Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

NOTES

DATE 1/28/16

ATTENDEES

Voting Members
- Judge James Fleetwood
- Judge Jennifer Jones
- Judge Jeffrey Goering
- Sheriff Jeff Easter
- Chief Gordon Ramsay
- District Attorney Marc Bennett
- Commissioner Tim Norton
- Commissioner Dave Unruh
- Marilyn Cook
- City Council Member Lavonta Williams
- Sharon Dickgrafe
- Mike Scholes
- Mark Masterson
- Mark Rudy
- Marv Duncan
- Vacant SCAC

Ex Officio Members and Others in Attendance
- Ann Swegle
- Tom Struble
- Jason Schechter
- Gail Villalovos
- Undersheriff Brenda Dietzman
- Jama Mitchell
- Capt. Scott Heimerman
- Judge Ben Burgess
- Karen Powell
- Renfeng Ma
- Mark Bowman
- Wes Ellington
- Roger Taylor
- Melinda Wilson
- Stephen Owens
- Janice Bradley
- Russ Pataky
- Mary Dean

* Voting designee

LOCATION
Detention Facility, 2nd Floor Training Room

ACTION ITEMS

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<th>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</th>
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Discussion

Judge Fleetwood called the meeting to order. No quorum present.

1. Approval of Minutes
   a. December 3, 2015 minutes were not approved.
   b. October 22, 2015 minutes were not approved.

2. New Business
   a. Criminal Justice System Population Discussion
      i. Councilwoman Williams asked what the spike was on slide three. It was just an abnormally high number of people that month. Mr. Jared Schechter mentions that it was just an abnormally high number. Undersheriff Brenda Dietzman says that there have been a larger number of warrants out than in the past. Mr. Mark Masterson asks if this is caused by a warrant sweep and Ms. Dietzman says that it is not; it is simply due to more warrants out there. Mr. Mark Masterson says average daily population in pretrial services went up pretty dramatically, same thing with numbers served. Mr. Tom Struble says that slide 9 illustrates what Mr. Masterson said even better. We are in fact at the highest percentage ever to be supervised. Councilwoman Williams wanted to know if it was possible to get the average age of the detainees. Councilwoman Williams asked about the trends in the population over last summer. Sheriff Easter said that they always experience a spike in the summer, but this past summer was particularly bad because of a spike in the female population. The increase of the female population forced the Sheriff’s Office to clear out one pod in the jail to accommodate the increased female population as other jails do not want and will not take female inmates.
b. Emergency Observation & Treatment Legislative Draft (Cook)
   i. Mr. Jason Scheck says Ms. Marilyn Cook is not here today and he will be presenting. In the packets provided to everyone, there is draft language for a bill. This is proposed by Wyandotte Mental Health Center. This legislation would allow for involuntary mental health crisis and substance abuse crisis treatment. This would be allowed without the probate court intervention. The bill would create a state designated crisis recovery center that could serve both voluntary and involuntary patients. There is a no refusal policy for law enforcement referrals. The problem the legislation is trying to solve is to allow for short-term stays and avoid clogging up the state hospitals and the courts. Judge Fleetwood asks about implementation. Sheriff Easter says that the bill allows all of this to possible, but does not create a funding mechanism to refashion what’s going on now, which means that it would have to go before the BoCC for funding purposes.

c. Corrections Outcome Data for Pretrial & CC (Masterson)
   i. Mr. Mark Masterson says the information in the packet is a little more comprehensive than just pretrial and community correction outcome data. Masterson says there was a change made last May in how the risk assessment tool was used. The data was broken down to look at three different six month periods. The tool is used to determine where offenders go based on the level of risk. A University professor is looking at the data to see if there are any changes that can be made. Hopefully, by the next meeting Mr. Masterson will have more information. Judge Fleetwood asks if they’re still trying to analyze the data and what that means. It is indicated that the professor is still reviewing the data and we’ll have more information after she finishes her review. Ms. Gail Villalovos asks if the risk assessment is the LSIR. Mr. Masterson says that it is. Mr. Tom Struble says that pretrial population is up since 2014. Successful discharges are trending down, which is being caused by technical violations. Technical violations are mostly not reporting or failing tests for drugs or alcohol. Mr. Struble wanted to thank the Sheriff’s Office for working with the video phone this past year, which helped Corrections do interviews, thus saving them a trip to the jail every day. Additionally, it allows for instead of just morning interviews, they can now do both morning and afternoon interviews, reducing the time some offenders are in the jail.

3. Old Business
   a. Continued from previous meeting – Community discussion on mental health issues (All)
      i. No comments.

4. Other Business
   a. Upcoming educational opportunities or information to share
      i. Mr. Jason Scheck said that the only CIT training he was aware of was February 8th through 12th, specifically for the jail staff. There are two more on his radar; specifically, June 6th through 10th and October 3rd through 7th. The goal was to do two.
      ii. Mr. Mark Masterson said that January is human trafficking awareness month. The University is going to have a conference on Friday.

   b. Next meeting: February 25, 10:00 – 11:30, Detention Facility
      i. No comments.

5. Public Comment
a. Ms. Janice Bradley asks if it is possible to split out technical violations. Mr. Masterson believes it’s the state system and typically there are a number of violations, not a single violation.

b. Stephen Owens asked about the pretrial services numbers. He was told that if violations occur, the individual will have to go back to jail to await trial.

c. Ms. Janice Bradley says that the Kansas Supreme Court struck down the Wichita marijuana law on a technicality. A de felonizing bill, HB 2049, has passed the House and was approved by the Senate Corrections Committee. Maximum penalties are still high, but it’s a step in the right direction. It’s disappointing that this will only free up about 57 or 59 beds. An amendment tacked on increased penalties on some forms of residential burglary, which might offset the beds freed up.

d. Sheriff Jeff Easter says there is talk about solitary confinement. The first priority is to keep all the inmates of the jail safe, and Sheriff Easter is requesting suggestions for what to do with prisoners that have committed crimes against other prisoners, that would not see the offenders in solitary confinement. It is suggested that there may be a need for greater staffing levels around those prisoners. Sheriff Easter would appreciate it if anybody hearing anything about this would direct individuals to the Sheriff’s Office so that he can understand how to operate the jail under new guidelines. Judge Fleetwood asks if they have serious mental health issues if they would be in the mental health pod. Sheriff Easter responds that they would be in the mental health pod, but would be confined to their cell to ensure the other prisoners’ safety.

e. Councilwoman Lavonta Williams asks about Sedgwick County Drug Court averaging 108 people. She is informed that it’s not a residential facility. She asks if there is a way to determine if it’s marijuana, heroin, or whatever drug they are taking. It is suggested that it is often multiple drugs. Mr. Mark Masterson suggests that this is also the deep end addicted population. Clients are typically from community corrections. The program is very long because the problem is extremely complex. Councilwoman Williams is interested in knowing how many people in the system are there due to marijuana, just as available information, because of the possibility of moving down the path to decriminalization of marijuana.

f. Judge Fleetwood asks if anyone is anticipating taking a position on the juvenile justice bill coming up. Ms. Ann Swegle said that the prosecutor’s state bar association will take a position. Sheriff Easter said it hadn’t been discussed, but he viewed it as very problematic. He could see it being a huge issue for the Sheriff’s Association. According to Judge Fleetwood, it also removes discretion from prosecutor and the judge, thus there are more requests to try juveniles as adults. These are serious concerns for Judge Fleetwood. Sheriff Easter says there is only four rooms in the jail currently used to house juveniles. If what happened in Oregon happens here, then a whole pod would have to be dedicated to juveniles. For Sheriff Easter, telling law enforcement they cannot handcuff or shackle juveniles, who have been violent or committed violent crimes, this change is a huge issue and he sees it as out of line for the lawmakers to do. Ms. Ann Swegle says this could be a big problem for public safety concerns.

g. Stephen Owens asks if it is possible to further define the people being discharged from the jail. Sheriff Easter says he would have to see if that could be done in the ADAM system.

Adjournment