



Clinton County Justice Coordinating Commission
Clinton County Courthouse
612 North Second Street, Suite 103
Clinton, Iowa 52732
(563) 243-6210 ext. 4310

Mental Health/Substance Abuse Committee January 19, 2016-Meeting Minutes

DATE: January 19, 2016
TIME: 8:15 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
LOCATION County Attorney's Office: Conference Room, Courthouse-2nd Floor

The Committee met with Kim Ralston, CAP Director, Committee Chair presiding.
Total Present: 12 members and guests.

Members & Guest Present:

Paul Blair, Bridgeview CMHC
Becky Eskildsen, MH/DD CDC
Gabe Gluba; ASAC/ND
Kelly Greenwalt, DOC
Kim Hess, Clerk of Court
Kristin Huisenga, CSAC

Margaret Kuhl, CCJCC Coordinator
Penny Linden, Admin. Asst., MH Dept
Kim Ralston, Committee Chair
Dan Srp, Board of Supervisors
Jacie Wherry, Mercy Behavioral Health
Mike Wolf, Clinton County Attorney

The next MH/SA Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 8:15 a.m.

Update on Lincoln Prairie Behavioral Health Center

Becky Eskildsen, MH/DD CDC, did a brief review on Lincoln Prairie, Springfield IL which is a 72 inpatient bed facility located about a three hour drive from the Quad Cities.

Becky Eskildsen stated last month that she had attended a meeting with staff at the facility. The topic of discussion was in regard to transporting minors to court hearings. Becky stated if a minor would likely be returning to the facility after the hearing, a telephonic hearing might be an option. Becky made a couple of comments:

1. It would be advantages for a telephonic hearing because the individual would not lose one day of treatment/training.
2. When a minor is transported to the hearing, they are released to the care of the Sheriff. Does this warrant the care of a sheriff?

Becky inquired about statutory code and if they are required to ask the minor if they want to be present at their hearing. Discussion followed.

Mike Wolf, County Attorney, suggested he could look into telephonic hearings. Maybe it could be a part of the court order for future hearings to be telephonic. Wolf gave an example where one individual was transported one way for a three hour trip to attend a hearing which lasted long enough for the Courts to make an accepted statement.



A committee member asked what other counties have in place for hearings for minors. Someone commented that Scott County does have telephonic court hearings available. Dan Srp stated the best interest for the individual would be served with telephonic hearings.

Gabe Gluba stated that telephonic hearings could be an opening of a door for drug courts.

It was asked whether or not Clinton County had Skype capabilities. The reply was, Yes, Clinton County has Skype capabilities.

Mike Wolf, County Attorney, stated he will contact Scott County's Attorney, in regard to their practices for court hearings, specifically in their use of telephonic hearings. He will also look into the law on this matter. Kim Hess will contact the Scott County's Clerk of Courts to gather information on telephonic hearings.

Robert Young Contract & Involvement with County Stakeholders

Becky Eskildsen stated a contract has been signed between the EIMH Region and Robert Young Center, Rock Island IL. The components of Phase I that are available to us as a subcontractor with Robert Younger Center are:

- Telephonic services, based out of Cedar Rapids.
- A database with access to a host of information such as; local agencies; housing; medical; crisis emergency, etc.
- Stakeholders would have access to the database.

Becky stated their goals are to avoid commitments and inpatient services. We can only contract with Phase I due to the cost of the program. Phase II would have the ability to take individuals in crisis.

Wolf asked if the services would be covered under a "block grant" or "fee for services". Becky stated initially it will be a "block grant" due to no one knowing how much and what was going to be used. Becky stated eventually it will be moved to a "fee for service" mechanism.

Update on the bond referendum for the replacement jail/CCSO/911 Communications project

Margaret Kuhl, CCJCC Coordinator, stated the date set for the bond referendum in May 3rd, 2016. A 60-percent of the majority vote is needed to approve the bond referendum. Margaret stated they will have to work with a bonding attorney to develop specific language in the resolution. The County will need to have the papers filed by March 18.

A discussion followed on the progress of educating the public on the jail project. Some of the ways they have been getting the word out is by:

- Setting appointments for jail tours. The tours are on-going.



- Presenting a Project video which highlights the current facility.
- Holding Public Forums.
- Planning informational meetings for staff.
- Giving handouts to the media.

Gabe Gluba, ASAC, stated educating people is a positive way to let people know there is a need for a jail.

Wolf, County Attorney, spoke on the need for a jail program and a new facility would allow such a program to be available. Wolf stated staff is making decision based on cost to having beds available and not making decision based on need on financial application.

A discussion followed on the public responses to the jail project.-negatively.

The public has asked if there are beds available for inmates, then why we need a new jail. Are we housing inmates in other Counties?

Becky Eskildsen, asked how much does it cost to house an inmate? Clinton County assesses a \$10 a day fee compared to about \$100 a day fee for Dubuque County. Discussion followed.

Wolf stated CCJCC Commission has extensively reviewed the current rate and decided not to raise the rate. Wolf stated it was a new year and maybe the jail fees should be reviewed.

Dan Srp, County Board of Supervisor, stated last year the commission put a lot of time in reviewing the rates. Srp stated the CCJCC could possibly do an annual review. It could be put on the next agenda.

Wolf stated he would gather data on fees charged by other Counties.

It was noted that Kim Ralston, Margaret Kull, Eric Dau (Communications Manager); A Police officer from Clinton PD, and Craig Eberhart, (Jail Administrator) would be attending the Crisis intervention Training, sponsored by Johnson County, Iowa City.

Dan Srp shared a comment from an individual who had a recent commitment. The individual gave high regards to everyone who assisted from the ambulance crew to sheriff staff. The person did state however, that they agree Mental Health services continue to have a need for improvement within Clinton County.

Respectfully Submitted,

Penny Linden