

**CJCC MEETING
Minutes
August 2, 2022**

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Chair: Nathan Dreckman, Vice-Chair: Jeff Lockhart, Gary Ranum, Judge Craig Day, Jeff Kindrai, Debra Reukauf, Craig Reukauf

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Robert Keeney, Aaron Olson, Ben Wood, Dr. Hiatt, Brittany Guthrie, Clark Thelemann

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lance Wetter (excused), Lisa McDougal, Teresa Burton (excused) Ashley Dickman, Darla Adams, Lisa Riniker

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristin Schier, Shane Drinkwater

OTHERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Selina Baus, Herald Independent, Telegraph Herald

The meeting, conducted in person and via Zoom, was called to order by Chair Nathan Dreckman. Notice of the meeting was posted in the Grant County Administration Building, Grant County Courthouse, and Grant County website.

Motion by Gary Ranum, seconded by Judge Day, to approve the Agenda as posted. Motion carried without negative vote.

Motion by Jeff Lockhart, seconded by Craig Reukauf, to approve the Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2022. Motion carried without negative vote.

TAD Grant

Kristin Schier informed the Council that the grant announcement came out July 1. She stated that the application process was going to be different than in previous years. There will be a pre-application process to identify priority categories to guide DOJ staff in determining the number of TAD grant applications and amount of grant funds to be distributed. Kristin explained that based on the meeting she had with DOJ officials, they recommended Grant County request an increase in baseline funding to \$150,000, the maximum amount a county can receive for a treatment court.

Kristin stated that she is seeking approval from the CJCC to increase the baseline funding to \$150,000 and submit the pre-application form, which has been forwarded to the Council for their review. She acknowledged that there may some issues with supplanting but will work those out. She shared the email she received with the Council, and the Council discussed. Gary Ranum said the impression he gets is that they won't allow us to reduce our levy. Kristin stated that is correct, and she will work with Amanda on this.

Gary made a motion to allow Kristin to move forward with the pre-application with an increase in the baseline funding to \$150,000. Jeff Kindrai seconded the motion. The motion carried without negative vote.

Criminal Justice Survey Results

Kristin Schier opened the discussion as to the Criminal Justice Survey Report, which was emailed to the Council. She noted that she was disappointed in the low number of responses, especially from the mailings.

Gary Ranum had two questions: with the lack of returns from the mailings are our results statistically significant, and how much does it tell us; do we have a follow up planned, and how can we respond to the negative and improve them?

Craig Reukauf noted as to the jail surveys those that were upset and wanted to leave didn't want to complete the survey; if they were respectable and their behavior was fine, they had no issues completing the survey; and then there were those that just wanted to move on. Craig noted he thinks that is why we saw fewer surveys than he had hoped as well. Gary stated that he was impressed with the answers he got, however.

Sheriff Dreckman asked: so where do we go from here? Council discussed. Judge Day answered he doesn't know if there is any meaningful follow up to these results. Craig agreed.

Jeff Lockhart stated one possible alternative is to focus more on the national best practice standards, such as intensive outpatient, which is a group that Unified operates. Jeff explained that while he may never know the exact effectiveness of our own program, he knows what the national statistics say about the program – that it is a highly effective program. So, that could be our fall back to monitor best practices across the state and nation if we cannot get the immediate feedback locally. Gary stated he thinks it's important to embrace best practices, but we need to always keep striving to improve.

Jeff Kindrai noted that there is probably not much we can gain from the results, but we can continue to monitor what is going on in our communities.

Sheriff Dreckman asked for any further discussion on the survey. There were no further questions or discussion; the council expressed their appreciation on the completion of the results.

Opioid Settlement Utilization – Update

Jeff Lockhart stated the Opioid Settlement Committee had their first meeting yesterday – August 1 and had close to 100% attendance. Jeff explained that the committee agreed to move forward with the Wisconsin County Association (WCA) guidelines. The guidelines are: 1) to make sure the funds are not used for other purposes; 2) do a needs assessment; 3) select evidence-based procedures based on the local needs assessment. Jeff noted that if the Grant County Board approves this on August 16, then

the committee will reach out to the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Planning Committee for a proposal and engage their services.

**Information concerning/discussion of Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA)
Judicial and Public Safety Steering Committee '23-'24 Legislative Agenda and
Resolutions for WCA Annual Conference**

Gary Ranum stated he accepted a position to serve on the judicial and public safety steering committee. In regards to the packet of information that was emailed to the Council, Gary noted he thought the packet had information that the CJCC would be interested in. He asked if anyone had comments or concerns with the information in the packet to speak to him before he attends the next meeting.

Jeff Lockhart had a question: Could there be a mechanism for more permanent funding for treatment courts? Jeff proposed that if we keep an individual local who otherwise would've gone to prison, is there any way the prison system could reimburse the county for the costs saved to the State for not sending the individual to prison? He noted that it actually costs counties to put people through treatment court, and that it doesn't save counties money – it saves the State money. Gary answered that there is perhaps a resolution that we might be able to draft as a county to forward to the Judicial Public Safety Group for their endorsement and maybe that would have value on the State legislative stage. It is potentially doable if we can put the work into it. Sheriff Dreckman noted that we should be careful on the funding and to make sure that it is balanced correctly. Council discussed.

Gary noted the article in the WCA magazine that was supportive of Treatment Courts – Jeff handed the article out to the Council. The article talked about how effective treatment courts are locally and nationally. So perhaps an idea like that would probably elicit considerable support. Council discussed.

Jeff Lockhart stated it relates to the issue that jails and prisons are the largest mental health treatment facilities in the nation. If we want that to change, we have to have a mechanism to shift the funds to less expensive ways to treat an individual – such as treatment court. It's that kind of big picture shifting that has to happen.

Gary Ranum pointed out that one of the resolutions is to support the effort to have alternatives to incarceration, especially with AODA and mental health – they are already supporting that, and this could just be a further step.

Craig Reukauf asked Jeff Lockhart: are you thinking they would be housed in the jail or outside of the facility while in treatment court, or maybe a combination of both? Jeff answered he hadn't thought about that; he stated he is thinking that whatever keeps a person from going to prison is costing the county.

Further discussion was directed to Judge Day. Judge Day pointed out as it relates to programming and finance that that is exactly what the TAD grant is – taking state dollars that would otherwise be spent on Department of Corrections and distributing them to counties as an alternative to incarceration/prison. Jeff Kindrai agreed, and Council discussed.

Gary Ranum asked if we have a handle on our housing issues – do we even know what’s available? Jeff Lockhart stated he spoke with SWCAP last week to ask if they would be willing to establish a sober living house in Grant County, as he would like to make a request for \$75,000 for the remodeling of a facility to carry out the program in the next SOR Grant. They liked the idea but stated it would not be feasible in the next grant cycle that begins in October, but possibly next year.

Sheriff Dreckman remarked that as we look through all these resolutions are there some we feel we should move forward on in Grant County and/or endorse as a CJCC? Council discussed. Sheriff Dreckman noted that there is really only one that fits what we do: the one supporting legislation to promote alternatives to incarceration for individuals suffering from alcohol and drug addiction, as well as individuals with mental illness, and to support the expansion of funding for treatment court and diversion programs. Sheriff Dreckman asked the Council to review that resolution and provide Gary with any feedback.

Open Discussion

Jeff Kindrai noted health departments in the State received direct ARPA funding, and that funding is on the same timeline as the county’s funding. So, the funds need to be committed and/or spent by either 2024 or 2026. Jeff explained that we are currently using that funding on our response to COVID but anticipates our other State contracts will be extended. Some of the allowable ARPA costs are related to issues that affect social services and substances abuse issues, so we may be able to use some of that funding to support some initiatives for the opioid settlement, drug court, or Unified Community Services. Jeff stated that these discussions should continue as we move forward.

Motion by Jeff Kindrai, seconded by Jeff Lockhart, to adjourn. Motion carried.

Next meeting: October 4, 2022 at 8:00 a.m. Grant County Board Room, Administration Building.

Meeting adjourned at: 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristin Schier, CJCC Coordinator