

Milwaukee County Community Justice Council Minutes

Meeting of Wednesday, December 3, 2008
Washington Park Senior Center

Chief Judge Jeffrey Kremers called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Executive Committee Members in attendance were: County Executive Scott Walker, Chief Judge Jeff Kremers, District Attorney John Chisholm, Sheriff David Clarke, Jr., First Assistant Public Defender Tom Reed, Kit Murphy McNally, Benedict Center, Glen Mattison, Community Block Grant Administration, representing Mayor Barrett, Diana Rowe, representing Police Chief Ed Flynn, and Inspector Kevin Carr.

The Minutes of the September 24, 2008, meeting were approved on a voice vote with no changes.

Standing Committee reports were as follows:

Jail & Huber Utilization Committee:

Superintendent Ron spoke about the fact that the Sheriff's Department will be managing the House of Correction (HOC) effective January 1, 2009, but that the transition has already begun. He will no longer be attending the CJC meetings. Inspector Rick Schmidt said that the Sheriff will have GPS concurrent with the closing of the Community Correctional Center (CCC) and that the community can expect more individuals on electronic surveillance.

Inspectors Carr and Schmidt outlined the Sheriff's takeover of the HOC and the CCC:

- After passing November 10, the takeover began immediately. During the first quarter of 2009, the Sheriff's Department will be assessing current programming and other functions. In the second quarter, there will be more and larger changes.
- The date of the closing of the CCC will be determined by the success of technology for monitoring those on electronic surveillance.
- Although Superintendent Malone was constrained by the list of offenses for which an individual could be considered for electronic surveillance, as a constitutional officer, the Sheriff is not constrained and the list will continued to be used as a guideline.
- Universal screening didn't pass and the Sheriff's Department also requested \$100,000 for a jail population study. This did not pass either, but they are looking into alternatives.
- There is a transition team and project groups. Captain McKenzie is leading the group on electronic monitoring and Captain Nyklewicz is leading the classification efforts. Sergeant Carlson is in charge of transport issues and Deputy Deb Burmeister is in charge of IT. Much has already been accomplished. If others want to join the work groups, they should let Inspector Carr know.

- DA Chisholm is working on a screening tool and the discussion is continuing. Inspector Schmidt said that various tools are being developed and will be available soon.
- Inspector Carr noted that TAD is the only screening program right now.
- DA Chisholm said if we could find funds to support screening he believes a screening tool could be developed on which everyone could agree.
- Chief Judge Kremers said he has told the County Board that the judiciary does support universal screening post-arrest. He will soon be able to show a new proposal and how it could save money. He will be coming back to the County Board during the next budget process or sooner.
- An OWI risk assessment tool will be developed by October or November 2009 and it will be piloted in three counties. The Chief Judge has asked Judge Wagner to look at how we handle OWI cases in search of adopting best practices.

Data Analysis and Information Committee: Dennis Johns, IMSD, reported that this committee is working on Alderman Willie Hines' request for information on the disparity in sentencing for drug crimes and a data tool to share information. One of the issues continues to be that the committee doesn't know what the data means on CCAP and CJIS and which is the correct information to use. Dr. Lovell and Dr. Stojkovic are working with the Committee to review the data.

The data interface between the Milwaukee Police Department booking and Milwaukee County Sheriff Department booking will become the model on information sharing.

Public Health Committee: First Assistant Public Defender Tom Reed reported that the Committee has had two meetings coordinating programs in the community. The drug treatment court will be operational in January 2009 and the DA, PD, Courts and Justice 2000 are working to take cases out of the system at the beginning. There is a lot of activity right now.

Juvenile Justice Committee: Although neither Judge Triggiano nor Eric Meaux attended the meeting, Tom Reed described that they are doing very good work and have a broad cross section of members on their committee. The current discussion is on the issue of returning 17 year-olds to Children's Court. A broad discussion is ongoing on the issue on cost and policy decisions. Supervisor Johnson added that according to the Counties Association, the problem is cost and who will pay for changing the system. Connor Williams of MICHA/WISDOM said that the Council should look at best practices in Barron County where a nine-year-old restorative justice system has reduced cases by two-thirds.

Mr. Williams also asked how juvenile justice is connected to the rest of the systems and to other services in the criminal justice system. DA John Chisholm said he is currently looking at the child welfare system.

Chief Judge Kremers said that the Programs and Interventions Committee had asked that he send a letter to Governor Doyle and others about funding for the TAD and AIM programs. He added that the County Executive and others in law enforcement have been very supportive.

Programs & Interventions Committee: No report since neither Holly Szablewski nor Craig Mastentino were able to attend the meeting.

Community Outreach & Public Education Committee: Beth Bishop Perrigo reported that since she had been unexpectedly out of the office for over a week, the Committee has not met, but will resume meeting in January 2009.

Dan Idzikowski, Marquette University, mentioned the 2009 Marquette Law School Public Service Conference, *The Future of Community Justice in Wisconsin*, scheduled for February 20, 2009, at the university.

Chief Judge Kremers announced that the Executive Committee will be moving their meetings to various offices beginning in January 2009. They will meet in the Chief Judge's conference room in December and one of the items they will discuss will be where to meet in the future. He thanked Sheriff Clarke for hosting the meetings of the Council.

The group discussed possible new meeting dates for 2009. The Executive Committee will discuss this issue at their next meeting.

The Chief Judge also announced that beginning in January 2009, there will be a drug treatment court with Judge Joe Donald presiding. His general drug calendar will be closed and there will be three general drug courts. This will allow Judge Donald to spend more time on deferred prosecutions. One of the issues that will determine the success of this court will be availability of treatment slots some of which may come from churches and mentoring organizations.

Connor Williams asked the Council to endorse the executive summary of the Committee on Effective Justice Strategies for Community Justice. District Attorney Chisholm and Kit Murphy McNally are on the Committee. He mentioned the Community Corrections Act which has helped Minnesota reduce its criminal justice costs despite a profile that is very similar to Wisconsin. The Committee is working to pass such an act in Wisconsin and he requested the support of the Council. The Chief Judge said that the Executive Committee would discuss this at a future meeting. Mr. Connors will submit information on this topic for the Council's website.

Clarence Johnson said that the Marquette conference should have as a result procedures for facilitating support statements. The Chief Judge said that the Executive Committee will also discuss this issue at a future meeting. Inspector Carr stressed that the Council is an advisory body and groups requesting support on an issue should work through the Executive Committee and Executive Board.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled to be Wednesday, January 28, 2009, 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Washington Park Senior Center