

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COUNCIL  
Dane County Board of Supervisors**

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2008 MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** McDonell, Foust, Esqueda, Judy Schwaemle (for Blanchard),  
Sentmanat (for Falk), Boylan (for Mahoney)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Catherine Dorl, Deirdre Garton, Tim Saterfield

County Board Chair McDonell called the meeting to order at 12:00PM. There was no public comment.

The minutes of the June 19, 2008 meeting were not available and will be approved at the next meeting.

Garton provided an update on implementation of court settlement conferences. Plans are in place to implement CSC's on September 19. The DA's office has begun sending out materials about the change, and is beginning to provide discovery electronically. The workload is very hearing. The Sheriff's Office is planning to assign 3 bailiffs to check people in for pre-trials. The courts are planning to assign a judge to be the primary "plea take", on the same floor as the duty judge. The judges would like to set up a "help table" with assistance from the Criminal Defense Project. Ideally someone from the Public Defender's Office would be present to help with the indigency form. Dorl indicated Friday's are the worst day for staffing levels at the PD's office, but they would see what they could do. Foust indicated the plan is to assign 20-30 cases per half-hour block, and there were be six blocks during the morning. A brown bag will be held to explain how the CSC's will work. Garton discussed possible metrics – failure to appear will be captured on a form through the DA's Office, and dispositions will be captured by the judges. The plan will be to look at a 3 month pre and post comparison.

Garton discussed activities concerning the use of risk assessments in sentencing. The state courts system has developed the AIM program (AIM=Assess, Inform, Measure), which includes risk assessment tools, and is piloting the model in several counties. Garton has contacted Erin Slattengren, the project manager. She will explore the possibility for Dane County to participate in the program in the future, and Dane County Court Administrator Gail Richardson is also looking into Dane County participating. LaCrosse has a risk assessment tool they have used for some time with their alternatives to incarceration program. The states of Oregon, Missouri and Virginia have been working on risk assessments, and these states will be a doing a training with Wisconsin's AIM counties. Garton will see if Dane County can participate. Foust explained that the court's interest in risk assessment is in part the result of interest in using evidence-based practices. Risk assessment would provide judges with another tool to use in determining where treatment might be useful. There are still administrative issues to be worked out. Dorl indicated there are some concerns about who would administer the risk assessment tool, that bias could influence the outcome. Foust will get more information on AIM, and McDonell asked that Foust develop a budget proposal for the use of ATIP staff and resources if there was an interest in using risk assessment in 2009.

There was brief discussion of the use of community service as an alternative in sentencing. Foust indicated there had been some use of this, but there was never a "coordinator" position or oversight body. It may be possible to use electronic monitoring staff to monitor inmates out on community service assignments. There will be further discussions among justice system participants.

The consensus of the committee is that Garton's contract should be extended through the end of the year. The next meeting will be held on October 8, or another day in early October.

The council stood adjourned at 1:15PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tim Saterfield, Recorder

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