

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
CRIMINAL JUSTICE COLLABORATING COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
August 24, 2021
CHIPPEWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RM 302
7:45 AM

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gibbs called the meeting to order at 7:50 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Position	Status	Arrived
Judge Steve Gibbs (Chair)	Presiding Judge for Chippewa County or Designee	Present	
Tim Easker (Vice-Chair)	Director of Chippewa County Department of Human Services or Designee	Present	
Randy Scholz	County Administrator	Absent	
Jim Kowalczyk	County Sheriff or Designee	Absent	
Curt Dutton	Jail Administrator or Designee	Present	
Kyra Secraw	Youth Justice/CWDA Manager	Present	
Matt Kelm	Chief of Police - Chippewa Falls or Designee	Absent	
Louis Eslinger	Chief of Police - Outlying Community or Designee	Absent	
Wade Newell/ Roy Gay	District Attorney or Designee	Late/ Present	
Kirby Harless	Representative of the State Public Defender Office	Present	
Karen Hepfler	Clerk of Circuit Court or Designee	Present	
Megan Popenhagen/ Melissa Buesgen	Department of Corrections Supervisor for Chippewa County or Designee	Absent	
Denise Shervey	Child Support Director or Designee	Present	
Lee McMenamin	County Board Supervisor	Present	
Geri Segal	Citizen Member	Present	
John Ailie (Jail Chaplain)	Citizen Member	Present	
Nichole Wallsch	Citizen Member	Present	

Others Present: Rose Baier, Criminal Justice Services Director; Pauline Spiegel, Human
Services Administrative Assistant

III. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

There were no members of the public wishing to be heard.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [12 TO 0]
MOVER:	McMenamin
SECONDER:	Hepfler
AYES:	Gibbs, Easker, Dutton, Secraw, Newell/Gay, Harless, Hepfler, Shervey, McMenamin, Segal, Ailie, Wallsch
ABSENT:	Scholz, Kowalczyk, Kelm, Eslinger, Popenhagen/Buesgen,
AWAY:	

1. Approve the Agenda
2. Minutes of May 25, 2021 Meeting
3. Schedule Next Meeting Date – November 16, 2021

VI. REPORTS

1. EXPO

Nycki Wallsch introduced herself and provided information on activities and events on EXPO (EX-incarcerated People Organizing)

RESULT: DISCUSSED

2. Take a Stand Against Meth Campaign Update

Baier provided an update, stating the workgroup is developing action plans with greater specificity. The new structure identifies three main priority areas – business community, faith and services, and community reporting on prevention. They are close to presenting the new structure to the community. Baier recently met with potential community board members to be part of a Crime Stoppers nonprofit community organization and also researching funding sources for programs. Another project is developing “how to” videos regarding crime reporting. The next step will be recruiting more community members and sponsorships. Members of the campaign will be going to a public hearing in Madison on September 15, 2021, to speak in response to an invite from Representative James.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

3. Poverty Simulation

The poverty simulation project has again been postponed due to COVID. Hoping to be able to hold it in the Spring.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

4. Update on Programs

- Recovery Court is going well but low on referrals. There is an alumni picnic August 25 at Irvine Park. The program was recently evaluated by DOJ (Department of Justice).
- A Worthless Check Diversion Program was recently implemented. CJS (Criminal Justice Services) partnering with Jeanne Walsh from UW Extension for the education component. It is a fee-based program so it will generate some revenue.
- The First Time Offender Program referrals are also low. Newell reported his department in the initial stages of developing a traffic diversion program for drivers age 16 – 19.

- The Front-End Intervention Treatment is also going well but their numbers also down.
- CJS continues to partner with UW-Extension Jeanne Walsh to restart some in-person programming again at the jail. The programs have been on hold due to COVID. They are also exploring implementing some virtual programs.
- Pre-Trial is also going well. In September Baier will be traveling to Madison for the Pretrial Workgroup. The group continues to advance pretrial practices throughout the state and will be creating training videos in partnership with Wisconsin Counties Association to be rolled out to other counties.
- Other: Baier and CJS staff Kayce Lawcewicz were recently invited to speak at a Pretrial Conference in Florida (PIPS) on the success of the Front-End Intervention Treatment and First Time Offenders Programs. Baier also sat on a panel. This went well.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

5. Committee Member Agency Updates

- Shervey/Child Support Agency were part of an outdoor Job Fair by Economic Development Corporation. They are hoping to get the courthouse job fairs going again (partners with Workforce Resource).
- Dutton/Jail talked about status of the Huber Program.
- Hepfler/Clerk of Courts expressed thanks of a grant through CJS that provided their department with a Visix display unit.
- Kirby/Public Defender office talked about staff turnover at their workplace.
- Segal/Family Resource Center shared information on a new program for serving victims of human trafficking.

RESULT: DISCUSSED

VII. OTHER EMERGING ISSUES

Hepfler suggests reconvening the EBDM policy team to regroup. Members also expressed support of program graduates presenting their “story” at future CJCC meetings.

VII. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

- Poverty Simulation
- Prioritize EBDM Change Targets Moving Forward

VII. ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

RESULT: APPROVED [11 TO 0]

MOVER: Shervey

SECONDER: Secraw

AYES: Easker, Scholz, Kowalczyk, Dutton, Secraw, Kelm, Eslinger, Newell, Harless, Hepfler, Popenhagen, Shervey, McMenamin, Segal, Wallsch, Ailie

ABSENT: Scholz, Kowalczyk, Kelm, Eslinger, Popenhagen/Buesgen,

AWAY: Gibbs