Sex Offender Civil Commitment Advisory Task Force
Thursday, November 29, 2012
9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon
State Office Building, Room 200

Agenda:
1. Welcome (overview and housekeeping items)
2. Review of further recommendations submitted by task force members
3. Review of chairs’ “Discussion Draft” (chair and vice chair recommendations)
4. Discussion among task force members
5. Vote by task force of first set of recommendations
6. Discussions of next steps
7. Public comments

Task Force Attendance:
Hon. Eric J. Magnuson (Chair)  Comm. Tom Roy (ex officio)
Hon. James M. Rosenbaum (Vice Chair)  Comm. Nancy Schouweiler
Rep. Jim Abeler  Dr. Michael D. Thompson (ex officio)
James D. Franklin (ex officio)  Hon. Paul A. Nelson
Hon. Kathleen R. Gearin  Roberta Opheim
Gerald T. Kaplan  Donna Dunn
Sen. Tony Lourey  Fred Friedman (ex officio)
Ryan B. Magnus  Chief John Harrington (ex officio)
Kelly Mitchell (ex officio)  Dean Eric Janus
County Atty. Mark A. Ostrem  Sen. Warren Limmer
Rep. Tina Liebling

Meeting Minutes:
(This is a general summary of the Task Force meeting and is not intended to be a detailed transcription.)

Chair Magnuson made introductory remarks and addressed a number of housekeeping items. He commented on the Discussion Draft. Chair Magnuson suggested meeting every three weeks for the following year to conclude the rest of the work within a year.

Other task force members who commented and/or asked questions included Sen. Lourey, Rep. Liebling, Judge Gearin, Roberta Opheim, Vice Chair Rosenbaum, Gerald Kaplan, Ryan Magnus, Mark Ostrem, Rep. Abeler, and Judge Nelson.

Chair Magnuson gave a brief overview of the two drafts. One is proposed legislative language; the other is a conceptual draft. Other members speaking included Comm. Roy, Sen. Lourey, Rep. Abeler, and James Franklin.

There was a short break for Task Force Members to review the draft (10:05 – 10:20)
Chair Magnuson made comments on a broad overview regarding the draft. Other members speaking included Dean Janus, Ryan Magnus, and Roberta Opheim.

Chair Magnuson opened up discussion of details of the draft. Members making comments included Comm. Roy, Sen. Lourey, Vice Chair Rosenbaum, Roberta Opheim, Ryan Magnus, Rep. Liebling, James Franklin, County Atty. Mark Ostrem, Dean Janus, Rep. Abeler, Dr. Michael Thompson, Judge Gearin, Fred Friedman, Gerald Kaplan, Donna Dunn

Chair Magnuson noted that the Task Force reached consensus with the draft. The revised draft and cover letter will be made available to Task Force members as soon as possible and will go to the commissioner and courts on Monday, December 3rd. The Task Force will hold two meetings in January and one meeting in February. The Task Force Liaison, Don Jorovsky, will follow up with proposed dates for these future meetings. The goal is to complete parts two and three of the Task Force’s work by December 1, 2013. Rep. Abeler suggested that members gather ideas and review/work on them over the holidays. Chair Magnuson said to submit ideas to Don Jorovsky. Rep. Liebling thanked the task force.

Public Comments:

Carol DeOtis – Stated that a list of LRAs currently available should be made available to Task Force members. Suggested presenting the profiles of some of the less-violent clients who are committed.

Philip Bauck – Expressed concern that task force members would be self-serving for their different areas. Stated there are people at MSOP who should not be there. Stated that the Task Force needs to consider how they can help that population.

Alice Richter – Read a letter from her brother who is civilly committed to MSOP. The letter told the story of his commitment history.

Russ Lovaasen – Commented on the work that was done at the meeting today. Stated there should be funding incentives to keep the offender in the community. Expressed concern about transportation options.

Jeff Olson – Expressed concern for the detachment task force members have demonstrated for the issues. Expressed concern for victims and those in the program. Discussed specific points in the proposal.

Tom Evenstad – Recommended amending law on sexually dangerous persons, changing the Department of Corrections’ referral process, and shifting the burden of proof for commitment. Task Force members can email him with questions at tom.evenstad@live.com.

Tammy Annen – Said there should be a re-evaluation of the clients in the program to see whether or not they still meet the requirements for civil commitment.

Meeting Concluded @ 11:55 AM.