010 were approved unanimously.

Discuss & Consider CJCC Committee Membership Additions

MOTION: Benedict moved, second by Davis, to approve Waukesha Municipal Court Judge Joe Cook's membership to the CJCC Juvenile Justice Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: Schimel moved, second by Benedict, to approve UW-Extension Interim Co-Director Jerry Braatz's membership to the CJCC Education and Public Relations Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Discuss & Consider Membership & Purpose of New CJCC Drug Abuse Trends Ad Hoc Committee

Luczaj requested the committee offer input regarding the draft copy of the *Drug Abuse Trends Ad Hoc Committee Purpose & Membership, June 2010*. In an effort to broaden the range of focus of the purpose statement, Davis suggested replacing the words "with specific focus on" with the word "including".

Discussion continued with review of the membership list as outlined. Luczaj stated she is anticipating recommendations for representatives from Waukesha Memorial Hospital, ARO Counseling, and the Department of Corrections (DOC). She is awaiting a return call from Quality Addiction Management (a methadone clinic) in the City of Waukesha. Jim Haessly and Michelle Trussoni have confirmed their participation. Davis commented that the membership is too heavily based on City of Waukesha representatives. Other suggestions included individuals from the following locations and/or areas of expertise:

- Pharmacist or person with pharmacy background
- Representation from additional school districts (Arrowhead was suggested)
- Representation from other communities within County with significant heroin issues (Pewaukee, Muskego were suggested)

Schimel stated that Captain Chuck Wood would more than adequately cover the perspective of law enforcement on a countywide basis.

Discussion continued in effort to further define goals for the new committee. Schimel agreed to be chairperson. Davis suggested not moving forward until the assignment is better established and to allow more time to further review the purpose and potential membership list. The discussion and potential membership approval was deferred until the next CJCC Executive Committee meeting.

Dwyer arrived at 12:55 p.m.

Update on Mental Health Court Planning Initiative

Foster gave a summary of the course she attended in Reno, Nevada, entitled “Advanced Issues in Cases Involving Co-occurring Mental and Substance Abuse Disorders.” She focused on the existing need to do more for the mentally ill in our criminal justice system, as jails are becoming the largest mental health non-treatment facilities nationwide.

At Foster’s request, Jail Administrator Mike Giese provided her a list of 15 inmates (April 2010) who would benefit from a mental health treatment court. She said that prior to the beginning of the Alcohol Treatment Court in Waukesha, jail studies revealed that numbers of mentally ill defendants charged with low-level crimes were cycling again and again through the jail and back out into the community. Traditional court processes do little to improve outcomes for the majority of these mentally ill offenders. She further discussed the “Shirlee” program in Waukesha County, which began as a community transition program for people with mental illness; however, funding has since been reduced, it is always at capacity (30) and it is difficult to transition people out of the program.

Foster stated that as part of the course requirement, she developed an action plan for Waukesha County. She asked for the approval of the CJCC Executive Committee to proceed in exploring whether or not a program is viable without asking for any more resources. She advised that it would not be likely to assess fees from the target population (most are on SSI), who are chronically ill and may have other substance abuse issues. These individuals are at a very high risk for reoffending and using County resources and tax dollars repetitively. Foster also discussed issues associated with medications and loss of SSI during extended periods of incarceration.

Foster discussed at length the justifications and essential elements for mental health treatment courts. She cited examples of successful programs in various areas in the State and nationwide, particularly in Reno. The goal is to manage an individual’s mental illness with an integrated treatment system while getting them drug and/or alcohol free. She opined that a mental health court would be a good complement to an alcohol and/or drug treatment court. Foster asked permission to hold a meeting with stakeholders representing the district attorney, public defender, HHS, the Mental Health Association, county executive staff, and a county board supervisor (Janel Brandtjen), among others. Mike Giese, Lt. Bill Deering and the Menomonee Falls police chief have expressed an interest in participating. Foster stated that she believes there is some grant funding available

Dwyer noted the success of the Alcohol Treatment Court (ATC) but advised that there are only limited amounts of resources for programming. There are grants to start up new programs, but limited funds to sustain them. Would the County be able to support an additional treatment court (drug or mental health)? Where is the true need? Perhaps there is even more of a population that would benefit from a drug court program. Foster said she would like to explore the possibility of starting the program without grant money and speculated there may be existing dollars and resources that could be rechanneled or refocused. She noted that the Sheriff’s Department Crisis Intervention Team would be a very significant source of referrals. Davis suggested that perhaps this programming could be accomplished without a judge involved. Foster said the Maricopa, AZ study advises that the judiciary remains a key component. She reaffirmed her intentions of forming a study group to explore the need for a mental health court including the identification of current resources that could be expanded/reorganized using existing personnel. Foster estimated that three meetings should be sufficient, after which she would report back to the Executive Committee with the findings. Davis told Foster that she is free to do so. Benedict would like to see further exploration of this subject and volunteered one of his staff members to participate.

Davis thanked Foster for presenting her update.

Update on Committee Presentation Timeline for 2011 CJCC Programming & Budget Recommendations

Luczaj provided the following timeline for the 2011 budget presentations:

- CJCC Programs and Alternatives Committee – July 7
- CJCC Executive Committee – July 12
- Criminal Justice Collaborating Council – July 28
- Health & Human Services Board – July 29

Discuss & Consider New Referrals as of July 1, 2010 of 2nd & 3rd OWI Offenders to the DRC as a Condition of “Probation”

Davis commented on the upcoming changes to OWI laws and the possible implications on future programming with WCS in Waukesha County. The new legislation will allow greater numbers of offenders to be put on probation and may require expanding the capacity of the Day Report Center to accommodate the increasing numbers. Davis discussed the potential legalities involved with the Winnebago sentencing option model and the uncertainty of the DOC resource availability at the present time.

Next CJCC Executive Committee Meeting:

Monday, July 12, 2010 @ 8:30 am, Room C179

Next CJCC Meeting:

Wednesday, July 28, 2010 @ 8:30 am, Room C179

The meeting adjourned at 1:52 p.m.