



WINNEBAGO COUNTY

— ILLINOIS —

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (CJCC)

Meeting Minutes

County Administration Building
404 Elm Street, Room 303
Rockford, IL 61101

Wednesday, June 7, 2023
3:00 – 5:00 pm

- I. **Members Present:** Joe Chiarelli, Winnebago County; Nick Zimmerman, Winnebago County Public Defenders Officer; J. Hanley, Winnebago County State’s Attorney’s Office; Tom Jakeway, 17th Circuit Court; Debbie Jarvis, Winnebago County, Court Services; John Lowry, 17th Circuit Court; Joseph McGraw, 17th Circuit Court; Ron DeWald, U.S. Attorney’s Office; Carla Redd, Rockford Police Department.

Others Present: Rick Ciganek, Winnebago County, Sheriff’s Dept; Lorraine Dixon, Winnebago County, RIC; Jodi GeRue, Winnebago County, Dept. of Probation; Pat Thompson, Winnebago County; Marlana Dokken, Winnebago County; Dave Olson, Loyola University; Patrick Griffen, Loyola University; Rob Lukowski, Jail; Anna, Loyola University; Elena, Loyola University, Ali Friend, SAO; Taryn Marko, Juvenile Probation; Tom Lawson, 17th Circuit Court; Two Researchers;

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Chief Judge John Lowry with a quorum present.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Chairman Chiarelli made the motion to accept the minutes as presented, Nick Zimmerman seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

III. **Introductions**

Chief Judge Lowry made introductions.

IV. **Program**

- a. **Judge Joseph G. McGraw Retirement: “Thank You Judge McGraw” – Chief Judge John S. Lowry**
Chief Judge Lowry thanked Judge Joseph G. McGraw for his contributions and years of service.



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b. Jail Management System – Tom Lawson, Deputy Circuit Clerk; Captain Rob Lukowski

WCSO

Rob Lukowski, WCSO, discussed Offender Trak, the jail management system. A search was made for a new GMS system. Black Creek Integrated Systems was chosen, providing a fully integrated security control system and security management for correctional facilities. Plans are to go live with a tentative date of August 21 and to be fully transferred to Black Creek with a tentative date of September 12, 2023. Rob discussed the benefits of the new system. Rob advised training is planned for August 22 through August 24 from 8 to 5 pm at CJC. All details for training will be provided to the Council. Other programs are being investigated with Black Creek. Rob called for any questions.

Tom Lawson, Deputy Circuit Clerk, gave an update on DigiTICKET enhancements. Tom advised the Court and Case Management team was reestablished and held its first meeting to discuss replacing Justice, the current case management system. Chairman Chiarelli and Pat Thompson were thanked for putting together a meeting with the Chairs for both Caucuses who agreed to move forward with a new case management system. A new Project Manager is being hired who will meet with the Council to understand the needs for the new case management system. Plans are to continue working closely with the Sheriff's department and Jail to build the proper interfaces. The expectations for the completion of the project are 2-3 years. Tom called for questions.

c. Juvenile Probation Update – Taryn Marko, Deputy Director of Juvenile Probation

Chief Judge Lowry introduced Taryn Marko, Deputy Director of Juvenile Probation. Taryn Marko gave an update on the Juvenile Probation Center and discussed the Center's processes and programs to assist juvenile offenders. Taryn also shared success stories. Taryn called for questions. Discussion followed.

d. Felony Case Statistical Update – Tom Jakeway, 17th Judicial Circuit Trial Court Administrator

Tom Jakeway, 17th Judicial Circuit Trial Court Administrator gave a presentation on Felony Case Statistics and shared pertinent information related to the statistics with the Council. Tom called for comments or questions. Discussion followed.

Chief Judge Lowry reported on the impact of the fire restoration project on the Courtrooms in the Courthouse. He further advised attending a Northern Circuits meeting on Case Flow Management put on by the National Center for State Courts. As a result, a committee is being formed to work on case flow management especially in the criminal courts.



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V. Reports

a. Dave Olson, Loyola University

Dave Olson congratulated Judge McGraw on his collaboration and friendship. Dave Olson advised working with Winnebago County this past year to evaluate the Diversion Program the State's Attorney is running through a state grant. Loyola is also evaluating the Focused Deterrence Initiative. Dave gave a presentation at the Public Safety and Judiciary Board meeting on Focused Deterrence and will give a report and presentation on research findings for both these initiatives at an upcoming Council meeting. Research was ongoing for Bond Court reforms, a 4-year evaluation on the implementation and impact of the PreTrial Fairness Act that ceased in January but it is hoped research will resume. Lastly, a project is continuing with the Parole Division of the Illinois Department of Corrections in working with Winnebago and five other counties to improve access to substance abuse treatment services for those released from prisons.

b. Legislative Updates

Chairman Chiarelli advised continuing to monitor bills or unfunded state mandates to be imposed on the County and State. The Chairman reported giving as much limited resources to every dept by assessing needs and shared other highlights about the Sheriff's office and combating the ongoing crime in the community. Also, the Chairman is collaborating with the Mayor and the City of Rockford Police Dept. The Chairman and Mayor are convening a committee dedicated to Behavioral Health issues in the community with an upcoming news conference soon to find solutions concerning the lack of providers. The Chairman and Tom Lawson are continuing work on the fentanyl, opioids and substance abuse.

c. Department Updates / Reports

Chief Judge Lowry thanked the Council for submitting reports included in today's meeting packet.

Chief Judge Lowry highlighted key points for the 17th Judicial Court:

- On March 9, two new Associate Judges were sworn in at historic Memorial Hall, Judge Amy Peterman and Judge Scott Paccagnini. Both careers have been dedicated to public service. Judge Peterman spent over 10 years in the Winnebago County Public Defender's office where she served as an integral member of the Problem-Solving courts and prior to her appointment, as DCFS Regional Counsel. Judge Paccagnini, prior to his appointment, served as Branch Chief for the U.S. Attorney's Rockford office and is a past member of the Coordinating Counsel.



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- March 12 marked the full return to the Courthouse for all departments following fire damage remediation. The restoration process was frustrating. In early November, 24 functioning courtrooms were reduced to 4.
- In April, the initiation of the Orders of Protection Court by Judge Bruscato was launched with one courtroom for protective order hearings. Designed to consistency and efficiency is working well.
- Scott Paccagnini is moving into Bond Court
- In recognition of Child Abuse Awareness Month, the 17th Circuit's FVCC presented two separate Hands Around the Courthouse ceremonies, with Boone County's held on April 14 and Winnebago County's April 27. Both ceremonies were well attended.
- CJCC One Day Symposium held April 28 at the Radisson with a great turnout. Featured speaker, Dr. Doug Marlowe, national expert on evidence-based practices was a very engaging speaker, his presentation was impactful and resonated with the audience. Many practical takeaways for all stakeholders. Chief Judge Lowry thanked Marlana Dokken for coordinating the event.
- In early May, Judge McGraw's retirement was announced. All are welcome to attend the retirement celebration June 20 in Courtroom A at 3:30 pm.
- On May 24, the County hosted Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lisa Holder White who toured the Courthouse and CJCC and was engaging with everyone she met and showed a genuine interest in each individual and their roles.
- On June 2, Judge John Gibbons was announced to replace Judge McGraw.
- The Training Center is receiving support from the state legislature and others will help the Public Safety Building program.
- June 2, announcement was sent out concerning Courtroom Assignments.
- PSB/Family Court Update – Zoom meeting this morning, sensing momentum in a positive direction
- Dave Olson attended Bond Court at 1:30 pm.

Pat Thompson, County Administrator, reported the Criminal Justice System is a huge part of the County and expressed gratification for the partners and stakeholders working together as a team.

Ron DeWald, US Attorney's office, reported US Attorney John Lausch stepped down. The acting US Attorney is Sonny Pasqual and the Dept of Justice is continuing the mission to work with state and local law enforcement, public defenders and everyone else for crime prevention and re-entry services to reduce violence. At the local office, the Branch Chief, Scott Paccagnini, and two others have left. Two US Attorneys will start in July and another is being hired. The intern from Northern IL University Law School began her internship position.



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Nick Zimmerman, Public Defender's Office, reported a new Case Management is expected to go live in December. Nick reported Shauna Gustafson, Juvenile Division for the Public Defender's office, shared her appreciation for Juvenile Probation.

Rick Ciganek, Deputy Chief Sheriff's Dept., gave an update on campus security. Upgrades include the installation of a scanner and deputies on site in the Administration building. A Campus Security Facilities Director will be responsible for overall safety of all the campus buildings.

Chairman Chiarelli invited the Council to tour the Public Safety Building's renovated Emergency Operations Center at 9 am on Thursday, June 8, 2023.

Debbie Jarvis, Director of Court Services, gave accolades to staff on filling vacancies and the department is transitioning now to train the officers. See report for more information.

Chief Judge Lowry reported Mental Health and Day Reporting are being made a priority with plans to work with the city and collaborate with Court Services Administration and Juvenile Probation teams. Email Chief Judge Lowry with ideas or thoughts regarding strategic planning.

- VI. **Other Matters** – The next CJCC meeting will be Wednesday, September 13, 2023.
- VII. **Adjournment**