

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATOR ADHOC COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: Wednesday, June 24, 2020
TIME: 1:00 p.m.
PLACE: Wood County Courthouse-Room 114
Wisconsin Rapids, WI

PRESENT: Adam Fischer, Bill Clendenning, Bill Leichtnam, Mary Solheim, Brad Hamilton, Brent Vruwink and Shawn Becker

OTHERS PRESENT: (for part or all of the meeting in person, telephone or video conference): Kim McGrath, Shannon Lobner, Lance Pliml, Reuben Van Tassel and unknown caller

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairman Fischer.
2. A quorum was declared as all committee members were present at the meeting.
3. Written drug court office move “thoughts” by the current Wood County Drug Court Coordinator, Ryan McMillen, were distributed at the meeting and are included with the minutes as part of public comments.
4. **A motion was made by Hamilton and seconded by Leichtnam to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2020 meeting. All voted aye, motion carried.**
5. Discussion took place on the roles and responsibilities of the Criminal Justice AdHoc Committee and how the committee wants to proceed; present current and future findings to the Judicial and Legislative Committee; and the need for the AdHoc Committee. Committee members expressed interest in continuing the AdHoc Committee until the Criminal Justice Coordinator position is filled and has established a position foundation to successfully implement diversion courts and processes with collaboration, resources and guidance from other departments and entities. Committee members did not find value in identifying or placing a timeline expiration date on the AdHoc Committee. **A motion was made by Clendenning and seconded by Hamilton, to have the Criminal Justice Coordinator AdHoc Committee continue to meet as long as the Coordinator and committee members see value in the committee or further direction from the Judicial and Legislative Committee is received. All voted aye, motion carried.**
6. Next steps for the committee and future agenda items were discussed. Becker advised the committee that he had a conversation with Wood County Circuit Court Judge Greg Potter on the need for and potential interest in the establishment of an OWI court. Leichtnam and Solheim provided the committee with overviews of the conversations that they each recently had with Wood County Circuit Court Judge Nicholas Brazeau in regards to the establishment of a Youth Mental Health Court. Human Services will continue to gather and present case information that was previously requested by Judge Brazeau, while being mindful and compliant with release of confidential case data. Vruwink provided the committee with information that he located on Day Reporting and Diversion Programs in Milwaukee County and Portage County, in an effort to reduce detention costs and satisfy court obligations.

Future agenda items will include updates and discussion on:

- OWI Diversion Court
- Day Reporting and Diversion Programs
- Position Recruitment
- Youth Mental Health Court

The committee discussed the need to hold a special meeting prior to the scheduled July 6, 2020 Drug Court Coordinator office move date that was approved at the June 17, 2020 committee meeting. The current Drug Court Coordinator has concerns about the move date and drug testing location. Discussion ensued on the need to hold a special meeting or if the committee could just extend the office move date to July 31, 2020. **A motion was made by Clendenning and seconded by Hamilton to not have a special meeting to extend the office move date to July 31, 2020. All voted aye, motion carried.**

7. The next meeting will be on **Wednesday, July 22, 2020** at **1:00 p.m.**
8. Chairman Fischer declared the meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

Minutes taken by Shannon Lobner and are in draft format until approved by the committee at the next meeting.

Thoughts on drug court office move:

When the move happens, we need more time to create new ways of doing things and to process and inform the participants of the move. This is a big change and creates new problems to solve. Hopefully drug court can have a little more time to transition to the sheriff's office area. Hopefully have until July 31st.

Drug Court participants are drug dependent, high risk/ high need and most have extensive trauma in their past (score of 7,8,9,10 on the ACE questionnaire)

Riverblock building is a safe place for the participants to be honest and promotes openness. The whole idea of treatment court is to help people get out of the jail and criminal justice system and into treatment and recovery services. We need to create a welcoming area.

1:1 counseling and groups are at Riverblock. This gave the participants an opportunity to stop in the office to drop off paperwork, do daily check-ins and have more face to face contact while participating in their treatment groups

During day treatment group the participant have 10 min breaks to from group, during that time they come and do their UA, this would not be possible with the office at the courthouse. The privacy of the bathrooms since they are currently public bathrooms is an issue for observing UAs, confidentiality and contraband being place in a public bathroom (example: urine for UAs). Having to carry the UA cup in the public hallway of the courthouse may cause some issues with the public and participants. Can drug court continue to utilize the human services building on 12th st until everything is secure and confidential? We have been using this space during the Covid-19 restrictions.

There are 50+ UAs collected a week on the drug court participants, UAs are collected 7 days a week

There are 9-10 case management sessions a week, where the participants review their goals, process issues, work on their drug court work books and review treatment progress/ participation

On Tuesday afternoons AODA and LSI-R assessments are completed on new referrals, once a participant is done with his or her AODA assessment then they do their LSI-R assessment with Ryan, it is very convenient to get all the assessments done in one building. We will have to problem solve how to do this in the future.

Drug court is a reward/ life style change/ recovery based program and doing testing and case management at the court house/ jail area would appear punitive and promote anxiety due to all the trauma the participants have. We will have to work on making the area welcoming for the Drug court participants.

Riverblock provides many other services that the participants currently utilize, FSET, food share, energy assistance, social services and psychiatry services. It is very efficient while doing case management to have access immediately to these services.

Participants may not even want to show up for UAs if they have relapsed due to the presence of law enforcement/ jail, hopefully this is not an issue.

Drug court participants are all clients at Wood County Human Services.

****Comments prepared by Ryan McMillen, Wood County Drug Court Coordinator and distributed as public comments for 6-24-2020 Criminal Justice AdHoc Committee meeting. Shannon Lobner, Wood County CSA, Recording Secretary**