

## **Minutes**

### **Trempealeau County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**

**September 14, 2016**

Members present: Dick Miller, Judge Charles Feltes, Pat Bell, Robin Leonard, Deb Suchla, Mary Gullicksrud, Ann Bechard, Douglas Winters, Nancy Knudtson, Bree Lien, Chief Deputy Reinders. Assistant District Attorney John Sacia (1:30 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order by Miller at 1:03 p.m. stating proper posting and notification has met open meeting requirements. Motion by Suchla and seconded by Bell to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried 11-0.

Motion by Gullicksrud, seconded by Suchla to approve the May 4, 2016 meeting minutes. Motion carried 11-0.

#### **TAD Grant Update**

Suchla advised the request for a \$110,000 grant was submitted and awarded in full with renewal every year for five years. These funds will provide drug testing for a year, which can cost \$20,000 to \$25,000, the availability of a place to stay for some clients through recovery and the Opiate Addiction Management program which will be made available to promote consistency in care. If there is any unspent money due to low client numbers, the Opiate Addiction Management program may be able to bring in the later part of this year. Suchla advised there are four goals which include: case management treatment program, sober events, training on trauma center care for the Recovery Court team and funds to ensure our new Judge can attend conferences and tour other Recovery Courts. This grant is for one year and can be renewed for the same amount for five years.

#### **Update regarding Drug Issues in the County and effects on families**

Suchla advised the increase in drug problems is having a terrible effect on caseloads in the children's unit. There has been an excess of 20 out of home care cases due to drug problems. There have been eight to ten UChip moms within the last year or year and a half alone. Children are in care for longer periods of time due to the addictions of their family members. Both the Sheriff's Office and Human Services are in need of additional staffing. Human Services would like to add an Investigator to work alongside Law Enforcement regarding the needs of the affected children.

Reinders advised that there is a need to communicate with Human Services on a regular basis due to the increase in the drug problem. The Sheriff's Office have asked for an additional position to be added in the 2017 Budget which would allow for an additional Drug Investigator. This position will touch all aspects that deal with the increase of drugs within our County. The number of investigations between the Sheriff's Office and Human Services has increased drastically.

#### **Discussion on Current Trends Law Enforcement and District Attorney are seeing within County**

Sacia stated methamphetamine is and continues to be a major problem in this county. Increasing in numbers as well are the children involved in these types of cases. Sacia stated there are no signs of the drug problems slowing down. Most cases within the District Attorney's Office are in some form or another related to methamphetamines. So far there have been 31 charged methamphetamine cases this year so far.

### **Department of Corrections Update**

Lien advised there have been some agent changes within the department. There is approximately 400 people within the county on some level of supervision. This office location consists of four agents.

### **Update on COMPAS assessments completed by the County**

Bell and Bechard are both certified to administer the COMPAS risk needs assessment. The most often used is the Incarcerated Core Assessment. The assessments are mostly used for Bond Hearing and Recovery Court screenings. Currently there are 15 participants in Recovery Court.

Bell advised several people are attending a conference in Winona, Criminal Justice in the Small City to present a two hour presentation on the Trempealeau County Recovery Court.

### **What Tools Do We Need**

Sacia stated the round tables put on by the DOC have been very informative.

### **Next Meeting Date/Time:**

November 9, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

**Miller adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.**

**Respectfully Submitted by**

**Carol L Ressler**

**Trempealeau County Sheriff's Office**