**Sedgwick County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)**

**Meeting Minutes:**
April 25th, 2019

**Location:**
Sedgwick County Detention Facility,
2nd Floor Training Room

**Haither Zaragoza**
Management Intern
Sedgwick County

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendance</th>
<th>Voting Designees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>☑ Chief Judge James Fleetwood, 18th Judicial District (Chair)</td>
<td>☐ Judge Mike Hoelscher</td>
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<td>☑ Court Administrator, Nathan Emmorey, City of Wichita</td>
<td>☐ Judge Eric Commer</td>
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<td>☑ Sheriff Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County</td>
<td>☐ Chief Deputy City Attorney, Jason Smartt</td>
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<td>☑ District Attorney Marc Bennett, 18th Judicial District</td>
<td>☐ Deputy District Attorney Ann Swegle</td>
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<td>☑ Chief Public Defender Mark Orr, Sedgwick County</td>
<td>☐ Deputy Public Defender Jama Mitchell</td>
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<td>☑ Deputy Chief Jose Salcido, City of Wichita</td>
<td>☐ Deputy Public Defender, Jason Smartt</td>
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<td>☑ Captain Chester Pinkston</td>
<td>☐ Assistant City Attorney, Jan Jarman</td>
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<td>☑ Director, Glenda Martens, Sedg. Co. Dept. of Corrections</td>
<td>☐ Corrections Administrator Jay Holmes</td>
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<td>☑ County Manager Tom Stolz</td>
<td>☐ Director Tom Struble Pre-trial Services</td>
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<td>☑ Commissioner Lacey Cruse, Sedgwick County</td>
<td>☐ Assistant County Manager of Administration, Tania Cole, Sedgwick County</td>
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<td>☑ Commissioner Jim Howell, Sedgwick County</td>
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<td>☑ Council Member Brandon Johnson, City of Wichita</td>
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<td>☑ Executive Director Joan Tammany, COMCARE</td>
<td>☐ Director Tisha Darland, Crisis &amp; Access Services COMCARE</td>
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<td>☑ Assistant County Manager of Public Safety, Code Enforcement, &amp; Emergency Management, Russell Leeds, Sedgwick County</td>
<td>☐ Director Regional Forensic Science Center, Dr. Rohrig, Sedgwick County</td>
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<td>☑ Director of Emergency Communications, Elora Forshee, Sedgwick County</td>
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<td>☑ Criminal Presiding Judge Kevin O’Conner, 18th Judicial District</td>
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<td>☑ Sedgwick County Association of Cities, Tom Jones</td>
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Judge Fleetwood called the meeting to order at 10:02 am. A quorum was present.

1. Approval of Minutes

   A. April 26, 2018

   Sheriff Easter made a motion to approve the January 24th, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Glenda Martens seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Committee Reports

   A. Mental Health Subsidies Coalition Update – Sheriff Easter

      i. We have not settled on a name yet but do have an executive board:
         a) The DA; Chief: Sheriff; Joan Tammany; Via Christi; Todd Johnson; and a couple of members of the business community
      ii. Hiring Bothner & Bradley to start the process of creating a strategic agenda.
      iii. League 42 starts this weekend
      iv. Exploring a drug takeback even
      v. Substance Abuse Coordinator traveling to St Louis for a large DEA drug summit. We are studying the event to see if it can be replicated here in the Wichita area.
      vi. Gathering statistical information for the strategic agenda

   Marc Bennett: mental health and substance abuse committees are taking parallel tracks for now that will eventually come together.

   Joan Tammany: Housing and Ascension are also involved on the executive committee. We also have a Murdock grant through Via Christi that is looking at available beds so we can identify gaps. In the next meeting, we will nominate officers

   Sheriff Easter: We are applying for 501c3 status

   Commissioner Cruse asked when the next meeting takes place

   Joan T: There is an executive meeting on the 15th.
Judge Fleetwood: Pre conviction/Post conviction (inaudible)

Sheriff Easter: We do need to talk to state legislators about criminal justice reform. Drugs drive most of our crime.

Commissioner Howell asked what other states are doing.

Judge Fleetwood: Right now the only options our judges have are probation or imprisonment. Other states have more discretion over drug cases, such as deferred judgement wherein the judge can dismiss the case if the offender meets certain requirements. It provides an incentive to avoid conviction.

3. Old Business

4. New Business

A. Jail Annex - **Sheriff Easter**
   a. Is now operational and relieving the out-of-county housing expense; however, we are not seeing as much savings as forecasted because the overall population has not remained steady; it has increased.
      i. Additionally, the jail needs to be tiled one pod at a time, which requires moving the inmates to either the annex or out of county for 2 weeks at a time.
      ii. Page 8 of the population reports shows unfavorable recidivism rates. There appears to be some early success with the mentoring program.

Mark Orr: We are being told that it takes 48 hours to get someone transported from the annex and we’ve been told we could get them the next day.

Sheriff Easter: The 48hr policy is in place because out-of-county transportation can take that long and it is the same mechanism for the annex. We will sit down and look closer at this issue.

Mark Orr: Half of my attorney’s will not use the phone system.

Sheriff: That is trust issue. Feds in KC were listening in, but that will not happen here.

Mark Orr: That trust has to be built.
Marc Bennett: The system will listen if the attorney conferences in a 3rd party.

Commissioner Howell asked if attorney’s can meet with inmates at the annex.

Sheriff Easter: Not currently. We wanted all visitations to be done at the main jail. We are looking into options to allow visitation at the annex.

Commissioner Howell: I think the annex is creating savings. The population would still be there without the annex, they would just me out-of-county, costing us more. They are also closer to the courts, attorneys, and family.

Sheriff Easter: Having all these inmates close makes it easier for everyone. Seventy percent of our jail population is on pretrial for violent crimes, increasing our average length of stay.

Marc Bennett: All the easy fixes to decrease our jail population that can be made at the county level have been addressed. We are not into tougher issues of mental health and substance abuse. Judges need more options without being forced to convict before they have any authority over offenders.

B. DA’s Letter – Re-treatment & Mental Health – DA Marc Bennett
   a. Copies of the letter were distributed to the board
   b. The letter does not advocate a particular position, it only identifies the issues.
      i. Why do people abscond?
      ii. Hot UAs
      iii. Failure of drug treatment
      iv. Commission of a new crime
   c. In the entire state of Kansas, 91 people were convicted of felony possession of marijuana, six of which went to state prison for an average of 22 months. You cannot go for 22 months unless you have a criminal history class A or B.
   d. When you put money into a local mental health provider, like our crisis center, you get a good return on the investment by keeping people out of the ER and the jails.

Joan Tammany asked if the legislators have responded to the letter.

Marc Bennett: The issue is a little overwhelming for them to deal with right now, but it is a topic of discussion.
Fleetwood: I would encourage the members of this board to study this letter and consider it a tool with which to respond to the popular voices that are making arguments that are not relying on the statistics.

Commissioner Howell: Is there a way to get some of this data out to the public periodically? It might answer some of the questions the community has and get the conversation moving forward.

Sheriff Easter: We produce a population report every day, but getting the actual charges out there would be much more involved. We could put that together, just not every day.

Commissioner Howell: Maybe yearly.

Lacey Cruse: Maybe put it in low-level terms that the average citizen can understand.

5. Other Business

6. Public Comment

Meeting adjourned.