

# Manitowoc County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

## Minutes

May 5, 2021

Manitowoc Office Complex Room 300

Attendance: Council members Present: County Board Supervisor James Falkowski, Lori Fure (designee for Patricia Dodge), Sheriff Dan Hartwig, Chief Brian Kohlmeier, District Attorney Jacalyn LaBre (Vice-Chair), Kevin Mueller, Supervisor Nick Muench, Judge Mark Rohrer (Chair), County Executive Bob Ziegelbauer and Clerk of Court Lynn Zigmunt.

Excused/Absent: Chief Tim Barber, Attorney Phil Hoff, Attorney Ann Larson, Cindy Oswald.

Others: Patricia Koppa, Jason Latva, Stacy Ledvina, Darlene Wellner, and Nancy Slattery. ( Note – sign in was not given to general public given the room configuration.)

Meeting called to order at 5:03 by Vice Chair DA Jacalyn LaBre. Judge Mark Rohrer was in court and is expected shortly.

Motion to approve minutes from the November 4, 2021 made by Supervisor James Falkowski with second by Two Rivers Chief Brian Kohlmeier. Motion unanimously passed. Note location of meeting to be changed to reflect that it was a meeting by Zoom and not in person at C & T.

Drug Court report by Jason Latva: 12 participants remain active, 2 are in termination phase awaiting appointment of counsel. Pandemic has been difficult on participants. Program totals are now 12 terminations and 28 graduations.

Wisconsin Treatment Court Professionals Conference was attended by the majority of team either in person or virtually.

State grant application will be due in June or July for the next cycle. Details are unclear as to the cycle length or the amounts to be awarded. All depends upon the budget passed.

Clients, alumni and team are back in person. Not known when the full public sessions will resume and if that will even be this year.

Then Vice Chair LaBre recognized Stacy Ledvina to report on Youth Justice – Ms. Ledvina noted that the Manitowoc Youth Intervention Network (MYIN) has not met since prior to onset of the epidemic. A conference was in progress just as the shut down began. There have been changes in youth justice programming during the past year.

Referral numbers are declining. 161 referrals... fewer kids, yet these youth are committing more crimes than was common in the past. Many trends noted when reviewing the statistics. Only 21 bookings to detention in 2020. The youth there are the ones that need to be there.

This has been accomplished by using alternative tools. Services and directives other than simply locking up youth. Notes there are still instances where there has been use of detention due to lack of the other placement options.

No longer have the funding from Ann E Casey Foundation. Counties often on their own, but State is working on some initiatives due to Dept. of Families and Children taking over youth justice from DOJ/corrections. Expect this will result in funding more uniformly available.

Local change - Justice Point no longer under contract.

Starting to use in person hearings and contact again. Had to be creative during pandemic since unable to do the usual volunteer/community service work. Youth are happy to be back at the youth center.

Recently obtained a youth justice innovation grant... \$150,000. YWC funding. Working on mindfulness programming. Adult version of the program focuses on meditation and journalizing. Adapted to a program that is more appropriate for youth. Further adapting to the kids with high needs including mental health issues. Goal is to rewire the brain to stop and take a moment before reacting. Example... the glitter jars.

Healthiest Manitowoc County – mental health and AODA – youth justice received the full \$1500 available. Will work on the Kids at Hope garden. Fishing opportunity. This will also expand to the CPS kids.

Rick Miller founder of the Kids at Hope program will be in town in August. Will be working with the Treasure Hunter adults. August 11 Town Hall. More information when the official announcement is made.

Explained the assessment tool... changed from JACE to the YAZY. This is positive because it stresses strengths.

Stakeholders are going to national conferences to work on new programming and methods.


Judge Rohrer asked... does mindfulness really help? Ms. Ledvina noted that the tools help the youth slow down. Get time to recognize that actions impact events. While non-traditional, it addresses the needs of the population. Kids are participating.

Judge Rohrer thanked Ms. Ledvina. Noted that Attorney Ann Larson was unavailable and asked that the jury pool discussion be tabled. Motion by Chief Kohlmeier, second by Sheriff Dan Hartwig to do so. Motion approved unanimously.

Next general Council meeting will be September 1. The Executive committee will next meet on 5/17.

Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Falkowski and seconded by Sheriff Hartwig. Meeting adjourned on unanimous vote at 5:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

  
Patricia A. Koppa  
Council Secretary