



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Community Justice Council - Pre-Trial Services Subcommittee

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Thursday, July 23, 2026

12:15 PM

****JOINT MEETING WITH COMMUNITY JUSTICE
COUNCIL** Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the City
County Building room 354;
attend virtually via Zoom.**

A. Call To Order

Mcnamara Meeting called to order at 12:17 PM.

Present 10 - COLLEEN CLARK-BERNHARDT, NICK MCNAMARA, ISMAEL OZANNE, JEFF
OKAZAKI, MELISSA AGARD, SHANNON PIERCE, PETER MIDDLETON,
SARAH KRAHN, MARIANNE OLESON, and JAMES MORGAN

Excused 1 - KELLY SPLINTER

B. Consideration of Minutes

The consideration of minutes was postponed to a later meeting.

[2026](#)
[MIN-162](#) MINUTES OF THE JUNE 4, 2026 COMMUNITY JUSTICE COUNCIL
MEETING

Attachments: [Minutes-June 4th-2026-10-09-53](#)

[2026](#)
[MIN-148](#) MINUTES OF THE JULY 10 2026 COMMUNITY JUSTICE COUNCIL
PRE-TRIAL SERVICES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Attachments: [Minutes June 10th -2026-10-06-40](#)

C. Action Items

None

D. Presentations

Dr. Jim Greiner, Professor at Access to Justice Lab at Harvard Law School, presented the results of a randomized control trial evaluating whether using the Public Safety Assessment and Decision-Making Framework in Dane County improved the pretrial outcomes of failure to appear, new criminal activity, new criminal violent activity, pre-disposition incarceration days, and racial/gender fairness. The study found that while the PSA-DMF modestly influenced commissioners' bail decisions, it produced no measurable effects on the identified outcomes. The researchers concluded that bail affects pretrial outcomes for only a small share of individuals, and that the PSA classifications are not robust enough to drive meaningful changes.

Two reasons most likely explain these findings:

- 1) For all but a very small fraction of individuals, imposing cash bail does not prevent failure to appear, new criminal activity or new violent criminal activity.
- 2) The PSA-DMF does not classify arrestees well according to risk of FTA, NCA, or NVCA.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- The difficulty of identifying which individuals will modify their behavior in response to receiving cash bail instead of a signature bond
- Similarities and differences across jurisdictions in the study, including Dane County's substantially greater reliance on signature bonds
- The role of culture change as a key driver of commissioners' decision-making, outweighing changes in law
- Dane County's strong fidelity to the research model throughout the randomized control trial
- The potential for the Access to Justice Lab to partner with Dane County to evaluate how different supervision levels influence pretrial outcomes

Public Comment: Clark Rodgers, Dane County PSA Assessor, reflects on the fidelity of the completion of the PSA and is available for questions.

[2026
PRES-075](#)

RANDOMIZED CONTROL TRIAL EVALUATION OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PSA-DMF IN DANE COUNTY, WI

Attachments: [DaneCountyA2JLabPSADMFSummaryReport20260723b](#)
[SlidesDaneCountyA2JLabFinalReport20260723 C](#)

E. Reports to Committee

None

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

October 21, 2026

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None

I. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn by Ozanne, seconded by Okazaki. Motion passes. Meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM.