

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY-CITY OF LINCOLN JUSTICE COUNCIL
FRIDAY, AUGUST 5, 2022, 7:30 A.M.
605 S. 10TH ST. ROOM #137A TRAINING ROOM

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 August 2, 2022, and published in the Lincoln Journal Star print edition and website on August 1, 2022.

A copy of the Nebraska Open Meeting Act was available on the wall at the back of the room.

PRESENT: Rick Vest and Deb Schorr, County Commissioners; Ken Prey, Jail Administrator; Landon Parks, Assistant Director of Community Corrections; Jeff Curry, Chief Probation Officer, Adult Probation; Hassan Ramzah, UNL Chief of Police; Ben Houchin, Chief Deputy Sheriff; John Vik, Captain, Sheriff's Office; Bennie Shobe, City Council member; Jessica Kerkhofs, Chief Assistant City Attorney; Spike Eickholt, Government Liaison, American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU); Gregg Harre, Youth Services Center Administrator; Pat Condon, County Attorney; Amanda Phillips, District Court; Topher Hansen, CEO CenterPointe; Amy Prenda, Deputy Administrator for Court Services, Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation; Jared Callahan, Web Design and Communications Coordinator, Nebraska State Court Administrator's Office; Scott Etherton, Mental Health Crisis Center Director; and Leslie Brestel, County Clerk's Office

Commissioner Schorr opened the meeting at 7:32 a.m. Copies of meeting materials were made available. Introductions were made by meeting attendees.

AGENDA ITEM

1) APPROVAL OF JUSTICE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MAY 6, 2022

MOTION: Vest moved and Shobe seconded approval of the May 6, 2022 meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

2) COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS UPDATE – Landon Parks, Community Corrections Deputy Director

A. DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Parks reviewed a PowerPoint presentation (Exhibit 1).

B. GOV2GO PILOT PROGRAM UPDATE

Amy Prenda, Deputy Administrator for Court Services, Administrative Office of the Courts and Probation, announced the program has launched statewide and promotional materials are available for law enforcement, jails and the courts. There will be data collected on the program after the first six months. Jared Callahan, Web Design and Communications Coordinator, Nebraska State Court Administrator's Office, added law enforcement's e-citations are programmed to automatically print out

information about the Gov2Go program. The intent of the program is to instill confidence in and general information about court proceedings and consequences. Once the first court appearance has been made, the individual's information will be entered into the Justice system for further communications and notifications.

Schorr asked what happens if the six-month evaluation finds the program is not working. Callahan answered access to the program will still exist as there are no costs associated with the program outside of promotional materials.

3) CORRECTIONS UPDATE – Ken Prey, Lancaster County Jail Administrator

A. Population Statistics and Charts

Prey reviewed the presentation (see agenda packet). He noted that the wait time for individuals to be admitted to the Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) is now 44 days. There are currently 18 individuals in the jail waiting to go to the LRC. The reduction in the wait time has been attributed to both a lawsuit filed in Sarpy County and the \$100 per diem rate paid by the State for individuals waiting to go to the LRC more than 30 days post commitment. The jail and LRC staff are working together on treatment plans for individuals in jail who are waiting to go to the LRC. Due to these efforts, five individuals have been stabilized in the jail and can be removed from the LRC waiting list. Additionally, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is working on a contract with OMNI Behavioral Health to continue treatment in the jail.

4) TRABERT HALL UPDATE – Topher Hansen, President and Chief Executive Officer, Centerpointe

Hansen showed a video of the new building (see agenda packet). He noted they are trying to help with the mental health aspects and keeping individuals out of the corrections system. The two largest hurdles individuals face are smoking cessation and borderline personality disorders.

5) ABLE TRAINING – Ben Houchin, Chief Deputy, and John Vik, Captain, Lancaster County Sheriff's Office

Houchin and Vik presented information on Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (see agenda packet). Vik stated the Sheriff's Office is ABLE accredited and they are looking at getting the training added into the Law Enforcement Training Academy.

Ramzah added UNL also has ABLE certified individuals.

6) AGENCY AND ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

- A. Courts**
- B. City Attorney**
- C. County Attorney**
- D. Public Defender**

No reports given.

E. Law Enforcement

Houchin reported he recently toured a training facility in Austin, Texas.

F. Probation

G. Service Providers

H. Other Community Partners

No reports given.

7) NEXT MEETING – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2022

Informational only.

8) ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 a.m.

Submitted by Leslie Brestel, County Clerk's Office