

**Minutes of the February 12, 2025 meeting of the Sawyer County
Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee
of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

1. ☒ Non-voting member - Chair: Monica Isham
2. ☒ Vice Chair: Julia Lyons
3. ☒ Grant Gerber
4. ☒ Andy Albarado
5. ☒ Mike Woller
6. ☐ Tweed Shuman
7. ☒ Doug Mrotek
8. ☒ Bruce Poquette
9. ☐ Katie Belanger
10. ☐ John Yackel
11. ☒ Marc Helwig
12. ☒ Elaine Smith
13. ☒ Marshal Savitski- Virtual
14. ☒ Kathy McCoy
15. ☐ Bill Trepanier

Others Present:

Joyce Knowlton- Virtual
Liz Klein
Chief Sajdera
Sarah Inczauskis
Ron Kinsley
Mary Slisz-Chucka
Jess Bjork
Sarah Inczauskis

Call to Order – Chair Isham called the meeting to order at 12:05 pm.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call was taken. Quorum was met.

Meeting Agenda – Set

Public Comments – None

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: January 8, 2025

Motion to approve made by: Mr. Savitsky Second by: Mr. Shuman

Motion carried without negative vote.

Jail Report -

Lt. Woller provided a written jail report; there were 59 males and 14 females incarcerated. Inmate unemployment rate remains at 71%.

Criminal Justice Coordinator -

Becky Barry presented written reports showing demographics by race, gender and case program by type. 2025 TAD funding is consistent with 2024. The Reaching Rural program has been implemented and a \$100,000 award will be used to hire a Peer Systems Navigator in March. Diversion Peer Systems Navigators will work on pre and post-conviction services. Building Bridges is a multi-disciplinary planning initiative that will allow the county to apply for \$200,000 in funding for a MAT program in the jail. A \$1,000,000 grant will be applied for in March. These grants are competitive and the County has had good success in obtaining them. The jail offers ten programs and staff members have been asked to take on coordinator positions. Community donations are needed for upcoming Sober Events.

Health & Human Services Report

Ms. Knowlton gave a written report and updated the committee. The Peer Recovery program has a 45% sign up rate. Work in progress includes the vaping campaign at the schools. Overdose calls to Law Enforcement have increased but deaths have decreased due to more intervention with Narcan. The statistics have shifted to older and more female overdoses. 30% of students surveyed admitted to using meth in vapes. Sawyer County has a high suicide rate compared to other counties. Fentanyl has become an accepted risk among drug users and xylazine has been detected in the local drug supply.

Youth Justice Update -

Ms. Lyons shared that the county has made an offer to hire a Youth Diversion and Truancy Specialist. The program may be extended to younger children. The funding is still going through. The other piece of the grant that staff will be hired for is Sarona Recovery, the sister program to Justice Point.

Community Services Updates-- None

Outside Committee Reports –

Mr. Shuman reported that LCO has repurposed their shelters to accommodate men and women. The Men's Sober Living Facility and Oakwood Haven Women's Shelter are also available. A new health center is opening in April. Judge Isham spoke on the cooperative effort to reach individuals through Recovery Court and peer support specialists.

Correspondence, reports from conferences and meetings – Ms. Lyons and Judge Smith attended the CJCC Peer Exchange Conference in Denver and will report on it in the March meeting.

Future Agenda Items – Opioid Settlement Budget, Sexual Assault Response Team, Sawyer County-LCO CJCC MOU

Adjournment – 12:48 pm

Next Meeting: March 12, 2025

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: Board Room

Minutes recorded by Liz Klein, County Clerk