

**MINUTES
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING – ROOM 112
9:00 A.M.**

Board Members Present: Deb Schorr, Chair; Sean Flowerday; Rick Vest; and Christa Yoakum

Board Member Absent: Roma Amundson

Others Present: Dave Derbin Chief Administrative Officer; Ann Ames, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer; Brad Johnson, Corrections Director; Leslie Brestel, County Clerk's Office

Advanced public notice of the meeting was posted on the County-City Building bulletin board, and the Lancaster County, Nebraska, website and emailed to media on February 17, 2021 and published in the Lincoln Journal Star print edition and website on February 15, 2021.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the wall at the back of the meeting room.

AGENDA ITEM

I. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 1, 2020

MOTION: Flowerday moved and Yoakum seconded approval of the December 1, 2020 meeting minutes. Vest, Yoakum, Flowerday, and Schorr voted yes. Amundson was absent. Motion carried 4-0.

II. POPULATION STATISTICS & CHARTS

Johnson reviewed a PowerPoint presentation that covered various aspects of the Corrections Department (see agenda packet).

a. Population Comparisons

Johnson said the pandemic has reduced the jail's population by almost 10%.

Vest asked Johnson what differences are made in the operation of the facility due to a lower inmate population. Johnson answered during the pandemic the lower the number of incarcerated individuals, the staff is better able to maintain cohort groups to keep from introducing the COVID-19 virus into the general population. Once the population levels are at 570 and above, there are issues with maintaining those cohort groups in a safely distanced manner. When the population level was in the 400s, he said there were changes to the staffing levels. He added the lower incarcerations allow for greater distancing in housing, and lead to lower tension and anxiety levels, fewer disciplinary issues, and fewer hospitalizations. It also gives staff an opportunity to serve the individuals within their care a little better.

b. Booking and Lodging Totals

See agenda packet for more information.

c. Pre-Trial and Sentence Conversion Release

Schorr exited the meeting at 9:13 a.m.

d. Custodial Sanctions/County Reinvestment Act

Johnson stated he felt the lower custodial sanction rates were due to COVID-19.

e. Regional Center Waiting Periods

See agenda packet for more information.

f. Community Hospital Posts

Johnson noted the number of hospitalizations was very low compared to average hospitalizations.

OTHER BUSINESS

Johnson said he and Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director, are working with staff on transition planning with individuals within the jail.

Johnson said he would like to hire a consultant to look at racial and gender inequalities of individuals within the jail to have a scientific, data-driven analysis of the affected individuals. Grant opportunities to fund a consultant are being researched.

COVID-19 vaccines will be available to the jail staff next week.

- g. Felonies Sentenced to Lancaster County**
- h. Drug Court Remand**
- i. Violation of House Arrest**
- j. CY20 Statistics Report**

See agenda packet for more information on Items IIg-j.

- III. PROGRAMMING**
- IV. TRANSPORTATION**
- V. WORK CREWS**
- VI. TRAINING**

See agenda packet for more information on Items III-VI.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further busienss the meeting adjourned at 9:26 a.m.

Dan Nolte

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

