



Dane County

Minutes

Commission on Sensitive Crimes

Consider: Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

9:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at the Aging &
Disability Resource Center (Room 109) or virtually via
Zoom.

See below for additional instructions on how to attend the meeting and provide public testimony.

A. Call To Order

Others in Attendance: Jennifer Ginsburg, Director John Schlueter, Amy Scarr, Joe Aguilar, Marlys Howe and Priscilla McCarthy

Chair Pellebon called the meeting to order at 9:31 AM.

Present 14 - SHANNON BARRY, AMY BROWN, BETH FREEMAN, SHARYL KATO, VANESSA STATAM, DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, ANTHONY GRAY, ERIN WELSH, GREG ESSER, JOHNNIE MILTON, JENEILE LUEBKE, NELA KALPIC, and SONJA LISTON

Excused 2 - MOLLY CARADONNA, and HOPE EDGREN

B. Consideration of Minutes

C. Action Items

D. Presentations

E. Reports to Committee

1. Agency Updates

Lt. Esser reported for City of Madison Police Department the Chief of Police was selected and announced. The personnel changes are happening within the unit and Lt. Esser will be retiring in November.

Lt. Ewers-Hayes reported for Dane County Sheriff's Office she will be retiring in January of 2026; they are looking for a replacement to her position currently. They are looking at different ways to fund positions and are taking a look at bailiff positions in the courthouse as well.

Brown reported for the District Attorney's Victim Witness Department they have a new crime response representative and 2 Victim Witness Case Managers and they are all involved in training currently.

Freeman reported for Dane County Human Services, APS (Adult Protective Services) has not gone through too many changes recently, things have been consistent and they are grateful for that. There was a briefing at the capital about the Elder Abuse Crisis on September 3rd, this showed how easy it can be to fall victim to financial abuse. Dane County Human Services is looking at possibly adding an Elder Death Review Team to the programs we already have.

Barry reported for DAiS (Domestic Abuse Intervention Services) they are short-staffed in programming and shelter and so they are all trying to pick up shifts to help. Elsa Gumm will be taking over as the Crisis Intervention Manager; she will be a great asset to the legal advocacy side of things!

Liston reported for Meriter Hospital, they have two new per diem employees starting at the end of September.

Statam reported for Anesis Therapy, they are working on hiring new legal advocates but they are continuing through everything and all the changes that continue to happen.

Kato reported for the Rainbow Project they are hiring multiple positions currently and looking at future funding and what will happen there. Double and Triple traumas seem to be happening more in the community and with the families that are served in Dane County.

Kalpic reported for Marsy's Law, they are working on the first victim rights mapping exercise with the Department of Corrections, this was specific to conviction onward and it was the first time done with the DOC. This program has usually been done under Department of Justice in different counties.

Luebke reported she has been selected as the finalist to receive the NIH grant from the Native American Research Centers for Health (NARCH). She is hoping this will

fund a community engaged research site in the Oneida Nation.

Milton reported there will be an open house at LaFollete High School on September 20th from 5-7:30 PM. Members of the community and the local police departments will be there and there will be an intern check provided to a student. The basketball camp that was held went very well there was a great turn out - 120 children attended the camp.

Pellebon reported for the Rape Crisis Center, they held their annual open house, it went very well. The three Service Facilitators they had been searching for have been hired and they are still hiring for a Multi-Cultural Advocate.

2. CCR Updates or Items on CCR Agendas

October 16th is the next I/DD CCR

October 3rd is the next Child Abuse and Sexual Assault CCR - they are discussing the current survey they are sending out and are hoping to hear from groups that traditionally are not heard from

Elder Abuse CCR has been meeting monthly and are discussing Crypto and ATM scans that are nearby in most convenient stores or gas stations.

3. Legislative Updates and Announcements

Supervisor Welsh gave an update for the Board of Supervisors, they are working on the 2026 Budget, the proposals were entered by each of the Departments budget to the full board. Over the next two weeks, there will be additional avenues for public comment if members of the public would like to be heard.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next Meeting: October 21, 2025 at 9:30 AM, this meeting will be held in a hybrid setting either in person at the Aging and Disability Resource Center or virtually via Zoom.

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

New Department of Health Services Director John Schlueter introduced himself and what drives him in the work he does for the Department.

I. Adjourn

A motion was made by FREEMAN, Seconded by BARRY to Adjourn the meeting at 10:22 AM.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Priscilla McCarthy, Pending Commission approval