



Criminal Justice Management Group

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MINUTES

Meeting: Criminal Justice Management Group

Date: February 21, 2012

Start Time: 4:05 p.m.

Location: Sheriff Office

251 N. 10th

End Time: 5:35 p.m.

Salina, KS 67401

Co Facilitator: Glen Kochanowski
Annie Grevas

Attendance List:

Glen Kochanowski, Sheriff Office
Rick Hansmann, Sheriff Office
Rita Deister, County Administrator
Todd Heitschmidt, Court Administrator
Jane Eilers, Municipal Court
Pat Murray, CKMHC
John Tillman, Citizen
Mark Dinkel, Public Defender
Don Merriman, County Clerk
Jason Gage, City Manager
Erin Mathews, Salina Journal

Annie Grevas, Community Corrections
Judge Jerome Hellmer, Administrative Judge
Sean Kochanowski, Sheriff Office
Roger Soldan, Sheriff Office
Kevin Emerson, District Court
Tonda McGrath, Community Corrections
Jerry Fowler, County Commission
Rod Franz, Director of Finance and Administration
John Reynolds, County Commission
Jim Robertson, National Institute of Corrections

Minutes: Rosie Walter, Community Corrections

Minutes

1. Welcome and Introduction
Annie opened the meeting asking everyone to introduce themselves to Jim Roberson, National Institute of Corrections. Jim was asked by the participating members to come back and assist in the process of review for Saline County with the idea of programming or jail expansion to reduce overcrowding.
2. Jim Robertson, NIC
Jim discussed the meeting objectives. He provided a handout, Jail and Justice System Assessment.

Discussion as follows:

NIC recommended three ideas for consideration;

- a. Criminal Justice System Master Plan
Develop a comprehensive system wide master plan that includes detailed data analysis and cost-benefit evaluations of all potential options for improving the Saline County Criminal Justice System.
 - b. Criminal Justice Management Group
Review the composition and organization of the advisory committee board and develop a comprehensive strategy for policy evaluation and implementation. If necessary create a new board. Use the current or new board to support the development of a criminal justice system master plan.
 - c. Planning of New Institutions – Taking Control of the Planning Process
Help stakeholders understand their role in the planning process and to give them an opportunity to address issues in a training environment away from the county.
3. NIC, Facility Development Process Phases 1-4
Jim Robertson, NIC handed out a printout of NIC's summary of the planning process.
 - a. Phase 1 – Project Recognition
The first step is to identify the problem of jail overcrowding. Do we need an expansion or other? This phase will need all stakeholders and current resources involved in the planning process.

This phase will help determine if a professional service is needed to review data and make recommendations to the committee. We need to understand the data needed and how to retrieve it to ensure a comprehensive study is done.
 - b. Phase 2 - Needs Assessment
The second step should include review of criminal justice trends in the population and consider options for services that may not include incarceration. The current jail facility should be analyzed to see if it is meeting the needs of

Saline County.

Goals and mission standards should be established along with the cost to ensure the committee is tracking activities to meet with the standards and cost limitations.

c. Phase 3 – Program Development

This step will be the actual document that details the proposal of services and possible rebuild of the jail or expansion. The total cost of staffing and operational expenses should also be detailed.

It will need to be determined how the project cost will be covered. Will the cost be brought before the voters, bond issue or other?

d. Phase 4 – Project Definition and Implementation Plan

Within this step the actual details or a new jail or remodel will be proposed along with the suggested alternative programming options.

How do we build support and educated the public on jail changes to include possible rehabilitation components?

3. Discussion

Currently we are spending \$15,000 to house inmates out of the County because there is no room for them in our facility. The cost to do nothing will continue to increase.

Discussion as follows:

Should a Request for Proposal be done to seek help from a company or individual that can act as our facilitator?

Is it the intent of the project to be punitive or rehabilitate? This will effect public option and other agencies. We will need to set objectives so we have a clear outline to ensure we are meeting them.

Evidence Based Practices (EBP) has been the shift from purely punitive. Research shows that EBP will have a greater impact with criminal behavior. Rehabilitation can include punitive through sanctions.

There are 33,000 clients that will be release from prison in Kansas. A good portion of that population will reside in Saline County.

Community Corrections is using the jail as a sanction for condition violations of their probation. This also uses up jail bed space. Jail is the most expensive option as a sanction.

There are already varied opportunities for alternatives to jail, but the jail is still full.

As a community, do we need to support other programming to include; Drug Court, Day Reporting Center, SCRAM or global positioning monitoring, or other?

Should we consider a Community Corrections Center that would include the jail with rehabilitation options? The center could incorporate services along with a rebuild or extension to the jail. Also, a mid-level security that is not a lock-down jail that would allow for clients on work release or serving weekends in jail. This would free up bed space at the jail. The overall costs would be cheaper if the client has received evidence based services and stop the cycle of reoffending and going through a revolving door of the jail.

The community will need to be educated on the criminal justice issues. It has been the opinion of members that the public often believes that clients should be locked up and will not consider a rehabilitation choice.

Community Corrections uses the LSI-R assessment tool to evaluate the risk of all clients it isn't a perfect assessment, but it is consistent and could help place clients/inmates in the appropriate service or jail facility.

The jail currently houses the mentally ill. This environment is not appropriate for this population, but there are limited resources. Part of the plan could include a facility that would house this type of inmate/client.

John Tillman participated in the last jail expansion in 1991-1993 spoke about public relations and how they spoke to the public and built the largest jail they could get support for. The committee was a group of private citizens, working with jail consultants. They knew at that time it would not be big enough and that the female facility would not adequate support that population. It was the best they could do at the time.

Currently there is not enough staff to support the jail as originally planned with the last expansion. As the population grew no new position were added.

4. Hire a Facilitator/Consultant

A group will need to be established to service on the Criminal Justice Management Group. The last committee to serve consisted of private citizens.

John Tillman will speak to a few people about facilitating.

Annie Grevas and Glen Kochanowski will speak to local colleges about helping compiling research data so the committee can make informed decisions based on Saline County's criminal population.

5. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.