

**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 May 8, 2015 in the Truttman Room of the Brown County District Attorney's Office, 300 East Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Present: Judge Walsh, Jeremy Donath, John Gossage, Larry Malcomson, Troy Streckenbach, Eric Pritzl, Angela Sparks, Dave Lasee, Don Harper
Excused: Supervisor Evans, Judge Zuidmulder
Citizen Reps: Tim Mc Nulty

1. **Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Judge Walsh at 8:04 am.

2. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Dave Lasee, seconded by Troy Streckenbach to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. **Approve/modify minutes of February 26, 2015.**

Motion made by Troy Streckenbach, seconded by Dave Lasee to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

4. **Mental Health Court (Judge Zuidmulder).**

Judge Walsh provided an update on the Mental Health Court on behalf of Judge Zuidmulder who was unable to attend the meeting. Judge Walsh indicated that the Mental Health Court is underway and there are a few participants. He noted that it is one of those courts where participants are taken, but they do not come out of the Court cured of their mental health issues, although the Court does attempt to stabilize the participants. Judge Walsh continued that there have been quite a few applicants and District Attorney Dave Lasee agreed and indicated he felt Mental Health Court was going well. Lasee added that they are working on issues in Corporation Counsel to get HIPAA releases. Judge Zuidmulder asked if a blanket order could be entered that says that anyone participating in the Mental Health Court waives their HIPAA rights, but Corporation Counsel had some issues with that. The intent is to draft language for release of information and include it in the Mental Health Court application.

5. **Heroin/Drug Court (Judge Walsh).**

Judge Walsh reported that the Heroin Court is off the ground and is running well. There are currently two participants with several others in the process of becoming participants. Heroin Court meets on Fridays and he invited anyone in the group to come and watch Court. Judge Walsh continued that there had been some issues with Heroin Court and Drug Court because of the population they deal with so some combination meetings were held. Heroin Court was designed to draw in first offenders to keep them out of the Jail while someone with chronic criminal background or heavy heroin use or a lot of past convictions may be more suitable for the more chronic user court which is the Drug Court. The issue became that the Heroin Court was getting so specialized that the number of participants was somewhat low. A decision was made that anyone who is using heroin as their drug of choice would be referred to the Heroin Court. He indicated that there may be some evidence that those populations should not be mixed but that is the way this will be handled at this time. Judge Walsh continued that right now the participants in the Heroin Court seem to be first time users and it is working pretty well. He continued that there have not been any relapses yet and the participants are successfully staying off the heroin and having negative tests over the last 60 days.

County Executive Troy Streckenbach asked what is being done for these individuals as far as treatment is concerned. Drug Court Coordinator Angela Sparks responded that participants who have insurance or Badger Care are referred to treatment at one of the treatment centers. Judge Walsh added that the expectation is that the people who are accepted into the Heroin Court would have some form of insurance available for treatment. Sparks continued that participants receive treatment at Prevea, Bellin, CTC and other facilities. Sparks continued that she is currently working on a joint solicitation grant to provide medication assisted treatment for heroin addicts. The grant is due June 1 and she asked for letters of support. She stated that as much collaboration and coordination that can be shown would be very helpful. She stated that the grant is geared specifically towards medication assisted treatment for heroin addicts and for mental health clients with co-occurring disorders that do not have a service provider or access to treatment.

Sparks continued that she is addressing two pillars of the Wisconsin Heroin Initiative four pillar approach. She is focusing on harm reduction and advanced treatment services. A portion of the grant is geared toward providing Narcan atomizers to first responders and also to provide medical and other training that they need to provide the service. This covers the harm reduction portion of the four pillar approach. Sheriff John Gossage added that Green Bay PD and Brown County are receiving training on the atomizers but anything that can be done as far as receiving a grant would be very helpful.

Sparks continued that this is a two prong grant. One part of it is to provide the medication assisted treatment and the other part is geared more to harm reduction of heroin and other drugs. Sparks reiterated that letters of support would be greatly appreciated and very helpful. She noted that this is a large undertaking but she felt that there is so much coordination and collaboration in Brown County that there is a good opportunity to get funded for the projects. Judge Walsh asked Sparks to send out an e-mail reminding those in attendance to write letters of support. Sparks noted that the grant is \$100,000 and there is a \$25,000 match and she would like input as to ways to maneuver around the match. Green Bay Police Chief Tom Molitor indicated that he has officers that go out with probation and parole on home visits and he thought those hours would add up quickly. Sparks would like documentation on this to include in the grant. She noted that the other portion of the grant is \$300,000 with no match. This is a three year grant. Sparks stated that none of the match has to be in cash; it can all be in-kind.

Judge Walsh asked Molitor to talk about the services they provide on home visits with probation and parole. Molitor responded that they have been doing this in other aspects for quite a while. He noted that probation and parole officers work in a dangerous environment and they are not armed so they have police come along for additional security which has worked out very well for both agencies. Molitor noted that this could easily be extended to heroin.

Sparks added that if anyone can think of anything else that should be included in the budget for the grant she would like to receive the information as soon as possible. She does not know if there are enough participants in the Heroin Court at this time to justify the grant for the next three years, so if she can put money into other areas that will be needed in the future it would be helpful. Lasee stated that costs for residential services is an area where costs will add up fairly quickly and he noted that there is probably a subset of the population that they have not accepted into the program due to concerns if they will make it. If there is residential treatment and there is medically assisted therapy as well he felt that there would be an opportunity to expand the numbers in the program very quickly. Lasee agreed that the current number of participants may not necessarily justify the grant, but he did feel that the number of heroin cases that they handle and the amount of heroin on the street would justify it. Sparks indicated that the medication given to addicts costs \$978 per dose for one month and the recommended dose is over a six month period. To justify the expense Sparks indicated in the grant the Drug Court, Heroin Court and Mental Health Courts would grow by 60 participants. Judge Walsh said that Sparks should let those on this Board know specifically what she wants. Sparks responded that, for example, the Sheriff could include

the needs he sees from his perspective and she would also like to hear any suggestions any one has. She is almost done with the narrative proration of the grant and she will provide that to the Board as well.

Molitor noted that the Jail will be doing some things as well as mental health is concerned, but also with the pilot project with Prevea that was discussed at an earlier meeting. Sparks indicated that this is a very competitive grant that will only be giving funding to 10 programs across the country. She continued that she had previously applied for and received something similar and she used what she did in that grant and is building it around what they are doing in Brown County. Sparks also felt that cooperation from the Oneida Tribe would be very helpful.

Judge Walsh asked Lasee to report on the pilot program with Prevea that was discussed at an earlier meeting. Lasee stated there was not much to update at this point as Prevea is still completing their work and putting together a more detailed Power Point. The Prevea program would involve a public/private partnership using Prevea to start a pilot program for medication assisted therapy which would also involve a tele-site at the Jail for the heroin users. This would allow for a potential expansion of the Heroin Court and Lasee noted that when there is a high number of people entering the Jail with a heroin or opiate issue and are sitting in custody on bond and not doing anything productive, they go through withdrawal and they would try to link these people up quickly using the CAGE assessment that the Jail uses and then tie them in very quickly with treatment at the tele-site with Prevea. Lasee continued that Prevea was willing to put one doctor toward this who would provide psychiatric care and prescribe whatever medication would be appropriate. The issue would be residential and where these people go upon release from the Jail. He felt this would tie in very nicely with the grant Sparks is working on and he thought that Prevea had recently received a grant for residential care in a rural area. Lasee noted that this program is still in the initial stages and he will keep the Board advised.

At this time Gossage introduced Brown County's new Human Services Director, Erik Pritzl to the Board. Gossage asked Pritzl if there was any type of residential treatment options for residential care through the County that Human Services could provide to someone after they are released from the Jail. Pritzl responded that he would have to look into this but he noted that there are some facilities that offer support. He stated that substance abuse is a little more challenging to deal with than the mental health population. Gossage indicated that Jail is not really the appropriate place for these individuals once they are getting treatment. Lasee agreed and stated that that is a big gap in services and they hope to address this with the program with Prevea. Judge Walsh stated that this is a huge ticket item that could take up a large portion of the budget. Streckenbach asked how many people would benefit from some residential treatment and Lasee responded that he was not in a position to evaluate who is appropriate for a residential facility but he felt the number would be large. It was indicated that there are at least 50 people currently in the Jail who may be better served at a residential facility. Lasee stated that putting people in Jail is not always the best place for them, but when they ask for cash bonds and they are not posted they stay in Jail because they do not have other alternatives. Lasee continued that there are very few residential treatment facilities and they are hard to get in and are expensive. Lasee stated he would be much more comfortable releasing people on bond if it was known that they would be going to a residential treatment facility.

Molitor stated that the GBPD has been going through records since April 13 and tracking indicators that people are users or involved in heroin or opiates to see the demographics and the numbers. He noted that currently they have 204 people on the list. The information comes from drug tips from the DTF and from officers. He will provide the Board with updated figures at the next meeting. They are working with the organization that does the Compas assessments and they have all of the data that talks about how someone got involved, the first time they used and all sorts of other information. Molitor felt that that information would be very helpful in crunching numbers to find out where the intervention points are. He is aggravated that the State is not more help on this.

6. TAD Grant (David Lasee).

Lasee explained that the idea of the diversion program is that rather than issue formal criminal charges against someone, the case would be evaluated based on the seriousness of the case and the history and a screen would be done. For offenders that are low risk low need or low risk medium need and sometimes low risk high need, a decision can be made to divert them out of the system and give the offender the opportunity to through a six or eight week course through ATTIC which has been specifically designed, The offenders pay for the program themselves, but it is not very expensive and is typically less than what court costs would be. The idea of the program is that the offenders be drug tested, but this has not worked out so well because sometimes they do not show up for the drug tests. However, assuming they stay clean and finish the program, they don't get charged.

Lasee continued that some of the frustration he has is that he is not seeing the clientele that he expected and that was low level minor offenders. Lasee felt that the officers already divert those people out by giving them municipal citations or potentially a pass on their conduct. The people that are getting referred to the DA's office are people that are fairly engrained in the criminal culture by the time they are referred so they are struggling how to treat that clientele. They have to balance the crime before the DA with what they say is the higher level of need of the individual and this has been hard to do. Lasee said they are not just accepting people with retail thefts and disorderly conduct but they have actually put some borderline serious offenders into the program such as some of the ICAC charges and some borderline sexual assaults. Sparks indicated that many of the people do go to the classes, but they will not do the drug testing and this is frustrating.

Clerk of Courts John Vander Leest stated that he does sometimes hear from parents and family members of first time offenders looking for direction and Sparks said she would be happy to talk to these people.

Streckenbach asked how long the TAD grant was for and Lasee stated that it is for five years but is renewable every year. Annually the grant is for \$139,006. Lasee stated that they are very mindful of the valuation process and they need to be sure to track numbers and success rates so as they get deeper in to the evaluation the populations grow.

Lasee continued that the amount of money spent per participant in the Drug Court is pretty high, but he noted that this is a population where the failure rates would be 80 – 90% coming out of the prison system and it is certain that most of them would reoffend. Lasee noted that there is a little lower than a 50% failure rate for people to finish the program, but for those that do finish the program, the success rate has been really high and this results in cost savings because that is a population that law enforcement is having contact with, taking up jail bed days and taking up resources of probation and parole. The Drug Court has demonstrated success and Lasee felt that the Heroin and Mental Health Courts will also be successful once the population increases.

7. Request to present at a future meeting by Measures for Justice.

Judge Walsh advised that he received a letter from Measures for Justice who received a grant from the Department of Justice to do a study on Milwaukee and as part of the study they started gathering data from other counties for comparison purposes and one of the counties they compared was Brown County. Measures for Justice contacted Judge Walsh and said that they had data on Brown County and there was a new grant and they were being asked to do some further studies and would like to work with Brown County to study the process being used and asked if Brown County would be interested in a presentation. Judge Walsh thought it would be worthwhile to have Measures for Justice come to talk to this Board and explain what they do and provide the information they have gathered on Brown County. Judge Walsh was thinking of having them come to the next meeting which would be in July. The consensus of the Board was that this would be a good idea.

Judge Walsh recalled that Judge Zuidmulder mentioned at the last meeting that he had a desire to speak with some service organizations to get the word out into the community as to what this Board does. He put together a list of organizations and sent a letter to the groups. Judge Walsh asked if anyone had a desire to go out and speak to the groups to let him know.

Judge Walsh also brought up the Jail Usage tasks that were put together a year ago. He will get this on the next agenda for review. He noted that the Court system has done some interesting things that he will report on.

8. **Adjourn.**

Before the meeting adjourned, the Board set the date of its next meeting for July 16, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. in the Truttman Room of the Brown County District Attorney's Office, 300 East Walnut Street, Green Bay.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary