

MINUTES
Treatment Court Oversight Committee
February 7, 2022

Members Present In-Person: Judge Patricia Baker, Rob Golla, Josh Ostrowski, Rebecca Haddon (intern), Louis Molepske, Jr. (attended last five minutes)

Members Present Virtually: David Ray, Kim Vagueiro, Kasie Borchardt, Jennifer Jossie

Staff Present: Andrea Behnke (in-person) Justice Programs Department

Behnke called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm in Branch III Courtroom.

1. Approval of the Minutes from the November 1, 2021, Meeting

Behnke asked for comments or edits related to the November 1, 2021, minutes and hearing none, declared the minutes approved by consensus.

2. Treatment Court Stats for 2021

Behnke provided the following Treatment Court (TC) stats for 2021 (totals):

- 7 individuals found ineligible (4 due to violent offenses / 1 due to delivery and/or manufacturing charges / 1 Law Enforcement Denial / 1 District Attorney rescinded plea agreement)
- 4 individuals terminated from the program
- 5 individuals graduated from the program
- 1 individual had an administrative discharge

2022 current stats:

- 7 current participants
- 3 currently individuals referred and under review
- 1 individual had an administrative discharge

Judge Baker indicated that TC had a participant overdose two weeks ago. A crisis policy was followed and the participants received a crisis debriefing the same day.

3. TAD Grant Approved for 2022

Behnke indicated that the TAD grant was approved for 2022. The original amount requested was denied. The amount included funding for a part-time peer support specialist which had to be eliminated from the request and then the budget was ultimately approved by the TAD grant. Borchardt asked if a peer support specialist will be used in the future. Behnke explained that TC has reached out to Three Bridges in the past for two separate clients and Three Bridges did not respond or have a peer support specialist available in the Stevens Point area. Behnke wanted to fund a peer support specialist to ensure that one would be assigned to TC rather than on a voluntary basis, but the funding was not approved.

4. Move Treatment Court Day

Behnke informed the Committee that Judge Baker is considering moving the Treatment Court day to Tuesday's, but will need to meet with the Treatment Team and others prior to making the decision.

6. Immediate Termination Language Change (Handout in meeting file)

Behnke informed the Committee that originally when TC was created, the DOC would revoke any participant that was terminated from the program. Due to policy changes within the DOC, not all participants will be revoked even if they are terminated from TC. It is recommended that the termination language Participant Handbook reflect that. The Committee had no objection to the change.

7. Change in Participant Contract

In the last year, a few participants have used Kratom. It is recommended that the Participant Contract be changed to add Kratom and other all natural, homeopathic substances. Additionally, it is recommended that

the contract add that a Medication Agreement be signed by the participant. All changes were approved by the Committee.

8. Future Considerations

The TAD staff with the State of Wisconsin has released a "Best Practices for Record-Keeping, Confidentiality & Ex Parte Information" document to assist Treatment Court to develop policies around those topics. Behnke will read through the document and determine if Portage County Treatment Court policies align with the best practices document or will the policies need to be changed.

Behnke will be meeting with the TAD staff to discuss a possible Phase 5 "step down" for participants as participants struggle with not having intensive supervision when they graduate from Treatment Court. Rob Golla asked if the Alumni Group would be considered as a support for graduates. Behnke indicated yes; however, the alumni group is not active at this time.

Behnke has reached out to UW-Extension Nutritionist asking if she would provide a short curriculum to participants in early recovery and she has agreed. This is in the early stages of planning and more information will be available at the next meeting.

9. Next Meeting Date is Scheduled for May 2, 2022

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Andrea Starr
Justice Programs Director