

MINUTES
CJCC MEETING
June 22, 2023
Meeting held via Zoom and in person

Present were: Karie Kennedy, Judge Barna, Judge Stewart, Melissa Buesgen, Dave Willingham, Ellen Anderson, Jeremy Jacobs, Rich Gauger, Lori Gorsegner, Jon Unterschuetz, Rich Green, Elizabeth Piercevand Kendra Carillon.

The meeting was called to order by Hon. Annette M. Barna with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:32 a.m.

A motion to approve prior month minutes was made by Lori Gorsegner. Second by Jeremy Jacobs. Carried unanimously.

Discussion of By-Laws Amendments: Jeremy reported that he, Lizzy P., Melissa B. and Judge Stewart have met to discuss amendments and will be meeting in the near future. They are willing to hear any suggestions that anyone might have on this topic. This will be an ongoing discussion until things are finalized to send to Executive Committee.

Relocation of Supervision of Drug Court Coordinator: Justice, Youth and Extension Committee voted to move supervision of the coordinator to DHHS. Although Judge requested the committee hear other options to consider before making a decision, that committee declined to hear them. Dave W. asked the group's recollection from the May meeting with the treatment court evaluators wherein they were asked if the ultimate recommendation was for the coordinator to be housed in DHHS but supervised under CJCC. This was the recollection by many members.

Judge reported she continues to work toward YJEC recommendation and she and Jeremy met to discuss things further. Jeremy stated there are many things to consider, and the matter will be discussed with his DHHS board meeting on July 13th. Jeremy reiterated that the treatment court program remains with under the direction of the Court and only supervision of the coordinator position that is changing. Members discuss where the office will be located since Jeremy states there is no room on 2nd floor for the position. Judge Barna and Jeremy are agreeable to keeping the office in its current location on 3rd floor. Members discuss who the oversight committee will be and the hiring process since DHHS has its own Board and YJEC is oversight for the Court. Since YJEC is oversight for the Court, it will remain oversight for the Drug Court.

Rich Gauger brought up concerns regarding the delay in being able to hire a coordinator, the denial for the treatment court to be able to contract with someone to work in the position to keep things going, as well as how long the hiring process is. Judge Barna explained the treatment court attempted to contract with a prior coordinator under the support staff position previously approved by the county in the interim, but that person was told by the Administrative Coordinator that they could not work. Judge Barna reported she was told a decision regarding filling the Coordinator position could be made after June 16th. She will check on this since this date has passed. DA feels the hiring process should be the same as any other county position. Judge confirmed as long as it is a county position, the county hiring process would be followed. Judge Barna thanked Lizzy and Rich G. for stepping up and doing coordinator duties during this time and stated Drug Court would not be surviving without them. Rich G. questioned the grant because data isn't being entered and things are falling behind. Judge Barna stated it is of concern, but the grantors are aware of what is going on and there is some leeway, but we should work to have things up to date by September.

Discussion of MMC Grant (CJCC Coordinator): Justice, Youth and Extension Committee has accepted the grant. Job description was emailed to everyone and suggested changes (adding "preferred" with respect to Bachelor's degree and 2 years prior experience requirements) were made. The next step is to have Personnel approve the job description and the hiring for the position. Jeremy questioned if the grant money will need to be used within the calendar year. Members discuss in detail who will supervise the position. DA feels the position should be supervised by the County

Administrator (Administrative Coordinator) and states she spoke with Ashley Heath who said she could do it but there would be a learning curve for her. DA referred to Justice, Youth, & Extension rough draft minutes from June 7, 2023. *Rich Green made motion to have the CJCC Coordinator position supervised by the Administrative Coordinator, second by Jeremy Jacobs. Motion carried. Elizabeth P. made motion to approve job description with the changes approved by YJEC, second by Rich Green. Motion carried.*

UW-Extension CJCC Consensus Decision-Making training: DA Ellen gave members a handout of a recent meeting she attended via Zoom on this subject. Training would take 2 hours. Rusk County Treatment Court Team to be invited to training. Would add types of decisions appropriate for consensus v. types that are unilateral decisions made by committee/team chair. Training may need to be on two dates, reserving #6 on the outline, exercises for a second date. She would like to see Judge to attend second Zoom meeting to discuss this in detail. Discussion of meeting to be added to the fall CJCC meeting for two hours. *Motion made by DA to have it added to the fall meeting, second by Judge Stewart. Motion carried.*

General Conversation: Judge Barna reported that one of the biggest priorities with the treatment court, according to the evaluators, is to get a treatment advisor back on the treatment court team, so Judge has appointed Michelle Roehl with Anchor Bay. She believes she may also agree to attend CJCC as well. Judge Stewart asks if Michelle has AODA certification. Judge gave an overview of Michelle's past history and extensive training in AODA, mental health and with treatment courts and states it is necessary to have that input on the team. DA states this is a positive thing as a treatment professional on the team is needed. Lizzy feels that Michelle will be an asset and feels she has a lot to offer with her history and experience.

Members discuss the new jail/courthouse remodel project. No one from law enforcement was present to report. Jeremy stated that Sheriff, George and Administrative Coordinator have been visiting other newly built/remodeled jails to get ideas. It is believed the average jail population has been consistently low lately, and Judge Stewart pointed out that those numbers should continue to decline with programming, like treatment court that address alternatives to incarceration. Judge Barna asked if we are still getting jail numbers every month from George. Consensus from this committee is they would like a report of the jail numbers each month to resume. Judge Stewart would like to see the County Board Chair at these meetings; other members agree.

Committee Updates: Juvenile Review Committee - Rich Green reported there are continued efforts on the truancy plan and there will be a meeting in August with area schools on this.

DA would like discussion about encouraging less involved members to become more engaged added to next month's agenda.

Committee Direction – This item will remain on the agenda each month for discussion.

Next meeting July 27, 2023 at 7:30 a.m.

Meeting adjourned – 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karie Kennedy