

**McLean County
Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
October 8, 2014**

Sheriff Mike Emery thanked everyone for attending.

Carla Barnes was recognized as the newly appointed Public Defender. She takes office on October 13, 2014.

Programming Needs of the Female Population of the McLean County Adult Detention Facility

Dr. Dawn Beichner (Illinois State University) gave an overview of the project:

- 278 women were interviewed from January 2013-January 2014
- Dr. Beichner reviewed the demographics of the female population, their family profile, length of sentence and gave an overview of the research methodology.
- There was an institutional records analysis which provided the above data set as well as the number of dependent children and mental health needs.
- The sampling indicates a high substance abuse rate, with 45% of the population dependent upon one or more substances on a regular basis. This addiction is a central element of their incarceration.
- While a majority reported mental health issues (134/278), only 55 reported ever seeking treatment.
- There was also a prevalence of trauma and physical/sexual/psychological abuse identified. This abuse was a central pathway to incarceration and recidivism. Many of the women studied replicated their abusive relationships in subsequent relationships.
- Women usually identified themselves as the primary care-giver. Prior research highlights the problems associated with the incarceration of women with children. Periods of incarceration of primary caregivers leads to behavioral problems for children and subsequent problems in school.

Several programming needs were identified:

Religious study and fellowship	Health care needs
Relationship stabilization	Parenting classes
Addiction treatment and counseling	Release and Reentry programming

Several solutions were proposed within the study: contact visits and parenting classes during incarceration; addiction counseling; and re-entry programming to assist with employment and housing.

Partnerships are being formed between the McLean County Adult Detention Facility and PATH, Labyrinth Outreach Services for Women. This partnership is leading toward the provision of a directory of services for reentry among other solutions.

There followed a brief session of questions and answers regarding the research.

The Sheriff stated this study will be an important centerpiece of the design and remodel of the female portion of the jail

ISU Stevenson Center Data Report

Dr. Frank Beck gave an overview of the three statistical tables on length of stay, jail bed usage during the first three quarters of the year, and some of the demographics of the jail population.

Dr. Beck expressed some surprise at the reduction in 3rd quarter bed days and had questions for those present as to the rationale for the reduction. Melinda Fellner, of the jail's inmate services department, credited better awareness of space limitations at the jail and improved communication. Some systemic changes to the use of pre-trial services, increased awareness of the public defender of the usage of the jail, and the awareness of the Court of the jail population and options have all contributed to the reduction.

There was a brief discussion.

Review of Jail Analysis

Sheriff Emery provided an update to the progress of Dewberry & Associates. There will be public hearing on Tuesday, October 14 at 7:00 pm of the jail review process and possible outcomes. The process has included reviewing the functionality of programming, determining the needs for functional space for the next 10-25 years, and the use and remodel of the linear part of the jail

Committee Reports

Adam Ghrist - gave an update on the public relations committee.

Lori McCormick - best practices - read the resolution of appreciation of Sheriff Mike Emery (attached)

Sheriff Mike Emery made some brief comments in response to the resolution – the formation of this Council, and any progress that has been made, is a coordinated effort by many people and departments. He will miss the people and their dedication and passion.

Meeting adjourned: 1:14 p.m.

Next Meeting - January 14, 2015 at 12:00 noon

**Resolution of Appreciation for
Sheriff Mike Emery**

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2014 Sheriff Mike Emery will retire; and

WHEREAS, he is admired and respected by his colleagues and friends; and,

WHEREAS, Mike Emery showed his dedication and loyalty to his country and fellow man through his service with the United State Marines from 1975-1979; and

WHEREAS, Mike Emery offered his many talents and his time in service to the citizens of McLean County through his thirty-three years of service with the Sheriff's Department and, during his service, earned his Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Sciences from Illinois State University in 2003, and graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy in 1996; and,

WHEREAS, as a dedicated member of the Sheriff's Department, he served as patrol officer, patrol shift commander, Patrol Division Commander, and Chief Deputy before serving for the past eight years as Sheriff; and

WHEREAS, as Sheriff, he paved the way to the modernization of the mental health treatment within the communities of Bloomington, Normal and greater McLean County, when he led efforts to improve services to those with mental illness and substance abuse issues, through his involvement in the development of both the Drug Court, the Recovery Court and the coordinated services model in the McLean County Adult Detention Facility; and,

WHEREAS, Mike Emery is a community advocate and justice advocate; willing to listen and understand the concerns of those in the justice system, to the members of the League of Women Voters, and to those working with persons who are involved in the criminal justice system, leading to his leadership role in the development of the McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council; and,

WHEREAS, during his professional career, he was honored as the 2009 recipient of the ISU Criminal Justice Sciences Distinguished Alumnus award, the 2002 winner of the State of Illinois MADD Outstanding Volunteer award, and numerous Life Saving Awards from the American Red Cross and US Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 454; and

WHEREAS, he is also known for his sense of humor in difficult times, his patience and understanding with members of the public, willingness to learn, and to teach, and his compassion for those under his care.

BE IT RESOLVED by the McLean County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council that this expression of appreciation for the leadership and dedicated service of Sheriff Mike Emery, to the people of McLean County, and to the State of Illinois, be permanently filed in the Eleventh Judicial Circuit Administrative Docket.

ADOPTED this 8th day of October, 2014.