

**DANE COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2014 MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Parisi, Esqueda, Hendrick, Mahoney, Ozanne, Colas

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rusk, Watson, Gaber

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Anhalt

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Green, Clark-Bernhardt, Kostelic, Heinrich, Russell, Wiersma, Lopez, R. Anhalt, Meuer, Thurlow

Parisi called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

There was no public comment.

Consideration of the minutes of October 24, 2013 meeting was before the council. Motion by Esqueda/Hendrick to approve the minutes. Motion carried, 4-0.

A recap of the evidence based decision making summit was the first order of business. Clark-Bernhardt provided a summary of the NIC-sponsored summit, mentioning that 27 counties participated and 6 will be chosen to participate in phase two. Evidence based decision making is becoming a requirement for receipt of grant funding. She pointed out two charts, one on criminogenic needs and one on dosage, or appropriate length of sentence or type of punishment. Individuals who had participated in the summit addressed the council.

- Lance Wiersma, Wisconsin Department of Corrections, indicated that his department is committed to implementing evidence based decision making. He indicated the summit reinforced the partnerships that have already been established.
- Joselyn Lopez, Wisconsin Department of Corrections, works with OWI treatment courts and the day report center. She indicated she was happy to see Dane County working on evidence based decision making.
- Richelle Anhalt, Captain for the Dane County Sheriff's Office, spoke of the need to use information to allocate resources. The county should go for the biggest bang for the buck.
- Todd Meuer, Dane County Court Commissioner, said he makes bail and release decisions. He spoke of the need to further research and apply evidence based practices in the county. Given that Dane County is often cited as the worst in racial disparity, a more towards ebdm is warranted. Mr. Meuer said the county must do something differently.
- Carlo Esqueda said he went to the summit because the Clerk of Courts manages the ATIP program. He said the county needs hard research to answer critics who may say the county is soft on crime if it makes changes.

Discussion ensued regarding the use of evidence based decision making in Dane County and the need for greater research.

An equity lens and evidence based decision making was before the council. Janel Heinrich, director of Public Health Madison & Dane County (PHMDC), and Angela Russell, equity coordinator for PHMDC addressed the council. They spoke of the work of Alameda County, California as well as the City of Seattle and King County, Washington. Themes for equity work include:

- Collaboration and collective impact
- Capacity building – both internal and external

- Strategic and systematic use of tools
- High level support
- Long term commitment
- Recognition of early wins

Russell also spoke of the City of Madison's equity initiative.

Discussion ensued regarding evidence based decision making, equity, and the need for data. Clark-Bernhardt asked the council to identify next steps. Ozanne wondered if the council should create a dashboard. Parisi suggested identification of data that is available. Heinrich asked how data is shared and used. There was agreement that council members would meet with Heinrich to discuss data needs and information currently available, and also to identify the outcomes that the council is trying to achieve. Hendrick suggested identifying a data point person in each department.

Council members briefly discussed potential outcomes that could be measured. Colas asked what data could track whether the system is able to reduce recidivism. Watson suggested prevention of crime. Colas thought an assessment of whether the right people are being released with the right conditions was an issue. He suggested the council focus on a specific topic because broader projects become muddled. Parisi said that dosage- appropriate sentencing – was important.

Clark-Bernhardt asked the council if they would like to invite Milwaukee County officials to share their experience. Council members expressed an interest in first nailing down some of their data needs and developing a dash board, and then invite Milwaukee County to a meeting.

The council adjourned by unanimous consent at 1:44 PM.

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