

**Minutes**  
Eau Claire County  
Committee on Judiciary and Law Enforcement  
Thursday, May 14, 2020 – 10:45 AM  
Virtual Meeting via Cisco Webex

**Members Present:** Melissa Janssen, Sandra McKinney, Zoe Roberts, Connie Russell, and Gerald Wilkie.

**Others Present:**, Sheriff Ron Cramer, Captain Joel Brettingen, Lieutenant Cory Schalinske, Captain Dan Bresina, Lieutenant Dave Riewestahl, Admin. Services Div. Manager Danielle Powers, Criminal Justice Director Tiana Glenna, Director Travis Quella, Aimee Drivas, Dana Swanstrom, Lynn Buske, Michael Steuer, Anthony Ledford, David Carlson, Paul Savides, Kim Cronk, Dr. Susan Wolfram, and Eric Huse.

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Wilkie at 10:46 AM.

**Confirmation of Public Meeting Notice**

The Clerk confirmed this meeting was properly noticed to the public.

**Call of the Roll**

The Clerk called the roll. Attendance was noted above.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was made.

**Approval of Minutes from May 01, 2020 Meeting**

A clerical error was noted with the spelling of Supervisor Russell's name. Supervisor Janssen moved to approve the minutes from the May 01, 2020 meeting. The minutes were adopted as corrected via 5-0 voice vote.

**TRY Mediation Department Introduction and Presentation**

Director Travis Quella was present to provide an overview of the department. There are three core areas of service: Family Mediations, which are generally court ordered and service Eau Claire and surrounding counties; Small Claims Mediation; and the Families in Transition program for families going through divorce proceedings. Funding for the department is split between Eau Claire County, the other counties they service, and user fees. The department has had to adapt and deliver services remotely as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic response.

**Joining Our Neighbors Advancing Hope (JONAH) Presentation**

JONAH Organizer Lynn Buske, and JONAH Vice-President Michael Steuer presented. 10 clergy members formed in 2007 with a focus on diversion and treatment alternatives to incarceration. Goal is to work on root cause and address root cause of problems in the community.

Michael Steuer – Eau Claire County has a long history with many of the initiatives JONAH is working on including early mental health jail diversion taskforce, Drug Court and other treatment courts.

Other topics, ensuring equal employment and housing opportunities, restoring voting rights to felons, eliminating "crimeless" revocations of probation or extended supervision. Advocacy and education.

**ACLU "Smart Justice" Presentation**

Rights for All Campaign – Eau Claire County Regional Organizer David Carlson spoke about the increased risk incarcerated individuals have due to COVID-19.

Anthony Ledford, a formerly incarcerated individual, spoke about the importance of understanding the actual experience of incarcerated individuals.

JONAH Executive Board Member Paul Savides spoke about the goals of the ACLU "Smart Justice" program including reducing overall incarcerated populations, increasing opportunities for treatment options, and keeping those that are incarcerated safe- especially during times of pandemic.

Dr. Susan Wolfgram, UW-Stout Professor Emeritus, LICSW, spoke of the need to act now- especially during this time of pandemic.

Kim Cronk, R.N. & County Board Supervisor, spoke to how we can move forward during and after this time of pandemic. She discussed the question, "How can the system sustain the changes it made (in jail bookings, incarceration rates, etc.) during the pandemic to after the pandemic?"

### **Sheriff's Office Introduction and Presentation**

Sheriff Cramer gave a high level overview of the Sheriff's Office. The authority for the office comes from Wisconsin State Statute. They currently have three divisions: Field Services, Security Services, and Administrative Services.

Captain Brettingen spoke about the organization and duties of the Field Services Division which includes patrol, detectives, and process service operations.

Captain Bresina spoke about the organization and duties of the Security Services Division which includes jail, fingerprint/DNA room, and courthouse security and screening operations.

Administrative Division Manager Danielle Powers spoke about the organization and duties of the Administrative Services Division which includes direct support to other divisions, records, and fiscal management operations.

### **Future Meeting Date**

The next committee meetings are scheduled for:

Wednesday, May 27, 2020 at 3:00PM.

Wednesday, June 24, 2020 at 3:00PM.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Department Fiscal Updates
- Stop & Think Program Presentation
- Jail Population Update
- Court Process & Treatment Courts Overview

### **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Wilkie at 1:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Eric Huse*

Eric Huse  
Committee Clerk