

**MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF CORRECTIONS
QUARTERLY MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
ROOM 113
THURSDAY, MAY 17, 2001
10 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Bernie Heier, Chair
Kathy Campbell
Larry Hudkins
Linda Steinman
Bob Workman

Others Present: Mike Thurber, Corrections Director
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Bruce Medcalf, County Clerk
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

Heier opened the Board of Corrections meeting.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 1, 2001 BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Workman seconded approval of the minutes. Hudkins, Workman, Steinman, Campbell and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

2 POPULATION STATISTICS

A. Population Comments

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, reported a slight decrease in population from the fourth quarter of 2001. He noted a 20% increase in book-ins and a 32% increase in lodging for the same period. Thurber reported an average daily jail population of 238 which he said is one over the stated capacity.

Thurber estimated that the County will receive \$1 million in revenues as a result of state reimbursement to counties for housing individuals that are ultimately sentenced to the State.

B. Population Graphs

See agenda packet.

C. Monthly Statistical Reports

See agenda packet.

3 HIV/AIDS AWARENESS PROGRAM

Thurber said the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department has received grant funding to provide HIV/AIDS Awareness Programs and has targeted the jail and the Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) at Airpark as potential sites for education and awareness programs. He noted that the targeted population for the program is injected drug users.

4 NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Thurber disseminated copies of *Lancaster County Nebraska Data Analysis Report*, *Lancaster County Incarceration Practices* prepared by Voorhis/Robertson Justice Services, Inc. (Exhibit A). He said 30 percent of the annual jail population is comprised of individuals that have been booked in on warrants. He said Voorhis/Robertson Justice Services, Inc. has identified this as an issue that has to be dealt with if the County wants to keep population numbers down and has said the current cash bonding system is ineffective.

Thurber said a preliminary outcome statement has been designed and will be discussed further with the stakeholders at meetings in the Justice and Law Enforcement Center on May 22 and June 5, 2001.

Thurber said the consultant has also suggested that a Needs Assessment Committee subgroup visit pre-trial services programs in Tucson, Arizona and Prince George's County, Washington D.C. He said the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) has funds available to send three individuals for each site visit. Thurber said Commissioner Heier; Gary Lacey, County Attorney; Dennis Keefe, Public Defender; County Court Judge Gale Pokorny; and County Court Judge Laurie Yardley have indicated a willingness to attend. District Court Judge Bernard McGinn, or his representative, will also attend.

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Campbell seconded to authorize Commissioner Heier, as Board of Corrections Chair, to sign the application for National Institute of Corrections (NIC) funding. Hudkins, Campbell, Steinman, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board requested that the grant funds be used to fund attendance by two County Board Commissioners. Justice Funds will be used to cover the remaining costs.

5 PROPOSED TESTING PROGRAM

Thurber said an item has been included in the budget to initiate urinalysis testing at the Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) for individuals on work release.

6 NEW BUSINESS

A. Ground Loup/Heating, Ventilation & Air Conditioning Update

Thurber reported that he and Don Killeen, County Property Manager, met again with representatives of Lincoln Electric System (LES) to discuss a ground loup system for the Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) at Airpark. The item is also scheduled for discussion at District Energy.

B. Inmate Work Assignments

Thurber said work crews will be available from mid-June through September to pick up trash on county roads.

Heier said Bob Jacobs, County Engineer Road Maintenance Division Head, does not want to accept the offer of the work crews, as he lacks sufficient trucks.

The Board asked that Thurber and Don Thomas, County Engineer, be scheduled for further discussion.

7 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Steinman moved and Hudkins seconded adjournment. Steinman, Hudkins, Campbell, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

Bruce Medcalf
Lancaster County Clerk