CALL TO ORDER
The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 20, 2013 MINUTES OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
MOTION by McHugh/Downer to approve the February 20, 2013 minutes of the Criminal Justice Management Council. MOTION carried unanimously. (Montabon, Gruenke, Witt, Locante, Kruse, Mial, Sua, Xiong excused)

PUBLIC COMMENT
There was no public comment.

Status Reports:

Sheriff – The jail population continues to spike and then drop again. It is a little bit better this week than it has been. Work continues to be done with the CJMC workgroup in an attempt to understand the reasons for the spikes.

Public defender – A study that came out last week shows that Wisconsin pays the lowest rate, out of all states, to attorneys who take public defender appointments.

Public Relations – The CJPR Committee is putting together a procedure to work with local employers, as well as looking into legalities of protection to the employers.

Judges – Working with the sheriff on the same issues of jail population.

County Board – in the March report to the County Board, it was noted that Chapter 51 detentions have been cut in half in 3 years. The County Board would like to thank everyone involved in decreasing these, through the efforts of Human Services and creating the new Care Center, as well as raising awareness to everyone within the system.

DOC – Pat Brown, in the DOC office has retired. They have a person filling in on a limited term basis, and hopefully there will be a smooth transition.

DR. DAVID NORDSTROM – UW-WHITEWATER
Dr. David Nordstrom, professor at UW Whitewater, was present to discuss drug related deaths in Wisconsin. Dr. Nordstrom was part of a team that did a study and wrote a paper regarding drug related deaths. The team did a dedicated report on trends and drug
mortality from 1999-2008. This included all drugs, both illicit and licit, excluding tobacco and alcohol. Between 1999-2008, there were 450,000 residents in Wisconsin who died. Of these, 5,000 deaths were drug related. Over 10 years, drug related deaths increased over 300%; the population increase in Wisconsin was only 6%. The number of deaths is increasing at an abnormal rate. During the 10 years, deaths related to heroin and cocaine doubled in Wisconsin from the first to the last year. Deaths due to prescription opioid pain relievers increased 6-fold.

Death records differ depending on who certified them – whether by a medical examiner or coroner. Many death records lack the name of the drug. In about a quarter of death certificates that say cause of death is drug use – they do not name the drug because the coroner didn’t know what it was.

Findings of study: Male drug related deaths are more common than female drug related deaths. Deaths in blacks and Native Americans occur at twice the rate per capita for their population than deaths in whites. In this study, there were none for Asians in the time frame studied. The level of education in these deaths ranged from no high school diploma to a college degree. They came from counties that were rich or poor or in between. The typical death was a male, age 43 and many were married. Approximately 70% of these 5,000 deaths were certified as accidental or unintentional; approximately 2 in 10 were certified as suicides; 1% were certified as homicides; and 7% were not determined. Of these 5,000 deaths, 79 were in La Crosse County over the 10 year period. A striking difference from the state-wide findings was that there was a high rate of these La Crosse County deaths that were not determined for their intention. In the 79 La Crosse County deaths – 31 were accidents; 19 were suicides; 1 was a homicide; and 28 were undetermined.

Dr. Nordstrom distributed 12 “Promising strategies to address drug poisoning epidemic in states and local areas”. La Crosse County already has some of these in place such as:

- Access to opioid antagonists
- Access to drug treatment
- Access to clean needle distribution
- Relationships with coroners – discussion is underway with Dane County regarding improvements and bringing in a Board Certified Pathologist
- Inappropriate prescription
- Storage and disposal of prescription drugs
- Drug Courts

It was suggested that #13 be added to this list to include how to deal with 911 calls in a drug crisis situation.

The La Crosse County Medical Examiner’s statistics for drugs or heroin overdoses for 2010 was 27 total with two cases related to drugs/alcohol as a combination; but most were related to alcohol. In 2011, there were 3 drug related deaths – in one death the drug wasn’t identified, in 1 death heroin was identified and in 1 death oxycontin was identified as the drug used. In 2012, there were 16 drug related deaths – heroin was identified in 5 of the deaths; 4 were related to prescription drugs; and 7 noted multiple drug use in the rest.
FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
Focus on juvenile justice and discuss next steps related to the Nordstrom presentation.

NEXT MEETING DATE: April 17, 2013

ADJOURN
There being no further business MOTION by Johnson/Harcey to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 a.m. MOTION carried unanimously. (Montabon, Gruenke, Witt, Locante, Kruse, Mial, Sua, Xiong excused)

Approved April 17, 2013 - Recorded by Terri Pavlic