

HB 1183 OC Meeting

June 17, 2021

Members

- Greg Sattizahn
- Terry Dosch
- Betsy Doyle
- Melissa Klemann
- Judge Carmen Means
- Rep. Tim Reed
- Commissioner Cindy Heiberger
- Senator Reynold Nesiba
- Rep. Linda Duba
- Sheriff Mike Milstead
- Shane Penfield

Excused

- Tiffany Wolfgang
- Senator Arthur Rusch
- Dr. Tom Stanage

Guests

- Laura Ringling

Documents

- [Agenda](#)
- [2021 Mental Health Legislation](#)
- [Virtual Crisis Care Update](#)

Opening

Mr. Sattizahn called the meeting to order at 10am. He introduced Melissa Klemann, a policy advisor for the governor, as the newest member to the Council.

Legislative Update

Terry Dosch reviewed relevant legislation from the 2021 session. The bills he discussed can be found on the Boards and Commissions [page](#).

There was some discussion about the legislation related to peer support for first responders. Even though the measures did not pass this year, there were still efforts to move progress in this area forward. Councilmembers thought that there might be more success in the future now that there is a higher sense of awareness for the issue.

Crisis Intervention Coordinator and Training

Chad Mosteller, the training administrator at the Law Enforcement Training Academy introduced Shon Eide to the Council. Mr. Eide is the new crisis intervention coordinator that was outlined in HB 1183. Tessa Mitchell, the previous administrator, resigned in the spring of 2020. Mr. Eide was previously a conservation officer. He discussed the CIT training modules that are being created, of which there are 24. The first 3 modules are completed, and module 4 will be completed in the next few months. Modules 5-10 will be finished in July 2022, and 11-24 will be finished sometime after that. In the meantime, he was coordinating several in-person meetings. Mr. Mosteller added that COVID made

training a bit difficult this past year, but most officers fulfilled their training requirements by completing the “Safe Scenes” training developed by SAMHSA.

Sheriff Milstead responded to Mr. Eide that he was excited to see the online modules roll out. He is currently taking a class online and sees it as a great resource, especially for departments that cannot spare deputies for several days in a row. Senator Nesiba inquired as to whether law enforcement officers are on the clock when they take the training. Sheriff Milstead said it depended on the agency. For example, the Minnehaha Sheriff’s Office must complete it while they are on the clock, but there may be some exempt employees who are just expected to take it as part of their job. The nature of the program allows the user to complete it from virtually anywhere, i.e. waiting for a call for service, out working, etc. There is also a self-auditing feature that does not allow the user to speed through the modules too quickly. The modules just went live this past week, but Sheriff Milstead felt that the supervisors who have taken it so far had positive feedback. Mr. Mosteller added that they would get more feedback as the volume increases. He has no concerns about the quality and content; the company has a good history with prior online training. Mr. Dosch added that, from the providers’ viewpoint, it has a great added benefit. Things click much faster at the local level when law enforcement has been properly trained. Mr. Mosteller said they would continue to be aggressive with the in-person 40 hour classes until the online component was complete.

988 Update

Laura Ringling (DSS) provided an update on 988. Her presentation can be found at this [link](#).

After the presentation, Senator Nesiba said that a lot of time and money had been spent expanding 211 as the statewide number. He was concerned that if there was another number for suicide prevention and mental health, there may be pushback from the legislature. Ms. Ringling explained that 211 is a more expansive hotline. For example, it covers other issues such as housing. 988 is a behavioral crisis response number. 988 is the 911 of the mental health world. She also explained that 988 covers 211—the same individuals are involved with both programs, despite the subtle differences between the numbers.

Appropriate Regional Facilities

Ms. Ringling moved into the second part of her presentation, which covered Appropriate Regional Facilities. After explaining the legislation and the purpose, she informed the council that the next steps in this process will be licensing and accreditation. An RFP was released in January. Lewis and Clark Behavioral Health in Yankton, as well as the Human Services Agency in Watertown, had both responded to the RFP. Additionally, construction on the Pennington county beds would be completed in 2022. Ms. Doyle asked Ms. Ringling if the new facilities would have competency restoration, or be limited to emergency mental illness commitments. Ms. Ringling responded that the designation was specific to the emergency commitment process. CMHCs that provide those types of services could also provide competency restoration on an out-patient basis, although they are not Appropriate Regional Facilities.

Sheriff Milstead added that they are finalizing the details for their medical provider in the jail for competency restoration. COVID-19 provided a delay in the process, but they are back on track to get that project moving in Minnehaha.

VCC Expansion Discussion

Mr. Sattizahn provided an update on the [VCC program and expansion locations](#).

Rep. Duba inquired if the expansion sites would need to undergo additional training. Mr. Sattizahn responded that when a new jurisdiction comes into the program, they receive training on when and how to use the program.

Commissioner Heiberger asked about which department hosted the VCC budget. Mr. Sattizahn explained that it was currently in the UJS budget, but would ideally move to the DSS budget for next year.

Rep. Duba asked Sheriff Milstead if this was something being considered for Minnehaha county. He responded that it might not necessarily be needed in Minnehaha, as the county already has access to resources like The Link and Mobile Crisis Teams.

Senator Nesiba asked how The Link was going after its grand opening. Commissioner Heiberger responded that it was going well. Anecdotally, there are positive outcomes and a lot of public support. Sheriff Milstead added that an extra bonus of The Link is that it has increased communication between the emergency rooms, The Link, and the Jail.

Crisis Response Summit

Mr. Sattizahn informed the Oversight Council members about a crisis response summit that was occurring in Oacoma this summer. It is about building a crisis response continuum in communities. Additionally, there would be a meeting at the end with the Board of Mental Illness Chairs to bring them together and talk about their challenges. Rep. Duba responded that she had attended the previous seminar and found it to be really helpful, especially the breakout sessions.

Other Comments

There were no other comments from the Oversight Council members, nor the public.

Next Steps

Mr. Sattizahn informed the group that the next meeting would occur this fall, unless there was a need for another one in the interim.

Conclusion

The meeting ended at 11:26am.