

**DANE COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE JUNE 27, 2013 MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Parisi, Widish (for Esqueda), Hendrick, Hook (for Mahoney), Ozanne, Foust

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anhalt, Rusk, Watson, Wray

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Richardson, Beil, Huo, Clark-Bernhardt, Kostelic, McNamara, Ney, Saterfield, Thurlow

Parisi called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Consideration of the minutes of May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting was before the council. Motion by Hendrick/Foust to approve the minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

A presentation on evidence based decision making was the first order of business. Becky Ney, from the Center for Effective Public Policy, addressed the council. She is working with Dane County to map the criminal justice process and will share recommendations in September. She indicated that evidence-based decision making both offers the most bang for the buck and also maximizes offender success. Overall goals of evidence-based practice include: reduced recidivism, safer communities; successful, productive and contributing ex-offenders; healthy and stable children and families.

She organized her comments by risk, need, and responsibility.

Risk:

- Targeting higher risk offenders results in the most significant recidivism reductions;
- Placing low-risk offenders with high risk offenders results in the former becoming more criminal;
- Static risk factors include age at first arrest, current age, gender, and criminal history;
- Dynamic risk factors include anti-social attitudes, peers, behavior, family/marital stressors, substance abuse, and lack of employment and/or education;
- Higher risk offenders need longer programs and the program needs to occupy 40 to 70 percent of the offender's time;
- Programs should offer cognitive approaches;
- The longer the incarceration, the greater the recidivism.

Need

- There is a need for appropriate treatment;
- Need for continuous care, including "in-reach" and building a relationship with the parole officer before release;
- Should be continuity before/during/follow-up for the offender.

Four principles of evidence based practice are 1) Groups make better decisions when informed by evidence-based tools; 2) every interaction is an opportunity to contribute to harm reduction; 3) there are better outcomes when groups coordinate; 4) it is necessary to continually learn because things change.

Other counties have:

- Made universal use of assessment tools;
- Have a catalog of resources;
- Make use of triage tools such as PROXY;
- The low-risk offenders are diverted;

- There are structured responses – rewards and sanctions;
- There is jail programming;
- Target the medium and high risk offender.

Ms. Ney spoke of Eau Claire County’s use of diversion to a 2-hour class for low level offenders. They have a day reporting/transition center that offers drug testing, COMPAS, mental health services and job search. She indicated that the mapping exercise increases awareness of how the entire system works.

The goals identified are:

- Reduce racial disparities at key decision points;
- reduce recidivism;
- Increase efficiencies in case processing;
- Improve the system for all users;
- Assure greater transparency;
- Enhance communication across agencies;
- Assure consistency, fairness, and proportionality;
- Expand pre-charge diversion and find opportunities for prevention.

Discussion ensued. Hendrick expressed the County Board’s concern with racial disparities. Parisi noted that the main driver is recidivism and a failure at re-entry. Hook said there is no formal re-entry program. Hendrick pointed out that most of these programs are not county-funded.

Ney concluded with ideas for each area of the criminal justice system:

Law Enforcement:

- Identify hot spots;
- Do screening;
- Attend graduations;
- Have behavior change programs.

Pretrial

- Have informed bail decisions;
- Alternatives to bail
- Reminder phone calls
- Programming while on pre-trial.

Prosecution:

- Diversion
- Longest sanctions for the highest risk

Defense: Review hearings.

Courts:

- Risk tools
- Victim advocates
- Community corrections

She urged the County Board to conduct cost-benefit analysis. The idea is to move to a risk reduced model.

A State Budget update was before the council. Mickey Beil, legislative lobbyist, addressed the council. She spoke of the bail bond changes inserted in the budget by the Joint Finance Committee, and about the

county crime prevention board surcharge. She indicated that the Governor may veto items. Discussion ensued regarding the negative effects of bail bondsmen. McNamara expressed concern and detailed the negative impacts of bondsmen. Discussion ensued regarding the impetus for the crime prevention board. It's membership would differ slightly from the CJC. Discussion continued regarding other items in the state budget including funding for drug courts and changes to DNA collection.

County Budget issues were before the council. Ozanne indicated the Racial Disparities Workgroup would request funding for a community court with a focus on 17 – 25 year olds. He also spoke of the work of the Racial Justice Improvement Program team and their work to solidify a program. One idea is to fast track offenders who have physically abused children. He also spoke of a specialty court in New York City for young offenders for misdemeanors.

Another county budget idea is the creation of a Cyber Unit. There are staff in the Sheriff's Office and the Madison Police Department. There are a total of 6 individuals working on this, and more are needed to respond to evidence needs. The current backlog is affecting trial situations. One idea is to see if other police departments can identify officers for training.

Saterfield noted that the next meeting will be on July 25<sup>th</sup>.

The council adjourned by unanimous consent.

*Note: These minutes are the notes of the recorder and are subject to change at a subsequent meeting of the council.*