



Sherburne County Community Corrections Advisory Board

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Meeting Minutes

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

Members:

Citizen:	Mary Jo Cobb <i>Vacant Position</i>
Commissioner:	Gregg Felber, Sherburne County Commissioner
Corrections:	Carter Diers, DOC District Supervisor Corey Mabis-Rowe, Director, Sherburne Community Corrections
Education:	Nicole Stottlemire, ISD 728 Coordinator of Prevention and Safety
Judiciary:	Honorable Judge Walter Kaminsky, Judge 10 th Judicial District
Law Enforcement:	Joel Brott, Sherburne County Sheriff Steve Doran, Chief Deputy (alternate)
Prosecution:	Dawn Nyhus, Lead Assistant County Attorney Kathy Heaney, Sherburne County Attorney (alternate)
Public Defense:	Jordan Krogstad, Sherburne County Chief Managing Attorney
Health & Human Services:	Amanda Larson, Director Sherburne County HHS Jodi Heurung-Dick, HHS Planner (alternate)
Rivers of Hope:	Hannah-Ruth Patterson, Executive Director

Members Present: Mary Jo Cobb, Greg Felber, Corey Mabis-Rowe, Nicole Stottlemire, Judge Walter Kaminsky, Dawn Nyhus, Jordan Krogstad, Amanda Larson, Hannah-Ruth Patterson

Other Individuals Present: Bobbie Shafter, Mia Higgins, Brent Schmidt

- Vacant Citizen Position:** There is currently an open citizen position on the Sherburne County Community Corrections Advisory Board. Judge Kaminsky urged members to spread the word of the vacancy. Bylaws do request an ethnic minority to fill this vacancy.
- June 13th Minutes:** Corey motioned to approve the June 13th minutes, and Jordan seconded the motion. All members approved.
- Pretrial Criteria Update:** Bobbie explained pretrial criteria updates that went into effect on Monday. Based on research, court reminders are the most effective method to get defendants returning for their hearings, and currently staff are getting clients set up for eReminders. Furthermore, 87% of defendants remain arrest free whether they are monitor on pretrial supervision or not, and it has been found that if a low-risk defendant it will increase the likelihood of their failure in supervision. Bobbie provided members with an informational

document that outlaid the new pretrial monitoring supervision criteria. Discussion was had to clarify some items.

4. **Legislation Updates:** Brent reviewed the following legislative updates, and how Community Corrections has adjusted accordingly:
 - a. Restoration of Voter Rights: This update allowed individuals who were convicted of felony level offenses to vote as long as they were not actively incarcerated. Brent and Mia sent notifications to approximately 830 felony clients on June 1st to advise them of this update.
 - b. Probation Cap: This updated required a cap of supervision of five years for felony offenses, four years for gross misdemeanor offenses and two years for misdemeanor offenses. Clients currently on supervision are being resentenced by the Court or discharged from supervision if they meet the updated criteria. The County Attorney's Office has been able to assist in notifying victims of eligible cases with the changes to the client's case and/or supervision.
 - c. THC: Community Corrections is currently reviewing guidelines for enforcement of random testing for THC. Currently, testing for THC on pre-trial cases is allowed, but testing for THC on post sentence cases require a chemical use assessment which recommends abstaining from THC use.
 - d. School Legislation: Nicole advised that ISD has four law enforcement partners, and after the recent legislature changes all four partners have agreed to stay status quo.
5. **Department Updates:**
 - a. Courts: Judge Kaminsky advised that Court is continuing to catch up on the backlog that was created during COVID. Currently, Sherburne County is utilizing referees to handle eviction, name change, traffic, and guardianship cases. Like other departments, Courts are continuing to manage caseload numbers, and can handle more in person hearings than surrounding counties.
 - b. HHS: Amanda explained that Sherburne County Child Protection Unit had issued a state of emergency due to staffing and that has begun to be addressed. Furthermore, health case renewals will be expiring, causing staff to manually determine eligibility for these cases. There will be a new unit, HOPE, which is expected to be operational beginning October 1st.
 - c. Rivers of Hope: Hannah-Ruth indicated an increase of intense cases being referred to Rivers of Hope and have received approximately 300 client's year to date. They also experienced staff turnover during the summer and are currently down one adult advocate. Thanks to additional funding, Rivers of Hope will be adding a Program Manager and Outreach Manager.
 - d. County Attorney: Dawn advised that their office is currently in the process of changing case management systems, which will require staff to navigate and train in the new system this week. The County Attorney's Office welcomed a new criminal attorney, Patrick Zimmerman.
 - e. County Board: Greg explained how the Board is currently working through the 2024 budget.
 - f. Schools: Nicole advised that ISD 728 will be implementing an anonymous reporting system through Sandy Hook, which will allow staff to be trained on recognizing mental health crisis, and allow students to anonymous report potential concerns on their chrome books. After recent changes, students who have previously participated in a first diversion program will have the opportunity for further voluntary programs. After legislative changes, school resource officers will no longer be writing tickets.
 - g. Public Defenders: Jordan indicated that the Public Defender's Office is now fully staffed, and recently received funding which will allow for significant pay increases for all of their attorneys.
 - h. Community Corrections: Corey explained due to funding increases, Sherburne County Community Corrections' subsidy funding will

increase from \$886,016 to approximately \$3.2 million. This new funding will allow a reduction in caseload numbers, which in turn will increase supervision and ability to provide better evidence-based practices. The department will be implementing a drug-specific caseload, in which two current Probation Officers will transition into. In addition to a new Traditional Probation Officer position, an evidence-based practice Probation Officer position will be created allowing program facilitating to occur in house. Lastly, Sherburne County will join other counties in the utilization of the Carey Guides Tools on Demand which will allow clients and agents to exchange worksheets via email and or phone.

6. **MACCAC Annual Conference:** The annual MACCAC Conference will be held October 11th – 13th at Madden's Resort on Gull Lake. Sheriff Brott, Amanda, Brent and Corey will be attending.
7. **Proposed 2024 Meeting Dates:** The proposed 2024 meeting dates were approved and listed below. Judge Kaminsky requested the December meeting be moved up one week, which was approved by the group.

Upcoming Meetings:

December 5th, 2023
March 12th, 2024
June 11th, 2024
September 10th, 2024
December 10th, 2024