

Treatment Oversight Committee Meeting
11/7/2023 Minutes

In-person Appearances – Judge Patricia Baker, Cass Cousins, Kasie Borchardt, Taylor Soule, Rob Golla, Zach Bishop, Andrea Starr, John Pavelski, and Judge Louis Molepske.

Virtual Appearances – Jamie Kiener

Judge Baker called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m. in Branch III Courtroom

1. Approval of the Minutes from October 24, 2023, Meeting

Baker asked for comments or edits related to the 10/24/2023 minutes, and hearing none, declared the minutes approved by consensus.

2. Changes to Treatment Court Procedures

Baker gave a quick overview of why the Stevens Point Police Department, Sheriff's Office, and the District Attorney's Office withdrew from Treatment Court.

One of the concerns that was brought up by Law Enforcement was the lack of accountability in sanctions, specifically jail sanctions. In the current model, the DOC is the only entity that can impose a jail sanction and revoke a participant that is terminated from the program.

The following are changes recommended to the Treatment Court policy and procedure manual.

- Removing the names of the individuals that were on the original Treatment Court work group. (p.5)
- Pre-plea Treatment Court: The participant pleas to a felony and is placed on a DEJ and on misdemeanor probation.
- Eligibility Criteria (p.7) – Delete the line of the mandatory minimum potential prison or jail sentence with a minimum of 18 months' probation.
- Treatment Team Voting (p. 8) – Remove voting. If someone is eligible, they should be allowed to participate in Treatment Court. The District Attorney's Office would determine if someone would be approved for a DEJ/misdemeanor probation.
- Referral Process (p.8) - Discussed how to "flag" an early referral to Treatment Court through either the pretrial screener, jail screener, or the District Attorney's Office. It is agreed that more people need to be assessed to allow for more people to be in the program. Step 1 on page 8 needs to continue to be worked on.
- Step 9 on page 9-10 – The District Attorney will look over and write verbiage on plea and sentencing.

3. Next Meeting December 12, 2023

4. Adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Starr
Justice Programs Director/Recording Secretary