

**McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council**  
**Meeting Minutes**

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council met on **Thursday, October 7, 2010** at 1:00 p.m. in Room 400 of the Government Center, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, Illinois

**Present:** Chief Judge Elizabeth Robb; Judge Robert Freitag; Mike Emery, McLean County Sheriff; Kim Campbell, Public Defender; Don Everhart, Circuit Clerk; William Scanlon, Court Administrator; Carol Reitan, League of Women Voters; Michelle Anderson, Auditor; Jane Foster, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant State's Attorney; Ron Lewis, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Public Defender; Cathy Waltz, Juvenile Detention Center Superintendent; Chris Bailey, Adult Court Services Deputy Director; Bill Wasson, Assistant County Administrator; Terry Lindberg, County Administrator; Walt Howe, Health Department; Karen Schmidt, Bloomington City Council Ward 6; Matt Banach, Assistant State's Attorney; Phyllis Nelson Chief Deputy Circuit Clerk; Greg Allen, Jail Superintendant; Sharon Sweeney, ISU Police Department; Kent Crutcher, Normal Police Chief; William Yoder, State's Attorney; Joan Naour, Jail Nurse; Dr. Frank Beck, Stevenson Center ISU; Dr. Ed Wells, Criminal Justice Dept.; Christian Saladino, Intern for Dr. Beck; Dara Brockmeyer, Rep. Dan Brady's Office; J.J. Braksick, Sheriff's Office-present to take minutes.

**Call to Order:**

Judge Robb called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Judge Robb presented the minutes from the July 1, 2010 meeting for approval.

Motion by Carol Reitan to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2010, meeting, seconded by Karen Schmidt. Motion carried.

**Committee Reports:**

**Case Disposition Report:** Mr. Yoder said that it was decided to break the committee down in to two sub committees. One that would deal with felony cases that would be chaired by Jane Foster and one that would deal with CM, DT and TR cases that would be chaired by Matt Banach. Mr. Banach said they discussed variables as to why the system moves so slow and are working on making guidelines to show how a case should be disposed of. Ms. Foster said they also worked on identifying problems and coming up with workable solutions to the problem. She said they discussed such things as 402 conferences and whether something like that could be used and be beneficial in McLean County.

Judge Robb stated that she had shared the Case Disposition Committee report with all of the judges so they are all aware of the work and what's involved in criminal cases. She congratulated and expressed her appreciation to the committee for making so much progress.

**Financial Compliance Report:** Mr. Everhart said that his committee had not met since getting their next assignment of how to handle the warrant calendar. A warrant calendar is a docket of all warrants greater than six (6) months old, where the State's Attorney can review the status of the case and make a motion to dismiss the warrant or keep the warrant active. McLean County Information Services is developing a full warrant calendar report (all case types) which should assist the State and Court in reviewing all warrants. He said there are 3,975 outstanding warrants in McLean County and the

committee would meet soon to discuss it. Chief Crutcher asked if the number of outstanding warrants for McLean County is considered high and Mr. Lindberg stated that Peoria County has 40,000 but there is limited information on comparable statistics for other counties.

***Jail Disposition Report:*** Mr. Allen thanked everyone who helped with the Administrative Order which will allow geographical limitations to be placed on specific traffic and misdemeanor warrants. He said the committee had met and discussed the possibility of reviewing the current warrant list to determine if some of those warrants could have geographic limits placed on them. He said they also discussed ordinance violation warrants and the problems and costs that are involved with them.

***Juvenile Justice Report:*** Will Scanlon reported for the Juvenile Justice Committee. He said they were working to determine what factors determine the time frame for juvenile cases to get to court and how they can identify the juveniles that are in both juvenile abuse court and juvenile delinquency court.

- A juvenile abuse data collection project, sponsored by the Administrative Office of Illinois Courts. The data collection project is very similar to the case disposition review conducted by the Stevenson Center for criminal cases (see below). The juvenile data collection project has also sponsored a foster care parent recruitment project which is an on-going effort to recruit local foster care parents for the juvenile abuse court.
- The Roundtable also meets to discuss the dual adjudication cases (where the juvenile or family is involved in both the abuse and neglect court, and the juvenile delinquency court). There are approximately 12 of such cases currently in McLean County.
- It is also a forum for communication between the government agencies and the social service agencies regarding policy and procedure, budget and programming issues, and other matters of common concern.

The next meeting of the Roundtable will be December 10.

***Specialized Courts Report:*** Kent Crutcher stated his committee gathered information on drug courts. He had a handout that told about how and why drug courts were started and how it developed in McLean County as well as the success of the program nationally. Mr. Crutcher did raise the question as to whether drug court graduates were tracked to see if they reoffended and Judge Robb responded that yes they were but she was not sure how long they were tracked.

The Committee's next focus is a Veterans Court.

Judge Robb said that the mental health court is a recipient of a \$600,000.00 Department of Justice grant for dual-diagnosis (both mental and substance abuse). This grant will allow for an expansion of the Recovery Court services, the hiring of a Recovery Court coordinator, and movement to a full-functional treatment component. It will go to the McLean County Board on October 19th, 2010 for full approval. She stated she was very grateful to everyone who helped gather information so this could be accomplished.

***Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA) Strategic Planning Initiative Report:*** Judge Robb advised that she and Lori McCormick had attended and Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority conference and she was surprised to learn that McLean County is viewed as a model county. She said they are very interested in what we do and the integrated justice system. She said for anyone that was interested, there is a wealth of information on the ICJIA website.

**Presentations:**

Dr. Beck gave a PowerPoint presentation of his findings on length of stay and bed days for McLean County Jail. He distributed handouts for the committee to follow along with the presentation.

Dr. Wells stated he has been working on a couple of month's worth of data files and focusing on the amount of time between appearances and whether it has changed over time. He said many people in EJS have multiple cases and he would like to be able to pull all of their information together to make an aggregate for each person's information. He said his intention is to have a presentation on case processing and its connection to jail stay next.

Judge Robb said that there is so much information in EJS that it is a very long process to determine what to look at but she feels they are headed in the right direction. She stated she appreciated Dr. Beck and Dr. Wells for working with the committee and feels in another couple of months they will have enough data collected to start making policies.

**Old Business:**

Will Scanlon distributed a legislation summary packet and asked that if anyone receives legislation summaries, to submit them to Kim Campbell for distribution to the committee.

**New Business:**

None.

**Call to Close:**

Judge Robb said the next meeting would be **Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2011 at 1:00 pm**. She then asked for a motion to adjourn. There was a motion to adjourn from Bill Yoder and seconded by Dr. Wells. The meeting was adjourned.