



MARATHON COUNTY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL MINUTES

Thursday, September 15, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 am
Courthouse Assembly Room, (B105), Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Members	Present/Web-Phone	Absent
Chair Suzanne O'Neill	X (designee Michael Moran)	
Vice Chair Kurt Gibbs	X	
Lance Leonhard	X	
Matt Bootz		X
Michelle Van Krey	X	
Scott Parks	X (designee Chad Billeb)	
Ben Bliven	X (designee Todd Baeten)	
Theresa Wetzsteon		X
Kelly Schremp		X
Kat Yanke		X
Cati Denfeld-Quiros	X	
Vicki Tylka	X	
Mort McBain		X
Jane Graham Jennings	X	
Daniel Tyler	X	
Yao Yang	X	
Liberty Heidmann	X	

Also present: Ruth Heinzl, Nikki Delatolas, Tracy Rieger, Nathan Cihlar.

1. Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by Kurt Gibbs at 8:00 a.m.

2. Public Comment (*not to exceed 15 minutes*)

No public comment is received.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the July 21, 2022, CJCC meeting

MOTION BY LEONHARD, SECOND BY YANG TO APPROVE THE JULY 21, 2022, CJCC MEETING MINUTES.
MOTION CARRIED.

4. Operational functions required by bylaws – None

5. Operations Issues - None

6. Policy Issues for Discussion and Potential Council Action-

A. Opioid Abatement Settlement Funds Planning – (Administrator Leonhard)

Discussion:

Administrator Leonhard provided an overview of the opioid settlement award process, including the total amount (\$2,828,690) that Marathon County is slated to receive, the potential for securitization of the settlement award due to concerns relative to risk, and the fact that there are some limitations on the use of the funds.

He further explained that the Wisconsin Counties' Association has made some information available on the use of the funds and additional resources are anticipated. County Board Chair Gibbs explained that the National Association of Counties has also made information available.

Administrator Leonhard indicated that NCHC representatives from Langlade and Lincoln counties have expressed a desire to have NCHC be involved in the planning discussion to deploy those funds. He indicated that he would like to form a workgroup of individuals from this group to participate in that discussion. Leonhard will send an email with information from Wisconsin Counties' Association and a summary of the potential utilization of the funds to the group. Individuals interested in participating in the planning process should reply. Leonhard indicated that his preference would be for the planning group to deliver a recommendation to the full CJCC for consideration, which would, upon approval, be forwarded to the county board.

Action:

None taken

Follow Up:

Administrator Leonhard to send email and contact workgroup.

7. Educational Presentations/Outcome Monitoring Reports

A. National Association of Drug Court Professionals Training- (Judge Moran)

Discussion:

Judge Moran shared that he, along with other representatives from Marathon County's treatment court teams, attended the National Association of Drug Court Professionals Conference in Nashville. The event was attended by 8,000 participants, including: Judges, prosecutors, probation & parole, defense attorneys, and other drug court professionals. Moran explained the difference between this conference and the conference of 2013 that he attended, specifically noting that the type of drugs we are dealing with have changed significantly.

Moran stated that one of his most significant takeaways from the conference is that drug courts remain the most successful intervention for those high-risk, high need individuals in our justice system. He indicated that there were numerous tracks for the conference based on an individual's particular role.

He attended the judicial track and provided information on some of the presentations. Moran noted that a presentation on risk challenged teams to be sure we are bringing the right people into the program, explaining that higher risk is not a reason to exclude and that our selection process needs to ensure we address high-risk people with significant charges. Denfeld-Quiros noted that the Drug Court team has made that process a focus of its training as of late, to ensure we are not screening people out based on "our beliefs about whether they will be successful."

B. Operating Without a License Program (OWL) - (Ruth Heinzl)

Discussion:

Ruth Heinzl provided an overview of past OWL programs and indicated that the DA's Office has created a new program created with ECDC and MC literacy council. Program is to begin in October, with intent to provide driver education to those that are unable get their license. Response could be a citation or a dismissal and would be overseen by the DA's Office.

C. Law Enforcement Deflection Program – (Chad Billeb and Ruth Heinzl)

Discussion:

Billeb and Heinzl explained that they are working on implementing a deflection program that would be aimed at connecting low risk offenders struggling with substance abuse issues with services at NCHC. Law enforcement would still draft reports on the interaction with the offender and send them to the District Attorney's Office; however, the law enforcement professional would engage an individual from NCHC to interact with the offender and the DA's office would hold the report and not immediately issue charges. Wausau Police Department is implementing a similar pre-arrest diversion program. At this time, the largest challenge are delays at NCHC with securing staff.

D. Wausau Police Department Social Work Position – (Todd Baeten)

Discussion:

Baeten explains the genesis of City of Wausau PD's Community Outreach position and introduces Tracy Rieger to the group. Baeten explains that the position began on September 1, 2022, and will be focused on the challenges of the unhoused populations within the City of Wausau and linking those individuals with services, similar to the work that Officer Lemirand had done in the past. Rieger introduces herself to the group and answers questions from Council members.

8. Adjournment

MOTION BY BILLEB, SECOND BY TYLKA TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:10 a.m. MOTION CARRIED.