



**MACCAC
Board of Directors Meeting
AMC Board Room
Friday, January 28, 2005**

Present:

Midge Christianson, 6WCC
Don Ilse, Anoka
Jerry Soma, Anoka
Tom Roy, ARC
Jerry Haley, Blue Earth
Barbara Illsley, Dakota
Tim Cleveland, Dakota
Andy Erickson, DFO
Ron Wiborg, Hennepin
Fred La Fleur, Hennepin
John Tumam MICA
Sally Ruvelson, Ramsey

Jon Ramlo, Rock-Nobles
Mark Sizer, Stearns
Susan Mills, TCC
Katherine Langer, TWCC
Tom Adkins, Washington

Staff:

Scott Simmons, AMC/MACCAC
Cathy Lattu, AMC/MACCAC

Guests:

Joel Alter, OLA
Valerie Bombach, OLA

- I. Meeting Call to Order – Barbara Illsley:** Barb called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.
 - **Agenda items to add:** Evidence Based Practices, Intrastate Transfer, data team update, committee member replacement for Bob Tepfer, and next steps from strategic planning session. The agenda was approved with these five additions.
 - **Announcement:** Training Design & Development Session, Ramsey County, February 14–18. Still open registration if you are interested in attending.
 - **Minutes of November 19, 2004:** Tom Roy moved approval of the November 19, 2004, minutes. Mark Sizer seconded the motion and the motion carried.

- II. Treasurer’s Report – Midge Christianson:** Midge gave an end of the year report for 2004. Midge noted that she added a \$5,000 increase for 2005, in the case that if the projects talked about in strategic planning meeting move forward, there is funding for them.

- III. DOC Report:** No DOC report. Neither Ken Merz nor Harley Nelson was available to meet today. Barb stated that we would try to schedule Deputy Commissioner Harley Nelson for the February meeting to go over the governor’s budget.

- IV. Governor's Commission on Sex Offenders - Update – Jerry Soma:** Jerry gave an overview of the recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Sex Offender Policy and distributed a summary sheet with several recommendations. He noted that there are 30 specific recommendations contained in the report that will be released on Monday, January 31st. Jerry gave a brief review of two minority reports having to do with offender sentencing. Legislative hearings on this report are scheduled for February 2nd. Jerry noted that the Governor's Commission tends to parallel most of the statements made in the Legislative Auditor's report. A discussion ensued regarding how a civil commitment would be supervised should a sexual predator be released by the state into county supervision. The model used in Dakota County was explained.
- V. Office of Legislative Auditor Program Evaluation Report: Community Supervision of Sex Offenders -- Joel Alter, Project Manager:** Joel stated that the report was heard by legislative committees Tuesday in the Senate and in the House on Wednesday. He identified the major elements of the report: nature and types of sex offender supervision; treatment needs; availability of treatment services; and housing of sex offenders. He commented that on the supervision side – practices were generally seen as positive, but not consistent and lacking in resources. ISR supervision was consistent with state policy but reflects high caseloads. In the area of policies and practices, sex offender policy needs more agreement and coordination about good practice; which is similar to the Governor's Commission conclusion.

Joel also commented on the following areas:

Treatment: Providers are available in several, but not all, areas of the state. Weaknesses on the treatment side – no regulation of out patient sex offender treatment program despite general satisfaction with out patient programs.

Availability of treatment: A lot of concern about the lack of treatment in prison, and a lack of participation when out of prison. The report suggests that DOC come back with suggestions for increasing participation in programs. State should be doing more to assist with treatment costs.

Assessments: Availability of programs is at issue. In some parts of the state, state-required assessments are not currently being done. A 2001 statute requiring that repeat offenders be sent to St. Peter is not consistently done. There is a need to address program funding. The transport adds a lot to local expense.

Housing: This is a big problem area for the department and local agencies. Funding for halfway houses has declined. In 2003, 80% of beds in halfway houses were being used for sex offenders.

Funding Issues: Recommendations regarding cases where sex offenders are authorized to live in houses with children. The OLA report is suggesting that child protection should at least be informed. Law should require notification to child protection agencies.

Placements in care facilities: Same conclusion as Governor's – when an offender is placed in facility, an agent should be notified, even temporarily in hospital. Offenders should also be required to disclose that they are sex offenders.

Legislative Committee Report – Tom Adkins, Ron Wiborg: Tom reviewed the governor’s budget for the Corrections Department noting new spending items in four categories. He answered questions on issues and the process of the budget.

A. Sex Offender Enforcement :

\$ 330,000	Civil commitment review and referral restructuring
\$ 190,000	Revocation hearing completion; evaluation and placement
\$1,800,000	Statewide ISR services; 1/3—2/3 split between DOC and CCA
\$ 162,000	GPS monitoring for DOC ISRs
\$1,370,000	Housing option improvements
\$ 70,000	Tracking of SOs

B. Sex Offender Treatment:

\$ 350,000	Assessment reimbursement grants to counties
\$1,250,000	Increased treatment for SOs on supervised release; polygraphs
\$1,500,000	Treatment and transitional services; discharge planning

C. Health Services:

\$4,420,00 Supplement and offset base deficit; DOC prison inmates only

D. Sex Offender and Meth Sentencing:

\$1,500,000	2006 (placeholder)	\$3,300,000	2007 (placeholder)
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Funds directed to Trial Courts and Board of Public Defense (more cases/longer trials), and DOC (more beds). “The governor recommends significant changes in the sentencing of sex and methamphetamine offenders as part of his plan to make Minnesotans safer.” The SO Commission report is due out Monday and budget change items will follow.

E. Noted absences from the budget includes funding for the following:

- STO reimbursement increase (assumes \$1.2m floor)
- General caseload reduction funding
- CCA/CPO subsidy increase
- Inmate health funding
- .08/DWI shortfall funding

Tom also reported on juvenile out of home placements in delinquency proceedings. He stated that there was a long discussion regarding who bears the financial responsibility for placements and the conflicting statutes governing the issue. Tom asked that each director go back and talk to their social service director about using local judges in these cases. Tom noted that Minnesota Association of County Social Service Administrators (MACSSA) has no position on this issue at this time. A discussion ensued.

Ron added that there are several sex offender supervision bills now being introduced that the legislative committee members will be following. Ron also reported on bills regarding health care for offenders in jails. He raised the question of whether MACCAC should approach AMC about changing statutes so that counties pay no more than the medical assistance rate as is the case in Anoka. Members agreed that this is a situation that needs to be addressed as health care costs for inmates are rapidly rising, but did not arrive at a consensus position to request AMC to take action.

Tom Adkins reviewed recommendations of the Legislative Auditor's Evaluation Report on Community Supervision of Sex Offenders and provided a draft document supporting the recommendations with a few exceptions. After much input and discussion, Tom and Ron stated that they would take the comments on the table and wordsmith the document and get it out to members for review.

VI. Conference Committee Report – Mark Sizer: Mark reported that the committee met yesterday and had a conference call on the 21st. The annual conference will have an evidence-based practice thread with target of sex offender. It will also tie into the AMC futures project. Kathy Langer suggested that this might be an opportune time to report on standards or best practices that agencies have done. The following people are on the conference committee: Sally, Ron, Kitty, Fred, Al, Jerry, Mark, Susan, Barb, and Kathy. There was a discussion regarding a vendor to do the conference and Mark asked for a motion to open discussion on this. There was no motion. Mark stated that the committee would then move forward with the Board vote from November to pursue a vendor. The 2005 Grand View term sheet was provided and the contract will be signed today. Susan made a motion to move forward with the contract including a thirty-day hold on the block of rooms. Sally seconded the motion and motion carried.

VII. Public Relations Committee Report – Midge Christianson, Andy Erickson: Andy asked for input and comments on the new publicity brochure. A legislative priorities fact sheet is now also available using a consistent design. Andy suggested that at times, other fliers could be made up to insert into the publicity brochure. The group discussed and consented to mailing copies of the brochure to all members of the legislature. Andy asked for further ideas for inserts. The brochures are also to be made available on the MACCAC web site.

VIII. Updates

- **Evidence Based Practices Committee:** Don Isle reported that the current goal is to bring all practices under an umbrella. He stated that there is a need for research or training, which this group will support. Their goal is to establish a separate group from the network on sex offender training issues.
- **Intrastate Transfer Policy:** The group reviewed a draft intrastate case transfer policy and Tom Adkins put forth a motion to approve and support the official guideline document. Midge seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Data definition team:** Mark Sizer reported that they completed the report in December 2004. The report has not been officially released as it is being tweaked at this time.
- **Motion for new Intrastate Representative from MACCAC:** Tom Roy volunteered to be the official MACCAC representative. Andy made a motion to approve Tom Roy for the new Intrastate Representative. Ron seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Strategic Planning Session:** A session for directors took place on January 19. Jan Smaby was the facilitator. The Executive Committee approved her fee of \$600. Barb stated that volunteers are needed before the next meeting to draft an action plan. Volunteers were recruited as follows: Barb, (Tom Roy will contact NIC) Jerry, Ron, Don, and Tom. A summary of the session will be available at the next strategic meeting.

- **APPA Conference in LA:** Tom Adkins will be attending this conference. Mark Sizer suggested doing some research on ICCA conference, as Jerry Haley might like to attend as the MACCAC president-elect.
- **AMC Public Safety Committee – Ron Wiborg:** This AMC group has not met since prior to the AMC conference. Scott indicated that it would most likely not meet any more than regular AMC standing committees (three times each year).
- **CSTS – Tim Cleveland:** Roll out has gone smoothly and training sessions went well. Tim noted that there are still a few problems with the system. The connection between COMS and CSTS has been completed with the CRIMNET grant received. The Design Committee has identified primary enhancements and voted to have CSTS go ahead with enhancements. Tom Roy stated that their agency has had a few problems with employees checking on family and friends. There is no policy in place to discourage this, and this needs to be addressed.

IX. Other Items: Scott distributed the latest local jail facility population statistics for 2004 compiled by the Department of Corrections.

X. Adjournment: There being no further business, with the consensus of the Board, the meeting was adjourned the meeting at 11:50a.m.