

CCA Board Meeting
March 10, 2020

Statutory members: Retired Judge, Joseph H Niemeyer; Hancock County Common Pleas Court, Judge Jonathan P. Starn; Hancock County Common Pleas Court, Reginald J. Routson; Findlay Municipal Court Director of Court Services, Dave Beach; Hancock County Commissioner, Timothy Bechtol; Hancock County Sheriff's Office, Ryan Kidwell; Findlay Police Department Sgt. Dan Harmon; Juvenile/Probate Court Judge Kristen Johnson; Family Resource Center, John Bindas; Hancock County Treasurer, J. Steve Welton; CASA/GAL, Leah Cole; Hancock County Public Defender, Paul Maekask; Hancock County Veteran's Office, Nichole Coleman

Guests: Asst. Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka; Drug Court Coordinator, Brandy Tiell; Hancock County Adult Probation Officer, Chad McClain; Hancock County Probation Officer, Steve Wiechart; Fiscal Manager, Julie Smith; Community Member Carl Etta Capes; A Renewed Mind, Matt Rizzo; Family Resource Center, Derek Puchta; Hancock County Auditor, Charity Rauschenberg

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes:

Judge Routson called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

Judge Routson requested minutes from November 12, 2019 meeting be approved; Judge Johnson requested an amendment to her statements. Minutes shall be corrected. Steve Welton motioned to approve, second by Judge Johnson.

Community Corrections Act Updates:

•**Web Site:** www.co.hancock.oh.us/commonpleas

CCA REPORT

OLD BUSINESS

Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka

- Electronic Monitoring – Committee: if interested in participating, please email Patrick Brzozka. Officer Brzozka stated that he is conducting benchmarking with other Ohio Common Pleas Courts regarding electronic monitoring procedures.

NEW BUSINESS

Assistant Chief Probation Officer, Patrick Brzozka

- State audit on Pretrial and ISP programs has been postponed due to Ohio Governor limiting State employee travel. A new date will be determined.
- Fiscal Quarterly reports – Handout reviewed
- TCAP Grant – Sheriff FY18/19 received \$139,686.87; FY20 - \$60,429.50 (to date)
- Grant Program Activity – Handout reviewed

Adult Probation Staffing updates – Patrick Brzozka

- Hired Brianna Leary in February; Officer Plaughner has resigned; he will be taking a position in Arizona.

Drug Court – Brandy Tiell, Drug Court Coordinator

- Handout reviewed
- Hancock County has a 58% success rate to date; the national rate 50%.

- Both drug court dockets are up for recertification this year; documents have been submitted to the Supreme Court and will schedule site visits sometime over the summer.

Family Resource Center (FRC) – Derek Puchta

- LEAD intro will be held on March 19 at University of Findlay.
- Hired Community Outreach and Diversion Team Leader, Kelly Cleveland, to take Scott Beach's position.
- Nicole Frankart was promoted to Forensic Team Leader at Adult Probation Office.
- Ben Downard hired as a case manager, this makes Probation office Forensic Team fully staffed.
- Preparations for CARP are being made. That will occur March 23 – 25, will I be at jail morning of 24th, Adult Probation department on 23rd. John Bindas stated CARP is their accreditation certification.
- John Bindas stated that FRC submitted a CCBHC grant today. FRC will know outcome in September and then would be awarded October 1st.
- Judge Routson inquired how things are going at FRC. John Bindas replied FRC is billing at 92 – 97%. Agency struggles with billing as many clients have commercial insurance that is complimented by Medicaid. FRC bills commercial insurance company first then bills to Medicaid and this has provided some barriers and delays.

A Renewed Mind (ARM) – Matt Rizzo, CEO

- ARM continues to operate two sets IOP groups.
- Starting an adjunct program with University of Findlay Occupational Therapy students. Will be working with Mom's group to help them interact with their children.
- Also feeling difficulties with reimbursements from insurance and Medicaid billing.
- Mom's program currently has 13 active moms in treatment.
- Peer recovery coaches continue to work with clients.

County Criminal Justice Business

- Systems Process Analysis subcommittee – Judge Routson - Next meeting is to be determined. Subcommittee will try to figure how to divide cases into one court rather than start in Municipal then move to Common Pleas Court. Judge Starn added the committee will be discussing how to deal with the felony and misdemeanor at the initial charging distribution.
- Jail study – Capt. Kidwell – Jail study is continuing to generate information. In December, a master planning workshop was held to assess what the jail is doing and could be doing for operational functions. Company returned in mid-February to finalize findings and gave a snapshot of where the master plan is headed. Will return mid-April to meet with Commissioners and Courts to get more input.
 - Judge Routson inquired what discussions were going on regarding Coronavirus. Capt. Kidwell responded that Coronavirus is a very big topic right now. Sheriff's Office is reviewing information and plan on devising a protocol for jail to follow based on Ohio Jail Advisory Board. Jail has been in contact with the Hancock Public Health and jail health care provider on actions to take.

Juvenile/Probate Court – Judge Johnson

- Currently working on building plans. Probate court had its 2nd involuntary commitment for those addicted to alcohol and other drugs case. This orders individual to an inpatient commitment, if individual is not at that level of care they can be ordered to an outpatient facility. Individual is subject to contempt if they do not comply.
 - Patrick Brzozka inquired if the facilities were private or state run. Judge Johnson responded the family that files the petition has to have a facility in mind. Individual must be approved, accepted, and family must deposit ½ of cost with Probate Court. So far Medicaid has covered both defendants.

Updates regarding Juvenile/Probate court – Commissioner Bechtol

- Architect continues working on building drawings, April 8th will be Downtown Design Review Board to present exterior plan of building, May 14th Planning Commission will be held, in July County will look to obtain Wood Co Building Permit, bid opening slated for August 25th, and construction to start in September.
- Commissioner updates – Goal is to keep Juvenile/Probate Courts intact and unaffected by the move and to keep the church building as a structure that can be updated inside and used as records retention facility for the County.

Findlay Municipal Court Updates – Dave Beach

- Working on software to issue text messages to defendants as reminders of hearings. Will be starting with fines and costs hearings. Currently, civil fillings are up, traffic fillings are down. Also beginning to e-file, starting with civil cases set up and go from there.

Leah Cole, CASA/GAL – No updates

Nichole Coleman, Veteran’s Services – No updates

Dan Harmon, Findlay Police Department – Starting a Veterans Response Team to help veterans in crisis. Then will pursue veteran peer to peer substance abuse, which is a large collaboration with many local agencies. Utilizing University of Cincinnati influencer training (EPICS I) for this project. Also working on a Familiar Faces Team, which is also a collaboration between many local agencies to review cases to focus on that who may need more assistance.

-Matt Smith asked if ARM could be added to the list to offer assistance, Dan Harmon stated yes.

Legislative issues/updates – Judge Routson

- Reagan Tokes Act – Indefinite terms imposed, hope is for behavioral motivations and rehabilitation to occur then defendant can be released on time. Post release control electronic monitoring is still pushing to have a real time EM program. Judge Starn added, the technology does not exist yet, needs to be developed and will likely be very costly.
- Senate Bill 3 – major changes to low level offenses are still in discussion. Judge Starn added that at the end of 2019, House had past Chief’s version, however the Senate had a different version and neither party liked the others version. Senate Bill 3 has stalled for now as there is not a lot of agreement.
- Bail Reform – Factors for setting bail, modified, Supreme Court needs to accept or reject modifications by June 30th. This would have a potential impact on jail populations.

Paul Maekask, Public Defender – No updates

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, June 2, 2020 5:00 pm at Hancock County Courthouse

Meeting adjourned @ 5:50 pm by Judge Routson

Action Items:

- Committee Members who want to participate in Electronic Monitoring Committee please email Patrick Brzozka, ppbrzozka@co.hancock.oh.us