

Jail & Huber Minutes
December 16, 2013

Attendance:

Tom Reed, (SPD)(Chair)

Captain Duckert, MSO

Jose Hernandez, HOC

Carmella DeLucia, cdelucia@publicpolicyforum.org

Sheldyn Himle, Municipal Court

Nate Holton, CJC

Pete Koneazny, Legal Aid Society

The Hon. Jeffrey Kremers, Courts

Sue Eckhart, J2000

Nichole Todd

1) Continuing issue of high jail population numbers in spite of low “front end” (cases and admissions) numbers. Discussion:

- There are sub-populations at the Jail that do not need to be there.
- Mike Williams reports that VOPs have not been up, but in fact may be down and are not likely reason for rising numbers.
- “Awaiting transfer after sentencing” is one category that may be up.
 - Dodge Correctional comes to MCJ three times a week. And there is typically three days wait after sentencing (processing time) for person to be ready for a transfer.
- Last week notice from State that there should be end to past problem of extended waits/back-ups for transfers to Mendota.
 - A new unit was opened at Mendota.
 - Captain Duckert confirmed that the Mendota transfer waiting time is no longer a problem. The Sheriff’s staff welcomes this change because the waiting for Mendota transfer population tends to include people who consume high amount of staff time for management.
- Mike W. reported that VOP holds are supposed to be no longer than three days --longer than three days requires supervisor approval.
- Tom R. noted that the “cycling” of people who are released but quickly returned on other warrants is part of what is being looked at in the EBDM/mental health project.
- January meeting agenda item: Address planning for role of the Jail-Huber committee in managing jail population post- *Christensen* decree.
- Executive Committee will address this at this Wednesday’s meeting.
- D.I. Kevin Nyklewicz will take over (resume past role) Jail management role from Captain Meverden this month.

- Major Burmeister will remain in her position which is above the Capt. Ducker/D.I. Nyklewicz role with regard to jail management.
- Mike W. mentioned that full discussion of VOP holds as part of the jail population, should include representatives from Hearings and Appeals. We should also look at the role and interaction between VOP holds and the defense bar (e.g. issues such as attorneys needing continuances based on DOC “packet” getting to attorney late).
 - Adjournments are usually 2-3 weeks, while defendant remains in jail.
 - Complex combinations of circumstances why someone is sitting in jail on VOP status.
 - We should also plan for how we can examine other subpopulations of VOP hold inmates (rule violations v. new offense , whether mental illness is a factor)

2) Family Visits at the Jail.

- Last week there were no family visits because of “obsolete” system. Video is down and now there are audio visits only.
- Capt. Duckert (or D.I. Nyklewicz?) will report on progress on this at January meeting

3) Jail and HOC Mental Health Care Update

- Pete K. reported on positive meeting w/ community mental health stakeholders and Armor mental health staff. Leadership enhancements (work and role of Dr. Theresa Boswell, psychologist and mental health program administrator) are positive.
 - Still problem w/ vacancies, including loss of psychiatrist at HOC and prescriber NPs in Jail and HOC.
 - Dr. Shansky (medical monitor) conducted on-site monitoring first week of December, written assessment will be produced. Oral report is that there has been significant progress, w/ staffing and record keeping, and re-training in some deficient areas still requiring attention over several months.
 - Community stakeholder meeting will be held monthly, co-chaired by WCS’ Colleen Dublinsky and Dr. Boswell, at least for next six months.
- Capt. Duckert has seen improvements under Armor since they have gotten established
 - Group therapy will be done in the jail.
 - Psych staff has been proactive in identifying inmates w/ mental illness to avoid inappropriate discipline status.
- HOC and Armor have arranged better access to outside providers in the facility, including for discharge planning, optometry.
- Tom reported on EDBM public health meeting on November 25th.
- EDBM grant has ended as of December 15th.
- Continuing work? Possible new grant state by state. Wisconsin will apply through the State-wide CJCC.
- November 25th meeting was w/ goal of involving the broader community interested in working on the criminal justice/mental health/public health issue. While work has been done so far by

the EDBM work group under the NIC grant, the goal is to bring the public health/criminal justice work back within the CJC structure.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20.

Next meeting: Monday January 20, 2014 (NOTE – this is MLK holiday, possible low attendance per PK's recollection of past MKL days we went ahead w/ meeting. Consider date change to one week later?)