



**MARATHON COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 am
Courtroom Assembly Room, (B105), Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI**

| Members | Present/Web-Phone | Absent |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Chair Suzanne O’Neill | X | |
| Vice Chair Kurt Gibbs | X | |
| Lance Leonhard | X | |
| Matt Bootz | | X |
| Michelle Van Krey | | X |
| Chad Billeb | X | |
| Matt Barnes | X (Todd Baeten) | |
| Theresa Wetzsteon | X(Kyle Mayo) | |
| Kelly Schremp | X | |
| Kat Yanke | X | |
| Cati Denfeld-Quiros | X | |
| Vicki Tylka | X | |
| Christa Jensen | X | |
| Jane Graham Jennings | X | |
| Yauo Yang | X | |
| Kenneth Grams | | X |
| Liberty Heidmann | X | |

Also present: Aaron Ruff, Greg Grau, Sidney Brubacher, Michal Schultz, Laura Yarie.

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order Judge O’Neill at 8:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment (not to exceed 15 minutes)

No public comment received. Leonhard introduces Michal Schultz, the new Marathon County Data Officer to the committee.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the August 17, 2023, CJCC meeting

MOTION BY BILLEB, SECOND BY SCHREMP TO APPROVE THE August 17, 2023, CJCC MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Operational Functions Required by Bylaws - None

5. Operations Issues and Potential Council Action - None

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Potential Council Action

A. Finalizing of Recommendations Regarding Opioid Settlement Funds

Discussion:

Draft report contained in meeting packet. A needs gap analysis is the first recommended priority. Leonhard mentions the value of all ranked priorities identified for use of funds. Ruff mentions that additional funding available from an existing grant may be available to fund other strategies identified. Discussion regarding a recommendation to add a cost estimate for an analysis being added to the recommendation.

Action:

MOTION BY LEONHARD, SECOND BY BILLEB TO APPROVE THE REPORT AS WRITTEN. AFTER INCLUSION OF A FINANCIAL ESTIMATE FOR A GAP ANALYSIS AS RECOMMENDED BY GRAHAM-JENNINGS THE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW AND FEEDBACK. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow Up:

Leonhard to add an estimate and forward recommendations to the Public Safety Committee for feedback. Ruff suggests including original approval to enter litigation from 2017, Exhibit E – Context of the process-Core Strategies and handout regarding Results Based Accountability Process.

B. CJCC Approval of the Defense Attorney Whitepaper

Discussion:

Paper was included with agenda packet. O'Neill discusses the addition of statistics provided by Sheriff Billeb regarding jail population. Currently 70% of the jail population is pre-sentence waiting for court. It is not clear how many of those are waiting for counsel. Yanke states that the Public Defenders office is not in favor of increasing the county appointment rate and feels this will put the situation back to attorneys waiting for county appointments to take cases. Yanke reports improvements to Public Defender process including being able to bill before the case is finished, added support staff and access to experts. O'Neill mentioned the idea of requiring an attorney to take Public Defender cases in order to get county appointments. Leonhard states he likes the idea of incentivizing with a bonus

for taking a set number of cases each year. Mayo states that the list may be too small to cover all the needed cases. Many on this list have too many cases already. Currently there are 6-8 names on the list and Yanke mentions there are currently 172 cases waiting for appointment. Mayo suggested looking at other counties lists. The group discussed needing to look at this if other counties have more, why not Marathon. Are there underlying issues such as allowing remote appearances. Schremp mentioned interim billing improving. Mayo mentioned concern regarding out of county attorneys not coming at all in person. Discussion on providing office space. Yanke mentioned sponsoring internships and Mayo stated there has been a decline in interns from Madison. Attorney Brubacher mentions pay as not the only issue. He feels it has more to do with community and lifestyle. Attorney jobs are open everywhere and larger cities have more to offer to new grads. Baeten mentions Wausau Police Department marketing of the community in their recruitments. The focus being good schools and reasonable housing costs. The group agrees there is not one solution. Mayo suggests looking at discovery fees and other low hanging fruit first. Yanke mentioned paper no longer being involved with providing discovery, but fees have remained the same.

Action: None

Follow Up:

Judge O'Neill, Yanke, Mayo, Billeb and Schremp to work together on implementing some non-monetary solutions. Schremp to work with the Corporation Council regarding discovery fees. Judge O'Neill to update the paper with discussion items and discuss again in November.

7. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. Information on Grant Funding Available for Treatment - Billeb

Discussion:

Billeb discusses medically assisted treatment grant. The sheriff's department has asked for \$400,000 to get MAT up and running. The department also received \$135,000 for the initial roll out of the deflection program. Wisconsin DOJ has offered \$250,000. Hoping to be able to utilize funds for treatment such as priorities identified in the Opioid Funds process.

B. Back To School Update on Truancy Court and Mental Health Services – Jensen

Discussion:

Jensen reports on information received from the Mental Health Consortium. There is no longer a mental health professional at each school due to clinician shortages and poor funding reimbursements. Current waitlists may not reflect actual need due to students not being added to the list if they know they can't be served. Metro schools have larger needs and rural schools are harder to staff. Funding through the United Way has not been exhausted. The Health Department grant is no longer available. This was through Advancing Healthy Wisconsin and the purpose was to get the consortium to be self-supporting. Feedback regarding services in the school had been positive such as improved accessibility, less transportation burden, and more time in the classroom. It was noted that parent participation was less.

Truancy Court is currently staffed by Judge Strasser and Judge Cveykus. There have been 53 referrals in 2023. The Attendance Correction Committee is still active. This committee works along with the courts and prior to the courts. The committee is working well and keeping referrals down.

8. Adjournment

MOTION BY SCHREMP, SECOND BY YANKE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:27 A.M. MOTION CARRIED.