

CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT COUNCIL COMMITTEE
November 21, 2012
Law Enforcement Center – Room 1615

MEMBERS PRESENT:	Dennis Montabon, Keith Belzer, Tara Johnson (exc. 8:10 a.m.), Vicki Burke (exc. 8:00 a.m.), Tim Gruenke, Jason Witt, Mike Johnson, Steve Helgeson, Tom Downer, Troy Harcey, Mike Desmond, Leroy Sua
MEMBERS EXCUSED:	Ramona Gonzalez, Tom Locante, Shawn Kudron, Monica Kruse, Rita Zindorf, Michael McHugh, Dick Mial, Xong Xiong
OTHERS PRESENT:	Steve O'Malley, Jane Klekamp, Doris Daggett, Bev Heebsh, Becky Spanjers, Steve Josephson, Mike Kiefer, Tom Skemp, Terri Pavlic

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 17, 2012 MINUTES OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MOTION by Belzer/Burke to approve the October 17, 2012 minutes of the Criminal Justice Management Council. **MOTION carried unanimously.** (Gonzalez, Locante, Kudron, Kruse, Zindorf, McHugh, Mial, Xiong excused)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Status Reports:

Sheriff – The jail population is doing much better thanks to everyone working together to get this under control.

Dept. of Corrections – Mike Johnson indicated that his department is now fully staffed as of November 5th.

Human Services – Jason Witt reported that the Economic Support section was able to leverage some state and federal money during the budget process to add some positions which makes case loads more manageable.

Public Relations – Keith Belzer said the main project for this year is to keep moving forward on trying to create employment relationships for people in Justice Sanctions. There is a meeting being planned for January with representatives from local high profile businesses in the community.

Judges – Judge Montabon informed the council that the judges wrote a response to the La Crosse Tribune regarding the new La Crosse Police Chief's article.

County Board – Tara Johnson informed the Council that the 2013 budget includes a "place holder" for a couple of options that will be decided by the County Board. There is money in the budget for either opening the second jail pod or for much needed road maintenance and repair work.

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JAIL PROGRAMS

Mike Kiefer distributed a list of over 30 programs that are currently offered in the jail. For a number of the programs, there are wait lists for openings. The average length of stay in jail is @ 11 days, and these people are not likely to be involved in these programs. It's not uncommon for inmates to wait 4-6 weeks to get into a self help recovery group. One program that inmates can get into right away is the educational program, because there is a full time instructor onsite in the jail, and there are no wait lists for any of the educational programs. Approximately 70% of males request to attend programs; and it's an average of 5-6 programs. Approximately 85-90% females request to attend programs. Because the female population is significantly lower, many of these people are able to get right in to the programs they have requested.

MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES IN JAIL

Steve Josephson gave a brief update on mental health issues in the jail. Mike Kiefer may refer inmates to Steve if he notices a decline in their functioning level. Sometimes they may need to get a doctor involved if medications are needed. In addition to the Mental Health staff, a doctor comes in once a week, and a Physician's Assistant comes in once a week. Approximately 30-35% of the jail population is on medications. Steve and his associates do a lot of counseling for the inmates and also set up referrals with community resources. If someone is currently taking a prescribed medication, we try to keep them on these if there is a current prescription. One issue that has been worked on recently is transitioning from jail back into the community. The CARE Center and the Veterans Services programs through Justice Sanctions are great additions to the mental health population.

Tom Skemp, Chaplain at the jail, also spoke on his duties with the inmates. He splits his time between "one on one" meetings with inmates or group times. Tom has long term relationships with many of the inmates because they keep coming back to the jail. He coordinates all the liaisons with area pastors, and there are approximately 130 volunteers from the community.

DEADLY DRUGS IN THE AREA

A couple of the Board members who requested this agenda item were not present. Jane had sent a report to the CJMC members from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration). Jane will summarize this and put on next month's agenda.

COUNTY COMPARISON UPDATED

Jane distributed 2006 non-index crimes and 2010 non-index crimes. There were questions last month on why La Crosse non-index crimes were so much higher than other counties. Jane has done research with the District Attorney and the La Crosse Police Department to try to get answers on this. La Crosse had a higher number for "all other" and also "liquor law" of non index crimes for 2006 and 2010. The "all other" category consists of truancy, resisting, littering, tobacco violations, animal violations, probation violations, warrant, and CHJS violations. Jane thinks that some of this is due to the higher number of bail jumping charges in La Crosse.

In 2010, La Crosse had 3,855 "all others" and of those, 1,624 were referrals for bail jumping. In Walworth County, they only had 262 for bail jumping and Sheboygan had 304.

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The next step will be to try to find out why bail jumpings are so high in La Crosse. Jane will continue to look at this.

Keith Belzer asked if it would be possible to track the rate of bail jumping referrals in our county in connection with the expansion of Justice Sanctions.

INFORMATIONAL/MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Troy Harcey informed the council that a referendum was passed for a new north side elementary school.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Troy Harcey - Presentation on Rebuilding/Barriers To Learning.
- Jail Population Data

NEXT MEETING DATE: December 19, 2012

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned 8:45 a.m.

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

Approved December 19, 2012, Recorded by Terri Pavlic