Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

NOTES

DATE 3/24/16

ATTENDEES

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

Ex Officio Members and Others in Attendance
- Ann Swegle*
- Tom Struble*
- Jason Scheck*
- Gail Villalovos*
- Undersheriff Brenda Dietzman*
- Jama Mitchell*
- Capt. Scott Heimerman*
- Judge William Woolley*
- Judge Ben Burgess
- Karen Powell
- Renfeng Ma
- Clay Germany
- Timothy Rohrig
- Mark Bowman
- Wes Ellington
- Roger Taylor
- Melinda Wilson
- Stephen Owens
- Janice Bradley
- Russ Pataky
- Mary Dean
- Jennifer Baysinger
- Lisa Tipton
- Ellen House
- Bill Anderson
- Walt Chappell
- Dan Soliday
- Devin Walt
- * Voting designee

LOCATION

Detention Facility, 2nd Floor Training Room

ACTION ITEMS

PERSON RESPONSIBLE

COMPLETION DATE

None

Discussion

Public Safety Director Marvin Duncan called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes
   a. February 25, 2016 meeting minutes were approved.

2. New Business
   a. Population Report
      i. Councilwoman Lavonta Williams asks what the average length of stay is for residents of the jail. Mr. Marv Duncan says she can find that information on slide four. Councilwoman asks what this means. Undersheriff Brenda Dietzman says that the Sheriff’s Office is working with IT people to provide better data. The data spikes right now are in part due to the work on ensuring data integrity. The data on slide four is total time spent in housing and booking.

   b. Legislative Discussion
      i. DA Bennett says the juvenile justice bill will be voted on in 53 minutes. His main concern is that the alternatives need to be in place first. If juvenile justice isn’t funded, with the thinking being that the alternatives will take care of it, then the kids will be left with nothing. Essentially, this would send them to the adult system. About half the amendments DA Bennett proposed were passed by the legislature. Several of those amendments were lockbox provisions, meaning that savings coming from the alternatives programs would be locked away from use in other ways by the legislature. Each judicial district needs to be asking for what would specifically be beneficial to their district. Ms. Marilyn Cook asks
when this will be implemented. DA Bennett says that various provisions have
different start dates. New York has also done something similar and their advice
is to keep programs going until alternatives cause a natural death.

ii. Mr. Duncan asks if there is anything going on in the realm of COMCARE. Ms.
Cook says there is some change in step therapy. Essentially, mental health had
always been exempted before this.

3. Old Business
   a. Councilwoman Williams asks Mr. Tom Struble if they are seeing an increase in heroin.
   Mr. Struble said he’s not sure about heavy increase, but a lot of it would be
   prescription medications. Ms. Cook says a lot of people start on prescription
   medications then turn to heroin. At a certain point it becomes easier and cheaper to
   get heroin than it is to get prescription medication. Ms. Cook says they are going to be
   working with GraceMed. Councilwoman Williams was put on a task force and was just
   looking for some information before April.
   b. Mr. Marv Duncan says that Mark Masterson retired. We have asked Steve Stonehouse
   to fill in until Masterson’s position can be filled.
   c. Mr. Jason Scheck said that competency restoration was one of the reasons brought
   up last as to why there was a backlog at the jail. COMCARE looked at doing some of
   them, unfortunately, none of the current cases can be done locally; they will all have
to wait for Larned, which means the wait will probably be three months or more. DA
   Bennett indicates that the trend is increasing for need of competency evaluation.
   Crisis center services are definitely needed. Statewide, one of the issues is that some
   of the CMHCs are not performing all the competency evaluations that they could, thus
   increasing the load on the State. CMHCs are beginning to partner with the State so
   that they can have training to do local competency evaluations, which would indirectly
   help Sedgwick County as the bottleneck at the State would be lessened.
   d. Ms. Cook says that it looks like it will be five or six months before Osawatomie’s
   moratorium will be lifted. After that there will be an operating period before CMS will
   come back to reevaluate. There are currently eight people waiting to be transferred at
   Via Christi. The whole system is being stressed by this.

4. Other Business
   a. Upcoming educational opportunities or information to share
   b. Next meeting: April 28, 10:00 – 11:30, Detention Facility

5. Public Comment
   a. Ms. Janice Bradley said that last meeting there was an announcement of the
   expungement clinic. When it was shared on Facebook it was the most shared event in
   the history of the Peace and Social Justice Center. Because records were not able to
   be retrieved as quickly as was thought, $50,000 was left over to help pay for legal
   fees incurred by those individuals wanting their records expunged. DA Bennett said
   they are still working on using the money. We’re going to figure out how to pay for
   them. Ms. Bradley said she understands that the City cut their fee rate to $50. She
   would like to see the County do something similar. Ms. Bradley had come to the
   Courthouse on expungement day to help get people registered to vote. There is a
   wide misconception that if you have a felony conviction, you can never vote again,
   which is false. Once someone is off papers, they are eligible to vote again. Is there a
   way to get this type of information out? DA Bennett says that there were close to
   1,000 people on expungement day. About 150 have already been processed. It will
   take some time to get through the more than 500 they had left to look at. The
   Defense Bar felt like it had been a good effort. DA Bennett says that this was just a
   first step. Judge Woolsey says the fees charged by the County aren’t really the County,
   it’s the State that charges those. Realistically, the State is probably not going to
reduce those fees. A second point is that the largest use of time came from record searching to ensure things were expungable. There was information at this expungement clinic that might be helpful for people to go ahead and figure out how to get things expunged, even if they couldn’t do it that day, so as an informational piece, the expungement day was successful. DA Bennett was approached by someone he had prosecuted years ago and was asked about the expungement process for his conviction. DA Bennett said it would be a question of how exactly to pull this off again. Ms. Bradley wanted to know if there was a way to do this so that people wouldn’t have to take off work. DA Bennett says that is a good question and something to look at if this type of thing is to be part of the future. The Defense Bar raising money for this was one of the primary reasons it was possible. Judge Woolley said people started lining up at 6:00 a.m. The fifth floor was packed. The Wichita Bar Association is working on this, so it’s not over.

Adjournment