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, May 31, 2011 in the Truttman Room of the Law Enforcement Center – 300 East Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Present:	Judge Kendall Kelley-Chair, Brian Shoup, Phil Steffen, John Gossage, Pat Evans, Jed Neuman
Excused:	Tom De Wane, Jim Arts, John Zakowski, Lesley Green
Citizen Reps:	Tim McNulty, Jeffrey Jazgar
Also Present:	Tony Walter - media

1. **Call Meeting to Order.**
   The meeting was called to order by Chair Judge Kendall Kelley at 3:34 p.m.

2. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

   Motion made by Mc Nulty, seconded by Neuman to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Approve/Modify Minutes of April 26, 2011.**

   Motion made by Gossage, seconded by Jazgar to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

   Following the minutes being approved, it was noted that Jed Neumann should have been marked as excused from the April 26, 2011 meeting.

4. **Board Planning and Membership.**

   A very brief discussion was held with regard to suspending meetings of this Board for the summer.

5. **Veterans' Court**

   Judge Kelley reported that progress is continuing with regard to Veterans' Court. They are looking at various ways in which Veterans' Court has been implemented in other counties and have also been working with the VA to better understand their resources and how we can all work together to utilize the resources in the most prudent manner. The focus continues to be how to use the existing resources for veterans without generating new tax payer expenses.

   Jail Security Lieutenant Phil Steffen stated that he had created a questionnaire and spreadsheet to track the number of veterans in jail. There have been seven veterans admitted since May 11. This information was easily obtained through the intake process. The offenses included four probation holds, an OWI – 4th offense, an OWI - 5th offense and one sexual assault involving a child. Steffen stated that during the intake process the inmates were asked if they were a veteran, and if so, what branch of service they were in, when they served, if they were honorably discharged and if they had a full or partial military discharge. Jed Neuman suggested they be asked "have you ever served in any branch of the armed forces" instead of "are you a veteran?" Judge Kelley agreed and felt that "are you a veteran" is a problem sometimes because people may not view themselves as a veteran

if they have been a reservist or for other reasons. Judge Kelley stated that both an honorable discharge and a general discharge would be considered for eligibility for Veterans' Court.

Brian Shoup arrived at 3:47 p.m.

Tim Mc Nulty stated that NWTC is currently in the process of building a courtroom for training purposes in their Public Safety Division and indicated that this courtroom would be available for Veterans' Court during the evening hours at no cost. There may also be adjacent classroom space available for training or other purposes.

Motion made by Evans, seconded by Shoup to receive and place on file Items 4 & 5. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. **Jail Overcrowding**

Sheriff Gossage reported that the jail was at 94% capacity last week and this week the jail is at 90% capacity. The cost to add 184 beds to the jail would be about 20 million dollars when construction, architect, salary and fringes for staff and utilities are factored in.

One idea to divert jail bed days would be to increase electronic monitoring. Currently there are about 60 inmates on electronic monitoring with two officers overseeing them and this has been very successful. The electronic monitoring system is a GPS system that operates off cell phone towers. It gives an accurate understanding of where an inmate is at all times and is also capable of tracking where an inmate has been, even after the monitoring is done. Currently for a Huber inmate, there is no way to tell if they actually report to work as they are supposed to, whereas under the tracking feature of the GPS system, the inmate can be tracked to be sure they are where they belong. Gossage stated the caveat is that another officer would have to be added on the EMP program to raise the numbers up to drop bed days, but he felt this would be a viable option for the County to look into and from a fiscal impact standpoint it would be a proactive approach.

Gossage stated that when the jail population went down to 88 percent, they were able to close one pod which saved two officers and a lot of overtime and resulted in $700,000 going back to the County.

Judge Kelley stated if the Jail is finding that there are low risk inmates taking up space in the jail and there is an appropriate alternative, he would be happy to pass that on to the Judges. He stated that all of the judges are very supportive of the idea of Huber and the benefits of work, not only for the income but also for character building.

Gossage stated that one of the things he was concerned about was what types of crimes, if any, are being perpetrated by individuals when they are on the monitor. Jed Neuman stated that he has not seen any new crimes committed by inmates while on the monitor. He did state that there are technical violations while on the monitor, but these are rule violations for such things such as curfew issues, use of alcohol and schedule violations.

Phil Steffen also stated that fast tracking was another idea that was brought up quite a while ago. It would take a cooperative effort among all parties involved to get this going, but he felt it may be worthwhile to explore. This would involve getting an offender into court as soon as possible. It has been proven to work from a treatment standpoint for things such as OWI, AODA and domestics. Judge Kelley stated that this had been looked at for nonviolent, first time offenders, but it takes a lot of resources. He did state that from a judicial standpoint he would be supportive if the resources could accommodate it.

7. **Such other matters as authorized by law.**

Judge Kelley stated that last year there were some issues with getting a quorum for summer meetings. A discussion was held and it was determined that the Board should take the summer months off and reconvene in September.

Human Services Director Brian Shoup informed the Board that his department is currently looking at an alternative for kids who are adjudicated delinquent that otherwise might be sent to Lincoln Hills. Under the Governor's proposed budget youth aid which the County draws from for community alternatives or for placement in State criminal institutions will be cut and the Governor is also raising the per diem $10.00 over the next two years. Discussions have been occurring as to what Human Services might be able to work out with the courts as an alternative and Shoup felt that savings may come either by lower per diems or shorter, more intensive stays and he felt that shorter stays would give the most efficiency. He will have more to report on this in the fall.

8. **Adjourn**

Motion made by Evans, seconded by Steffens to adjourn at 4:28 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary