



POLK COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 19, 2024

Time: 8:00 a.m.

Location: Polk County Sheriff's Headquarters

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Supervisor Hockensmith, Chief Judge Huppert, County Attorney Graham, Des Moines Police Chief Wingert, Polk County Sheriff Designee Chief Bob Stanton, Director of BHDS Designee Rachael Adams, 5th District Director IDOC Designee Mike Brown, Chief U.S. Probation Officer Caropreso, Asst. Public Defender Larson.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Supervisor Connolly, Ankeny Police Chief Potts, Polk County Sheriff Schneider, Director of BHDS Uetz, 5th District Director IDOC Dix, DMPS Superintendent Dr. Roberts, Citizen Appointee Gyrp.

ACTIVITY:

1. Meeting called to order by Board Chair Hockensmith and a quorum was established.
2. January 23, 2024, CJCC meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

INFORMATION:

1. CJCC Coordinator Evans updated the Council on the following CJCC activities:
 - a. The CJCC Website has been updated with meeting minutes, the strategic plan, existing committees, and the modified bylaws. The link to the website is: <https://www.polkcountyiowa.gov/board-of-supervisors/cjcc/>. At the May CJCC meeting, the plan is to take a picture of the entire council and add it to the website.
 - b. The resolution approving the agreement with DataLake House.io is scheduled to go before the Polk County Board of Supervisors at its next meeting. Once approved, Coordinator Evans will begin working with the Jail, Polk County I.T., and DataLake House.io on extracting data for analysis and the creation of a CJCC Dashboard.
 - c. The Mental Health Subcommittee held its first formal meeting on February 18, 2024. Lorna Garcia was selected as the Chair, and Gabbie Ruggiero was selected as the Vice-Chair. The members comprising the subcommittee and the topics discussed can be found on the CJCC website under the minutes tab.
 - d. An informal meeting was held with Director of Juvenile Court Services John Hawkins and his staff on February 26th to talk about the creation of a Deflection and Diversion Subcommittee. Also in attendance were Judge Pattison and staff from BHDS.

What was clear by the end of the meeting was that juvenile court services do not have enough community resources for youth to be referred to. This includes behavioral health, substance use treatment, residential treatment, etc. The team from BHDS are scheduled to meet again with the representatives from juvenile court services on April 2nd to discuss potentially using the Sequential Intercept Model to help guide the process of further identifying gaps in services. It was noted that Director Hawkins and his team already do a great job of working to divert youth from getting too involved in the juvenile court system. Director Hawkins and his team plan to present at the next CJCC in May in order to share more about the 5th District juvenile court system and their accomplishments.

- e. Coordinator Evans met with the County Attorney's Office, Public Defender's Office, the 5th District DOC Staff, Polk County Jail, and Chief Judge Huppert on March 1st to discuss probation holds at the jail. The purpose was to discuss reducing the amount of time a probationer was being held without bond while they awaited their violation hearing. The data shows that close to 50% of those arrested do not end up getting revoked and sent to prison. Instead, they get returned to the community. Accordingly, the parties wanted to see if there was a way to shorten the time that the 50% who would be continued on probation remained in custody. In the end, the parties were going to see if they could reduce the time down to 7 days where possible. Currently, it is anywhere from 10-14 days before the violation hearing takes place. If they are able to get somewhere close to 7 days, that would represent a 33% decrease in the number of days in jail for those who end up getting continued on probation. More to come as the process continues to be ironed out.
 - f. Coordinator Evans shared that he represented the Polk County CJCC on a Webinar put on by The National Association of Counties (NaCo) on March 11th. NaCo is doing a four-part series on the purpose of CJCCs, and Coordinator Evans was invited to talk about the accomplishments of the Polk County CJCC and the plans for future. NaCo wanted to highlight the Polk County CJCC for its commitment to working on becoming aligned with the CJCC National Standards.
2. Frank Marasco gave an update on activity at the Polk County Jail:
- a. Monthly bookings remained relatively unchanged. Total bookings for January and February of 2023 were 2,388. In 2024, the number was 2442 for those same months; An increase of 54.
 - b. Monthly releases for January and February of 2023 totaled 2448. In 2024, for those same months, there were 2,400 total releases. When comparing bookings to releases for January and February of 2024, there was a difference of 42 which were added to the population in the jail.
 - c. The average daily population for 2024 sits at 1,038. The trend reflects the jail is still below the pre-covid number from 2020 (1078), but 1% above the 2023 number of 989.
 - d. The break-down for what defendants are being booked into the jail for based on the most serious charge is as follows:
 - i. Felony- 23%
 - ii. Misdemeanor- 54%
 - iii. Other- 23%

- e. Further analysis reflects there are 283 defendants being held in the jail on violent offenses, with Assaults accounting for 70% of this number.
- 3. Lieutenant Shane Griffin with the DM Fire Department presented on the Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIHC) 6-month Pilot.
 - a. MIHC is a proactive approach designed to make contact with high volume utilizers (HVU) of DMFD EMS and Emergency Departments in Des Moines. This includes those that are homeless.
 - b. HVU are typically patients who are unable to navigate the healthcare system on their own. They are mentally and/or physically incapable of providing for their own medical care. Thus, they often use the DMFD EMS for transport to hospitals to receive care that is not of an emergency nature.
 - c. Calendar year 2022 saw a significant rise in ambulance transports from Central Iowa Shelter Services (CISS); an increase of 48% from 2021.
 - d. MIHC staff will obtain a list of the top 20 HVUs in Des Moines and seek to schedule appointments with them one to two times per week as needed. MIHC will perform a medical assessment and determine if the patient is in good health.
 - e. The goal, outside of providing needed services, is to reduce the unnecessary ambulance transports and emergency room visits by being proactive and attempting to address the patient's needs.
 - f. DMFD EMS has also begun staffing a small clinic inside CISS to assess patient needs which has proven to be very effective in limiting the number of transports needed. It's called the Acute Care Station (ACS)
 - g. Since its inception, the ACS has reduced 911 dispatches to CISS by 75%.
 - h. Presently, the ACS is staffed 16 hours a day with the goal of eventually being able to staff it 24 hours a day.
 - i. Throughout the 6-month Pilot Program, data will be collected on a weekly basis. Cumulative data at the end of the 6-months will be used to evaluate the effectiveness and see if there is a need for a permanent MIHC program.
 - j. If the program becomes a permanent section, more programs could be added to provide more services to the public, such as:
 - i. Targeted Opioid Intervention
 - ii. Hospice
 - iii. Mental Health
 - iv. Suboxone administration
 - v. Acute Care Stations
 - vi. Mobile Vaccinations
 - vii. Clinic Hours inside homeless shelters

NEW BUSINESS

1. There was no new business.

Consent Agenda:

1. There were no consent agenda items.

Comments from the Public:

1. There were no comments from the public

Closing:

1. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 a.m.