



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

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 14, 2021

8:30 AM

A. Call To Order

Staff and guests present: Calvin Barrett, Peter Grimyser, Marlys Howe, Nela Kalpic, Ellen Merker, Ismael Ozanne, Amy Scarr, Allison Schlotz, Vanessa Statam, and Howard Thomas

Chair Miyasaki called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

- Present** 8 - AMY BROWN, HEATHER CROWLEY, BETH FREEMAN, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, ANGELA KAMOSKE, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO
- Absent** 3 - SHANNON BARRY, SHARYL KATO, and Supervisor MAUREEN McCARVILLE

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#) MINUTES FROM AUGUST 17, 2021
[MIN-259](#)

Attachments: [2021_0817 COSC Minutes](#)

A motion was made by PELLEBON, seconded by FREEMAN, to approve the minutes. The motion carried by a voice vote (8-0).

C. Action Items

NONE.

Attendance Update

Barry joined the meeting.

- Present** 9 - SHANNON BARRY, AMY BROWN, HEATHER CROWLEY, BETH FREEMAN, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, ANGELA KAMOSKE, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO
- Absent** 2 - SHARYL KATO, and Supervisor MAUREEN McCARVILLE

D. Presentations

1. Dane County Sheriff Calvin Barrett

Sheriff Barrett outlined the priorities he has established and initiatives that have been launched since he assumed his job, and stated he looked forward to working with the commission. Commission members and other stakeholders provided overviews of their agencies to the Sheriff.

E. Reports to Committee

1. Agency Updates

[2021
RPT-444](#)

2021 WI ACT 76 ELDER VICTIMS

Attachments: [2021 WI Act 76 Elder Victims](#)

Schlotz reported the number of individuals seeking forensic nurse exams at UnityPoint Health Meriter dropped during the initial COVID-19 shutdown but are rising now. UnityPoint Health Meriter is in the hiring process for two FNE positions. Victims can present to UnityPoint Health Meriter during times when there isn't an FNE on duty to seek medical care, emergency contraception and STI prophylactics.

Kamoske reported this is her last meeting as the Madison Police Department representative on the commission and that Detective Lt. Greg Esser is interested in replacing her. On September 1, the Madison Fire Department launched the CARES (Community Alternative Response) Team -- a unit that includes paramedics and social service professionals that responds to calls that don't require police involvement. Gun crimes continue at a high rate in Madison. Domestic violence cases have remained steady.

Merker reported Heart Consulting, LLC, which provides support and education to reduce sexual and domestic violence against people with disabilities, has a long waiting list. There are plans to hire a therapist and an educational advocate.

Statam reported Anesis Therapy is seeking to hire in-home and outpatient clinicians, crisis stabilization specialists and service facilitators. After a period of six to seven months of mostly virtually service at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Anesis restarted office and home visits.

Barry reported Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS) is attempting to fill several open positions. There are currently 36 individuals in the DAIS shelter, 30 of them children.

Crowley reported Dane County's Youth Justice Unit is in the process of filling a position that works 17- to 25-year-old individuals who are at risk. Youth Justice workers are back in schools, which is allowing for more prevention work. Youth Justice is monitoring how school districts that eliminated School Resource Officers are responding to situations and how often police are being called to schools.

Pellebon reported Rape Crisis Center (RCC) offices reopened at UW-Madison, Edgewood College and at Madison College's Truax and Goodman campuses. RCC is performing Forensic Nurse advocacy at UW's University Health Services. RCC recently launched an initiative with Dane County Multi-Agency Center to provide FNE services and has a new therapy collaboration with UNIDOS. RCC staffers will soon return to area schools to support children, but most classes it provides will remain virtual. RCC is hiring for multiple openings.

Brown stated trials in the Dane County Courthouse, which resumed on June 1 after being halted for more than a year by the COVID-19 pandemic, continue for homicide, attended homicide and sexual assault cases. Other cases continue to be delayed and the District Attorney's Office's Victim Witness Unit now has more than 7,600 pending cases divided among its 14 case managers. The DA's office is doing as much education as possible about the funding needed for the office to stay in compliance with Marsy's Law mandates.

Freeman reported Dane County Adult Protective Services (APS) has several community trainings regarding elder abuse and neglect and decision making scheduled this fall. A new investigator began with the department on September 13, and another one is slated to start at the end of the month. The APS Helpline averaged about 300 calls per month this summer, with approximately 20 reports assigned each month. Work on crisis-related issues involving long-term care programs and the impact the issues have on vulnerable adults continues to be a focus. When issues are identified, they are shared with community providers and, when appropriate, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. There are approximately 50 spots remaining for the Domestic Violence in Later Life Conference that will be held virtually on October 28.

Howe reported the District Attorney's Office's Domestic Violence Unit is seeing many cases that include repeat offenders with multiple victims, which was rare in the past. Judges are starting to revoke bail and set higher cash bail for those cases. Howe has more attempted homicide cases among her caseload than ever before.

Kalpic, Outreach Director for Marsy's Law Wisconsin, reported there has been an increase in victims asking to be heard during court proceedings and provided examples of how the services mandated by Marsy's Law have benefited victims in the state.

Castillo reported the 2022 Dane County Budget process is underway and will continue through early November. Stakeholders should contact Dane County Supervisors as soon as possible with input about the 2022 budget.

Freeman departed the meeting.

- Present** 9 - SHANNON BARRY, AMY BROWN, HEATHER CROWLEY, BARBARA MCKINNEY, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, DANA PELLEBON, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, ANGELA KAMOSKE, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO
- Absent** 3 - BETH FREEMAN, SHARYL KATO, and Supervisor MAUREEN McCARVILLE

2. Anti-spyware Project Update

Barry reported an MOU has been drafted and is awaiting approval by UW-Madison officials. Once that process is complete, work will continue to launch the Anti-Spyware Clinic.

3. CCR Updates

Domestic Violence/Sexual Abuse: Pellebon reported the combined CCR is moving ahead with a survivors-oriented group and an implementation group. Surveys are being created in English, Hmong and Spanish to ascertain what survivors want the CCR to focus on most.

Legal Issues: Howe reported minutes are available for the June and August meetings. In August, staff attorneys from the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault and End Abuse Wisconsin provided legal and policy updates about bills under consideration by the state legislature.

Child Sexual Exploitation Subcommittee: Miyasaki reported the group will meet on September 15. Madison Police Det. Shannon Siirila, who works human trafficking cases, will join the group, as will members of the Madison Fire Department's new Community Alternative Response (CARES) Team.

Intellectual Disabilities: Merker reported no meetings were held during the summer due to her maternity leave. At next week's meeting, the group will talk about professionals' tendency to want to intervene when they see clients making a poor decision rather than allowing the individual to make his/her own decisions and allowing them to learn from them.

Elder Abuse: Scarr reported the resiliency of service providers is starting to wane as the COVID-19 pandemic continues and some no longer feel they are delivering their best service to older adults. She plans to focus on how service providers can be helped during the next two months.

Child Abuse and Neglect: No report.

4. Marsy's Law White Paper/Letter Discussion

[2021](#)
[RPT-441](#)

DRAFT LETTER - MARSY'S LAW

Attachments: [Draft letter - Marsy's Law +](#)

Miyasaki shared a draft document to serve as a starting point in the commission's advocacy toward securing funding for the unfunded mandates in Marsy's Law. The next step is forming a subcommittee to inform the full commission how it can best proceed in its lobbying efforts.

Brown stated the District Attorney's Office submitted a letter to the County Executive and will appear at a Dane County Budget meeting this evening to inform how the unfunded Marsy's Law mandates are impacting employees and their delivery of victim services. Efforts will be made again next summer to seek funding in the 2023 State Budget.

District Attorney Ozanne stated that without funding, remaining in compliance with Marsy's Law mandates will be practically impossible for the DA's Office.

Kalpic stated Marsy's Law Wisconsin will work with parties interested in advocating for the funding needed to adequately provide the law's mandated services.

5. Legislative Updates/Announcements

NONE.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting: Tuesday, 19 October 2021, 8:30 a.m. via Zoom

Attendance Update

Pellebon departed the meeting.

Present 8 - SHANNON BARRY, AMY BROWN, HEATHER CROWLEY, BARBARA MCKINNEY, Chair JAN MIYASAKI, KRISTA EWERS-HAYES, ANGELA KAMOSKE, and Supervisor CECELY CASTILLO

Absent 4 - BETH FREEMAN, SHARYL KATO, Supervisor MAUREEN McCARVILLE, and DANA PELLEBON

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

NONE.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

NONE.

I. Adjournment

A motion was made by BROWN, seconded by CROWLEY, to adjourn. The motion carried by a voice vote (8-0).

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Howard Thomas.