Discussion

Judge Fleetwood called the meeting to order. A quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes
   a. Marilyn Cook called for a correction under point D, subsection i. asking for the word “recount” to be struck and replaced with “a point in time count”.
   b. The minutes from 1/23/14 were approved as amended.
2. New Business
   a. Discussion of Population Report data
      i. No discussion
   b. JRI Implementation with COMCARE
      i. Jay Holmes, community corrections administration for the Adult Intensive Supervision Program and Residential Center, presented to the group. (see attached presentation)
      ii. Mike Alumbaugh asked about the nature of Higher Ground.
         1. Higher Ground is an alcohol and drug treatment center in Sedgwick County.
      iii. Commissioner Peterjohn asked how they are communicating to stakeholders
1. Jay said they currently share information with the Community Corrections Advisory Board. JRI hopes they spread the word, but ultimately JRI needs to do a better job spreading the word. Mark Masterson said that they try every month to spread information to all the judges and they are fairly early along in the process.

iv. Councilwoman Lavonta Williams asked if there is a timetable for implementation

1. Jay Holmes said that they are already underway. They began the third week in January and that CJCC will be updated. Secretary Roberts said that he would like to make it part of the base allocation next year.

c. Legislation review/discussion

i. SB 80

1. On grand juries. DA Marc Bennett said he did not know if there was anything that had a direct affect on CJCC issues. Ann Swegle said it might cost the County money because they might have to bring in grand jurors, thus consuming prosecutorial assets.

ii. Sub for HB 2070

1. Judge Fleetwood said he anticipates it would pass. It alters the amount of time granted for time limits on decisions. Marc Bennet said that because we have full-time staff it would probably not affect us.

iii. HB 2182

1. On amendments to the Kansas Rackateer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act. After a full year of implementation, nobody has invoked it. It does not appear to have had any impact so far.

iv. HB 2493

1. On regulation of appearance bonds. The District Judges Association has been in conversation with the bonding association. They have agreed on language that does not affect OR bonds.

v. HB 2495

1. On sentencing dispositions, probation, and postrelease supervision. Mark Masterson asked if it cures the retroactive controversy. There is no way to cure this effect.

3. Old Business

a. No business

4. Other Business

a. Sheriff Easter said that he attended a meeting with Sunflower Community Action about the Ban the Box campaign. He asked Mr. Darrell Gillmore to speak to the group.

b. Judge Fleetwood said that there are two bills that have constitutional issues regarding who has spending authority for their budget and who selects chief judges. They have been attached to the omnibus judicial funding bill with a nonseverability clause. This means that the court cannot challenge these bills without putting their budget in jeopardy. This affects only the 2015 budget.

5. Public Comment

a. Janice Bradley spoke to CJ CC. She represents a group called (J ENI) Jobs and Education--Not Incarceration. They would like to reduce the number of incarcerations due to possession of drugs, especially marijuana. They wanted to get feedback from in the case the group pursues a petition for decriminalization. Marc Bennett said legalizing it in the city would do nothing because the DA would still have to enforce state law. It would also not legalize the sale. The fight needs to start in Topeka, and even in Washington first. Sheriff Easter said that the legalization in Colorado is
causing numerous problems. Ms. Bradley said that there is also a racial discrimination component to drug arrests.

b. Darrell Gillmore said that “Ban the Box” is a HR policy that requires disclosure of criminal records on job applications. He said this keeps these individuals out of work and thus more likely to recidivate. 56 cities and 10 states have passed fair hiring policies.

Adjournment
Justice Reinvestment Initiative Project

February 27, 2014

Legislative Intent of the JRI Funds

In SFY13, 2 million dollars was dedicated to enhance/develop behavioral health programs for community corrections to help reduce recidivism, improve public safety and the demand for future prison space.

- Council of State Governments (CSG) anticipates that successful implementation will reduce the growth in prison bed demand by 100 beds over the next five years. Ultimately, it will slow the state prison population and avert over $53 million in additional spending.

- Increase access to community-based programming for our felony probation population. The study demonstrates that most probationers revoked and sent to prison have behavioral health needs.

Site Visit by the Council of State Governments Team

- During the last several months, the Council of State Governments Team has spent time learning about our felony population in ASIP and Residential. They have met with a variety of ASIP/Residential staff, attended cognitive skills groups and spoke with other stakeholders in our community.

- CSG applied for a Federal BJA Grant that will help provide quality assurance and support for our agency. This will enable us to identify problem areas and develop strategies for continuous improvement in an effort to reduce recidivism.
JRI Implementation

- In December, interviews were completed and selections were made for the JRI positions. All JRI-related staff began work on January 6, 2014.
- Expanded cognitive behavioral intervention groups for high risk offenders with high rates of failure on probation.
- Partnered with Higher Ground and hired two (2) Recovery Specialists. They will provide selected case management and work collaboratively with SOs who supervise ISL I and ISL II clients in our program.
- Partnered with COMCAR and hired one (1) QMHP and two (2) Case Managers to assist with mental health assessments and swift delivery of services tailored to the individual needs of the client.

JRI Implementation—Continued

Hired four (4) Program Providers that specialize in the delivery and facilitation of cognitive skills related programs.

- Expanded the number of cognitive skills groups currently being offered. Preparing to conduct additional gender specific groups.
- We will soon begin facilitation of a new curriculum titled the Substance Abuse Program (SAP) for our ISL I and II clients. This is considered an intensive cognitively based alcohol/drug program that does not require licensure to facilitate.

Our goal is to serve a combined total of 450 clients in the Getting It Right and SAP Groups.

Next Steps

- Develop and refine our data collection process for offenders that receive behavioral health intervention.
- Utilize the expertise of the CSG staff to evaluate our behavioral health programming. If possible, incorporate suggested changes into our program.
- Educate criminal justice stakeholders about the JRI and how it benefits offenders in our community.