

MINUTES
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING – ROOM 112
9:00 A.M.

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

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 May 12, 2021 and published in the Lincoln Journal Star print edition and website on May 10, 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 FEBRUARY 18, 2021

MOTION: Vest moved and Flowerday seconded approval of the February 18, 2021 meeting minutes. Amundson, Vest, Yoakum, Flowerday, and Schorr voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.

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 8.6%. The jail is at approximately 84% of the department's operational capacity.

b. Booking and Lodging Totals

See agenda packet for more information. Johnson noted pretrial felonies are 57% of the jail's total population.

c. Pre-Trial and Sentence Conversion Release

Johnson said the lower percentage numbers of bookings and lodgings are due to fewer individuals in the jail. Additionally, lower releases were due to the smaller jail population.

d. Custodial Sanctions/County Reinvestment Act

Flowerday inquired if individuals are being sent back for the remainder of their sentences or for the full sentence. Johnson will research this question for the next Board of Corrections meeting in August. He noted there are less people with Felony IV convictions receiving Post Release Supervision (PRS), so the jail numbers should decrease. Due to the timing of sentences, it will take some time for the jail to see the lower numbers that Adult Probation is seeing.

e. Regional Center Waiting Periods

Johnson stated Community Corrections is assisting individuals who are coming out of competency restoration with finding housing and treatment program options. He also reminded the Board there has been legislation passed that allows for the outpatient restoration of competency by service providers, which could reduce the number of individuals waiting for the Regional Center.

It was the consensus of the Board to introduce a legislative bill that would charge the State a per diem for individuals in the County's custody who have been sentenced to competency restoration but are still waiting in jail to enter the Regional Center.

f. Community Hospital Posts

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

- g. Felonies Sentenced to Lancaster County**
- h. Drug Court Remand**
- i. Violation of House Arrest**
- j. FY21 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.

OTHER

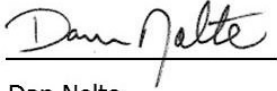
Jennifer Summers, licensed mental health dependent inpracticianer, introduced herself and said she specializes in alcohol and drug addiction therapy. She conducts programs with women in the jail pertaining to drug and alcohol abuse. At this point there are 12 women in the program who were selected through a screening process. She is also utilizing Community Corrections staff for peer case management and identifying special needs prior to the participants being released. She would like to see this program expanded to the males also, although, that would require additional staffing.

Johnson said the program's statistics will be reported to the Board when they are available.

Kim Etherton, Community Corrections Director, added the judges are trending to putting individuals in pretrial release if they can be in treatment. There is a large demand on treatment services so having individuals participate in treatment while in custody will help them get out on bonds sooner.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Vest moved and Yoakum seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 a.m. Amundson, Flowerday, Vest, Yoakum and Schorr voted yes. Motion carried 5-0.



Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk

