



Sherburne County Community Corrections Advisory Board

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Meeting Minutes 06-19-18

*To enhance
public
safety and
facilitate
offender
change
through
Evidence
Based and
Restorative
Practices*

Members:

Citizen:	Kenneth Asangwe John Barr
Commissioner:	Barbara Burandt, Sherburne County Commissioner
Corrections:	Deb Anderson, DOC District Supervisor J. Hancuch, Director, Sherburne County Probation Department
Education:	Angie Folch, Big Lake High School Assistant Principal
Judiciary:	Honorable Mary Yunker, Judge 10 th Judicial District
Law Enforcement:	Joel Brott, Sherburne County Sheriff Don Starry, Chief Deputy (alternate)
Prosecution:	Sam Wertheimer, Chief Deputy Kathy Heaney, Sherburne County Attorney (alternate)
Public Defense:	Lisa Hallberg, Chief Managing Attorney
Social Services:	Mary Jo Cobb, Director Sherburne County HHS Amanda Larson, Programmer (alternate)

Meeting Minutes:

The following members were present: Kenneth Asangwe, Barbara Burandt, John Barr, Sheriff Brott, Mary Jo Cobb, Lisa Hallberg, J. Hancuch, Sam Wertheimer, Judge Yunker

Also present: Nicole Brummer, Corey Mabis-Rowe, Bobbie Shafer

1. Welcome: Judge Yunker welcomed the Advisory Board. She noted that Deb Anderson and Angie Folch were unavailable but they did share their recommendations regarding early discharge proposals.
2. Early Discharge: Judge Yunker briefly discussed concerns regarding drug offenses that were brought up at the last meeting by Sheriff Brott. Since the last meeting Sheriff Brott informed the Advisory Board that he reached out to the local Police Chiefs for their opinions regarding Community Corrections proposed recommendation for early discharge for adult felony offenders. The feedback was that they opposed any possibility that felony non person offenders could potentially be discharged after one year of Affirmative Action / Equal Opportunity Employer

supervision. The Sheriff noted that the Chief's also wanted to inform the Advisory Board this is a difference of opinion and that their opposition is not a reflection on the good work that Community Corrections does. Judge Yunker said the statute requires representation from all parties and she is supportive of the Sheriff reaching out to others for their opinions. Judge Yunker regrets that it has taken 14 months to resolve this and proposed to the board to allow Sheriff Brott to provide a third proposal. Sheriff Brott provided a summary of the County Attorney's, Community Corrections' and his new proposal to the group. He then discussed his new proposal in further detail. John requested that the Sheriff provide the difference in his proposal. Sheriff Brott believes the new proposal is a blend of the other two. Judge Yunker clarified that it is an amendment to the County Attorney's proposal and Community Corrections is the counter proposal. Sam supports the Sheriff's proposal, which does include drug offenses that were included in both the Community Corrections and County Attorney's initial proposals. It is a blended compromise and it is ultimately the Advisory Board's decision. Lisa asked for clarification on differences between County Attorney's original proposal and the Sheriff's proposal, group discussed. Judge Yunker said voting will be between Community Corrections proposal and County Attorney's amended (by Sheriff Brott) proposal. J. would like to withdraw Community Corrections original proposal and offer support of the Sheriff's amended proposal. Judge Yunker asked what the driving factors were behind Community Corrections withdrawal of its original proposal. J. stated that Community Corrections appreciates their professional working relationship with all of Sherburne County law enforcement and recognizes their concerns. Community Corrections does not want this to be a contentious situation and although it is not Community Corrections original proposal; it is a minimal change and is not worth creating a potential conflict with law enforcement and or criminal justice partners. Judge Yunker discussed bylaws and that the Advisory Board does not have authority to determine policies for Community Corrections. Mary Jo, asked what offenses qualify for early discharge, it was reiterated that the new proposed policy includes only felony non-person offenses: i.e., theft related offenses, credit card fraud and property damage. Lisa clarified that under current Community Corrections policy offenders do not remain on probation for the length of sentence. Judge Yunker asked if Community Corrections was withdrawing their original proposal, J. said yes, Community Corrections is withdrawing their original proposal and supports the County Attorney's modified proposal as presented by the Sheriff. Lisa voiced her concerns with new proposal. J. motioned to withdraw Community Corrections original proposal, Sam seconded the motion. Judge Yunker requested any additional comments prior to the vote, hearing none. Advisory Board votes, Community Corrections proposal is withdrawn. Judge Yunker asked for a motion to amend Sam's proposal. The Sheriff made a motion to amend the County Attorney's proposal, Sam seconded the motion. Clarification, Drug offenses are eligible for early discharge under the County Attorney's amended proposal. Judge Yunker asked if there was a motion. Sheriff Brott motioned and Sam seconded the motion. Advisory Board votes, motion passes. Motion was opposed by John; he is not in favor of any mandatory minimum probation sentences. Judge Yunker said the Advisory Board recommends Community Corrections implement the amended County Attorney proposal as presented by the Sheriff. Judge Yunker noted that Deb and Angie sent her their votes, irrelevant at this point since Community Corrections withdrew their original proposal.

3. Bylaws/Absentee Voting: Judge Yunker would like to discuss electronic and absentee voting as it is not addressed in the bylaws and is relevant regarding the vote for Early Discharge. Judge Yunker also noted that any amendments to the bylaws are required to be submitted in writing and approved by the County Board. Judge Yunker said the benefit of absentee voting is that schedules/availability can be an issue at times. Judge Yunker suggests the Advisory Board amend the bylaws to accommodate such circumstances when a member is not available. Sam asked if the alternate for voting members is eligible to vote in their absence. This issue is not addressed in the bylaws, Mary Jo is concerned with allowing an alternate to vote if they have not been to previous meetings and a part of the discussions. Also concerned with who would be the alternates for the citizen members. Judge Yunker acknowledged these concerns and would like to amend the bylaws. Commissioner Burandt discussed quorum concerns and that a quorum is required to vote. Group discussed different interpretations of the definition of a quorum. John would like a definition, Judge Yunker offered to provide a definition to the group. Sam suggested we amend the bylaws to say that the majority of members are present at the meeting. Judge Yunker will draft edits to the bylaws and send to the Advisory Board 30 days prior to the next meeting for review. Advisory Board will vote on changes to the bylaws at the next meeting.
4. Corrections/Budget: J. presented Community Corrections budget comparison to Blue Earth, Brown, Carver, Rice and Wright Counties, specifically noting the net to levy and staff to offender ratio. As a result Community Corrections will be asking the County Board to approve two new positions for the department in 2019. One position will be a Probation Officer, this position will allow the department to create a specialized caseload for the supervision of domestic violence offenders. The department has a significant number of domestic violence cases including those released from prison. The second position will be an Assistant Probation Officer. This position will primarily assist the pre-trial Probation Officer in monitoring of defendants on pretrial monitoring and Conditional Release supervision. Judge Yunker asked J. if he was requesting support from the Advisory Board to present to the County Board. J. said that is not his intention and he just wanted to inform the Advisory Board of his request
5. Community Supervision Week: Cookout is scheduled for July 19th. Community Corrections will send invitations in the next couple of weeks.
6. MACCAC Conference: Scheduled for September 26-28 at Grandview Lodge. Judge Yunker suggested that everyone attend at some point. There are breakout sessions specifically for Advisory Board members and it is a great opportunity to network.
7. Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA): Scheduled October 24-26 in Duluth, Judge Yunker is speaking.
8. EBP Presentation: Corey recently did an EBP presentation for Crow Wing County. J. thinks it will be beneficial for the Advisory Board to hear the presentation. Corey will present at the next Advisory Board meeting.

**Next Meeting: August 21, 2018, 12pm, Community Corrections
Conference Room**

Future Meeting Dates:

October 16, 2018 Community Corrections Conference Room

December 18, 2018 Community Corrections Conference Room

Submitted by: Nicole Brummer