

**Minutes of the Jail & Jail Alternatives Committee of the
Winona County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
June 28, 2023 at noon via Zoom**

Present: Justin Green, Andy Kranz, Trish Chandler, Mark Jacobson, Tara Brown, Kalene Engel, Judy Gilow, Chris Meyer, Katie Schild, Matt Hudson, Sierra Schier, Ann McLaughlin, Karin Sonneman, Kelsie Horst.

Minutes by: Kalene Engel

Welcome and Introductions: Introductions were made. Welcome to Sierra, who is one of the two Mental Health Practitioners hired by Hiawatha Valley Mental Health Center for the Winona County Reentry Assistance Program Plus (WRAP+). The other practitioner (who was not present) is Trish Costello.

Approval of Minutes from May 24, 2023 Meeting: Approved by consensus without changes.

WRAP+ Updates: Our request to extend the grant an additional year (to September 30, 2024) was granted by the Office of Justice Programs. The requests to change the project scope and modify the budget are pending. Thank you to Katie and Trish and Rachel for their efforts in keeping track of WRAP+ participants as they transition from the HUB to the mental health practitioners. WRAP+ trainings continue to be well-attended; a list of trainings was included with the CJCC Meeting Packet. Registration for the trainings can be done through the hvmhc.org website. The Policy Committee is meeting on Friday, July 7. Karin has included a budget request for Winona County to fund WRAP+, starting with creating a full-time jail social worker position in 2024. Katie and Kalene have been asked to do another presentation to the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee. Although it was originally scheduled for July, it may not take place until later in the year if the committee chooses not to meet in July. WRAP+ staff will also be presenting to the County Board, likely in late July.

Replacement Jail Updates: The jail committee met yesterday. Construction is on time and on budget. Staff will be allowed into the building for training at the end of July. Kelsie plans to do core staff training in August and September, with the jail slated to open in October. Discussion was held on the possibility of doing public tours of the jail, as was done in Houston County with their new jail. Karin stated that the Community Outreach and Diversity Committee has done open houses in the past and would be willing to work with Kelsie and others on a jail open house. Kelsie suggested September as a good month to do these. Chris will make sure the topic of public tours will be brought before the County Board.

Hope for Homes: The workgroup met on June 23rd and received updates on its two projects. Neither grant was awarded for the Hope for Homes Project. The workgroup will be discussing the \$10,000 Minnesota Housing Partnership Grant at the upcoming Housing Institute in the hopes that funding could be accessed for the Scattered Sites project. Hiawatha Valley has hired

a Housing Resource Specialist for the Scattered Sites Program. The next Housing Institute is on July 12th and 13th; it sounds like we will have a full team in attendance.

Jail Programming Workgroup: The volunteer application has been posted and Kelsie has received three applicants (crystal meth anonymous, NA/AA and Let's Erase the Stigma) for budgeting. She will be working on processing applications and setting up standards and stipulations for volunteers. A question was raised at the meeting about whether a person on probation could volunteer. Kelsie plans to use a 3 year cutoff from the most recent offense date. With respect to probation, she intends to communicate with the probation officer to make sure the applicant is in good standing, as she understands that some people may have very long periods of probation. Hiring for detention deputies is going well, with 6 hired, 1 in the final phases of hiring, 6 pending background checks and 3 left to recruit.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned 12:32 p.m.

Next Meeting: July 26, 2023 at noon