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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Ad Hoc Jail Solution Committee Minutes
August 18, 2015**

The DeKalb County Ad Hoc Jail Solution Committee met on Tuesday, August 18, 2015 @ 7:00p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairman Jones called the meeting to order. Members present were Marjorie Askins, Dan Cribben, Frank O'Barski, Stephen Reid, Paul Stoddard, Lt. Joyce Klein, and Anita Turner. Mr. Bunge, Mr. Frieders, and Sheriff Scott were absent. Others present were Gary Hanson, Richard Schmack, Margi Gilmour, Michael Douglas, Deanna Cada, Misty Haji-Sheikh, and Dianne Leifheit.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. O'Barski, seconded by Mr. Cribben, and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from June 16, 2015.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. O'Barski, seconded by Ms. Turner, and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.

HONEST OPPORTUNITY PROBATION WITH ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM (H.O.P.E.)

Mr. Richard Schmack, DeKalb County State's Attorney, presented to the committee an overview of a program called Honest Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (H.O.P.E.) which originated in Hawaii. He explained that the program would impose probation violations immediately for drug users who commit crimes rather than the longer process that probation violations take. This court is a voluntary program, he continued. It will take a few more months to restructure the court calls to create the HOPE court. It will include people who were transferred into the new program, as well as people who have not had previous luck with standard probation. Studies have shown that this program does keep people out of jail. When people come into the HOPE program it will be their final alternative to going to prison, said Mr. Schmack.

The committee asked Mr. Schmack if the program would be assigned to one judge.

Mr. Schmack said yes, that he thought that only one judge would be needed.

PRETRIAL REPORT

Ms. Margi Gilmour, Director of the DeKalb County Court Services Department, said that the pretrial program has been running now for 1 year. The County Board did approve 2 pretrial positions and that it is making a difference. She said that between June 9, 2014 and June 9, 2015, four hundred and thirty six (436) cases were held for a bond reduction motion by the court with a pretrial bond report and VPRAI (Virginia Pretrial Risk Assessment Instrument) risk assessment prepared. By using the VPRAI this is how the cases scored: 25.2% scored as Low risk; 49.7% scored as Moderate risk; and 25.0% scored as High risk. Three hundred and twenty seven or 75% of total defendants were Low to Moderate risk and are considered to be appropriate for pretrial sentence. Two hundred and forty one or 55% of total defendants were granted a bond reduction or post bail as originally set. The average time a defendant spent incarcerated prior to a bond reduction hearing was 3.41 days. Forty-seven percent of defendants who appeared in custody for bond call and were appropriate for a pretrial risk assessment were ordered to have a bond report completed. Ms. Gilmour continued by stating that they are right on target and that the risk assessment is doing what it is supposed to do.

She said that a total of 241 defendants were granted a bond reduction and released from custody either with or without pretrial supervision. There were 133 cases placed on pretrial supervision between June 9, 2014 and June 9, 2015. In that time 16 supervised defendants had their bond revoked. An overview of the average length of time pretrial defendants spent in DeKalb County Jail shows an approximate 6% reduction since the program's start.

In the first 12 months of operation, 241 defendants were released after review of their bond report and spent an average of 10.89 days incarcerated less than the average pretrial defendant during that time. This resulted in 2625 detention days avoided at an average cost of approximately \$60/day per inmate, resulting in a cost avoidance of \$150,500.

In moving forward, the Low and Moderate risk people are the ones that they are trying to get into the pretrial program. We are 1 out of 3 counties that offer the pretrial services in the State of Illinois currently. Judge Stuckert announced on 6/30/15 that the bond call in DeKalb County will be moved to 1:00p.m. in order to accommodate pretrial services screening defendants prior to first appearance. It is anticipated, Ms. Gilmour said, that with the current pretrial services staff and resources, that up to 70% of defendants who appear in custody for bond call would be able to have bond report and risk assessment completed prior to first appearance.

The committee thanked Ms. Gilmour for her report.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mr. Michael Douglas, Drug and DUI Court Coordinator and Ms. Deanna Cada, Director of Mental Health, gave a brief report on mental health court. Mr. Douglas said that they would be looking at 10 people to start the program. These would include severely mentally ill people that are high risk. They are

waiting for a grant to be approved by the State. Governor Rauner has placed the money in the line item for the budget but it has not been passed yet. They have requested a probation officer working on this court and 1 full-time counselor.

This court would include people who are committing crimes but are unaware that they have committed a crime. She passed out a sheet showing the sequential interceptors for mental health (attached to these minutes). They will need to create a Mental Health Coordinated Council and could partner with Kane County for crises intervention training. Currently a person would need to go through 40-hours of crises intervention training. Kane County is willing to do some talking about the shared partnership. There is a crises intervention training where someone could do an 8-hour training session. Governor Rauner has passed a public act for officers to include this crises intervention training and would go into effect January 1, 2016.

They will be holding a meeting on 9/29/15 for this council from 9:00a.m. to 11:00a.m.. They will be looking at a continuum of care for people. It could be in December when they could see a budget passed for the State of Illinois, she said.

Before moving on to the next agenda item, Lt. Joyce Klein showed the design development stage drawings to the committee of the proposed new jail. The drawings showed a modified front entrance to the jail where it will be curved now.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chairman Jones said that the committee will be meeting again on the Tuesday before the September County Board Meeting, which is 9/15/2015. He said that if there were any agenda items that the committee members wanted to suggest to please let him know before their September meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. O'Barski, seconded by Ms. Turner, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Jones, Chairman

Mary C. Supple, Secretary

Sequential Intercepts

The Ultimate Intercept

