

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Brown County

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Judge Tammy Jo Hock

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING BOARD

Tuesday, October 15, 2024

12:00 p.m.

Karen H. Dorau Memorial Conference Room

Law Enforcement Center

300 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay

1. Call meeting to order.
2. Introductions.
3. Approve/modify agenda.
4. Approve/modify minutes of July 9, 2024.
5. Jail population numbers (Sheriff).
6. Report of Mark Vanden Hoogen: Criminal Justice Services.
7. Report from the State Public Defender's Office regarding appointment of criminal defense attorneys.
8. Issues to be addressed by Consultant.
9. Review of Criminal Justice Coordinating Board membership.
10. Community supervision, Presentence Investigation and Populations. (Aaron Sable)
11. Future Agenda Items, if any.
12. Other such matters as authorized by law.
13. Adjourn.

Honorable Tammy Jo Hock. Chair

Notice is hereby given that action by Committee may be taken on any of the items which are described or listed in this agenda. Please take notice that it is possible additional members of the Board of Supervisors may attend this meeting, resulting in a majority or quorum of the Board of Supervisors. This may constitute a meeting of the Board of Supervisors for purposes of discussion and information gathering relative to this agenda.

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING BOARD**

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wisconsin Statutes, a regular meeting of the Brown County **Criminal Justice Coordinating Board** was held on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 in the Karen H. Dorau Memorial Conference Room, Law Enforcement Center, 300 E. Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Members Present: Chair Judge Tammy Jo Hock
Jail Administrator Heidi Michel
Probation and Parole Rep. Aaron Sable
District Court Administrator Tom Schappa
District Attorney David Lasee
Citizen Representative Tim Mc Nulty
CJS Manager Mark Vanden Hoogen
Public Defender Rep. Jeff Cano
Deputy County Executive Jeff Flynt

Excused: Citizen Representative Robert Srenaski
Citizen Representative Christopher Zahn
Citizen Representative Angela Stueck

Others Present: Public Defender Carrie La Plant
Other Interested Parties

1. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judge Tammy Jo Hock at 12:04 pm.

2. Introductions.

Those present introduced themselves at this time.

3. Approve/modify agenda.

Motion made by Erik Pritzl, seconded by David Lasee to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. Approve/modify minutes of January 16, 2024.

Motion made by Mark Vanden Hoogen, seconded by Erik Pritzl to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Jail population numbers (Sheriff).

Jail Administrator Heidi Michel informed the jail is currently at 98% capacity and there are 85 out on EMP as well as 53 inmates shipped out to four other counties. Numbers going back to 2018 were discussed including the average number of inmates and the average length of stay. One person has been in the jail since August 2018 on sexual assault charges and he does not go back to court until November 2024. Another inmate was booked in on October 27, 2020 on a first degree intentional homicide charge and his next court date is January 2025. There are a number of factors that could come into play as to how far out court cases are scheduled.

Michel continued that they currently have 34 inmates that could potentially be considered for the EMP program. Of those, two have refused to go on the program, six are in custody because of rule violations, seven do not have any residence, four are waiting to go out, six have been revoked and two are being used for lawncare at the jail.

There are also currently six juveniles at the jail. Judge Hock noted she had been informed the jail was not taking female juveniles, but then she became aware of a female juvenile being housed at the jail. Michel explained that due to population and staffing, they had ceased taking juvenile females, but as staffing levels improved, the Sheriff decided to take females again.

6. Report of Mark Vanden Hoogen re: Criminal Justice Services.

Criminal Justice Services Manager Mark Vanden Hoogen informed he would like a letter of support from Judge Hock for the TAD grant.

Motion made by David Lasee, seconded by Aaron Sable for Judge Hock to submit a letter of support of the TAD grant on behalf of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Board. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Vanden Hoogen informed it has been a challenging week so far in his office and he will have more to report at the next CJC meeting.

7. Report from the State Public Defender's Office regarding appointment of criminal defense attorneys.

Public Defender Attorney Manager Jeff Cano informed numbers are not available for this meeting as the office is in the process of changing the way appointments are done. They are trying to centralize things within the region. He continued that there is a shortage of attorneys and they are trying to figure out a way to reach a bigger audience earlier on in cases. They are trying to figure out new ways to approach this and Cano noted law school graduates do not seem to be returning to their hometowns and are not doing criminal law. Judge Hock added that she has heard the private bar has a plethora of clients that are paying them the rate they want to be paid, so they are not taking public defender cases at \$100 an hour as it is not financially feasible.

On a positive note, Cano informed they have had two attorneys start recently and this should help on the conflict cases. One was a vacancy and one is a new position. He feels there will always be a waiting list of about 80 – 125 for non-conflict cases and probably 400 for conflict cases. If the bigger firms in the area will not let their attorneys take public defender cases, there is not a lot that can be done. Judge Hock added efficiencies cannot be implemented when there are not enough attorneys to take cases. The DA's Office is horribly understaffed and she does not know how to deal with inefficiencies when a lot of cases stagnate because there are not attorneys to take them.

District Court Administrator Tom Schappa informed the Chief Justice is working on an attorney recruitment and retention committee. They will be working with area law schools to see how to make working here more attractive, but it is difficult when the starting salary is about \$70,000, especially with the amount of loans most students have when they graduate. Judge Hock mentioned a lot of Milwaukee firms are paying new grads \$160,000 - \$180,000 right out of law school.

District Attorney David Lasee asked if there has been any discussion at the Public Defender's Office regarding creating conflict offices and bringing on more staff attorneys. He feels there is a struggle to get private sector attorneys to take cases at \$100 an hour. The DA raises that just went through have been successful in terms of recruitment and retention. The loan forgiveness after 10 years for working in the public sector is a huge attractant. Lasee added that a county in Illinois that is a little larger than Brown County has 23 judges and 43 prosecutors; Brown County has eight judges and 18 prosecutors and he feels something significant has to happen at the state level to improve things here. Cano noted a conflict office has been looked at in the past, but there would need to be more resources which they are not going to get.

8. Update from District Attorney Lasee regarding meeting to improve existing system efficiencies.

Lasee asked that this be taken off future agendas as it is a futile discussion until there is more staffing.

9. Update regarding consultant for Court system review for additional State funding (Streckenbach).

Deputy Executive Jeff Flynt informed the County Board passed a resolution asking the legislature to take up court system efficiencies. WCA has this as their top issue, not only for Brown County, but throughout the state. Additionally, the County Executive's Office has set up a meeting with Tom Schappa and Judge Schneider to begin the process of looking at ideas and proposals to get to the point where there can be conversations as to how to increase efficiencies.

10. Mission statement of CJC and overview of the members and their role.

Judge Hock referred to the mission statement, which is "To improve the administration of justice and promote public safety through planning, research, education and system wide coordination of criminal justice initiatives." She noted there have been some discussions at Public Safety Committee as to what the CJC does and if it is needed.

HHS Director Erik Pritzl commented the membership is a really good cross-section that works with the criminal justice system, both after someone does something that gets them into the criminal justice system as well as before in many cases. He noted between the Public Safety Committee and Health and Human Services Committee there are a lot of people that could provide input and experience as to ideas to improve public safety, but he questioned if anything from those committees flows back to this Board.

Lasee agreed with Pritzl and added that he gets concerned when the Public Safety Committee infers the CJC is not beneficial, but he questions if this Board is being used effectively. There are issues related to public safety that should come to this group to help make decisions because the membership of the CJC includes all of the areas that impact public safety and have the ability to weigh in on some big issues. Lasee feels the right people are on the Board to tackle issues, but it is a matter of getting the issues before this Board. One way to do this may be to build more trust with the Public Safety Committee to let them know that when an issue arises, the CJC could look into it and the County Board could also be encouraged to utilize the CJC.

The membership of the CJC was also discussed and a suggestion was made to add a Court Commissioner to the Board. It was also noted some members do not regularly attend meetings and a suggestion was made to look at some of those positions and whether they are needed. Pritzl feels the group is big enough now, but he also feels contacting some of the people who have not attended in a while would be beneficial to see if there are issues like lack of interest, timing of meetings or something else. Lasee added that if there is not something specific for some of the positions to do, there may be lack of interest and he is willing to reach out to those that do not attend regularly. He also feels it would be appropriate to reach out to the County Board members and invite them to a meeting.

Judge Hock feels a lot of what this group wants to do is talk about efficiencies in the system, but that is a very complicated issue that the CJC has no control over. Things the CJC has the ability to have any control over are being worked on, but it is a very slow process.

Lasee asked about the consultant the County Executive talked about at prior meetings. Flynt advised WCA is taking this from a statewide perspective, but the County Executive's Office is focused on Brown County. Judge Hock noted there was some difficulty in locating an appropriate consultant. Lasee suggested an item be added to the next agenda to determine the issues of importance we would like a consultant to address so there are some targets for a consultant right off the bat.

Probation and Parole Representative Aaron Sable pointed out lack of attorneys and pretrial issues have been discussed as long as he has been on this Board. He is happy to provide any data that is desired regarding post-conviction, jail related issues or information on PSIs. Lasee said there are some big picture issues related to corrections, but they always seem to be tabled. One of the issues is why do Brown County judges order more PSIs than other counties and another issue is that Brown County generally has a disproportionate number of probationers. Judge Hock agreed these would be good things to look at.

11. Future Agenda Items, if any.

Michel suggested membership of this Board could be included on the next agenda to see if some positions can be combined and find out if some of the current members that do not attend regularly should stay on the Board.

12. Other such matters as authorized by law.

The next meeting will be held on October 15, 2024 at 12:00 pm.

13. Adjourn.

Motion made by Mark Vanden Hoogen, seconded by Aaron Sable to adjourn at 12:58 pm. Vote taken.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Legislative Specialist