

**MINUTES
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS
QUARTERLY MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2007
11:15 A.M.**

Commissioners Present: Bernie Heier, Chair
Bob Workman, Vice Chair
Larry Hudkins
Ray Stevens
Deb Schorr

Others Present: Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 11:51 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2007

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the Board of Corrections Meeting minutes dated August 23, 2007. Hudkins, Heier, Workman, Stevens and Schorr voted aye. Motion carried.

2 POPULATION STATISTICS

A. Population Comments

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, said this is the second quarter in a row in which there has been over a 10% increase in population. He also reported a small decrease in bookings this quarter.

B. Population Graphs

See agenda packet.

C. Monthly Statistical Report

See agenda packet.

3 DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Training

Thurber reported on orientation training for new officers.

Thurber said there is a new Good News Jail and Prison Ministries Chaplain and said an introduction will be scheduled.

B. Mental Health Jail Diversion Project

Thurber said the Mental Health Jail Diversion Project continues to run at capacity. He said clients are showing less recidivism and less utilization of services at the Crisis Center and hospital emergency rooms.

Schorr asked whether it would be beneficial to hire another case worker.

Thurber said it would be worth consideration if it stays at capacity.

C. Platte/Butler County Housing

Thurber said 48 inmates were housed at the Platte County Detention Facility and 10 at the Butler County Detention Facility this quarter, due to overcrowding. He noted that the County recently signed a contract with York County and said five inmates are currently housed in their facility. He said he hopes to increase that number. The department is currently authorized to house up to 70 inmates out-of-county.

D. Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF)/Road Crew Projects

Thurber reported on in-house and road crew projects.

4 NEW BUSINESS

A. Out-of-County Beds

Thurber said he is still working to secure contracts with Saline and Douglas Counties. He indicated the need for additional beds and requested authorization to contract for an additional 40 out-of-county beds.

Hudkins said he believes the Douglas County's contract costs are too high and encouraged Thurber to utilize the other facilities.

Schorr noted that Douglas County is willing to accept more difficult inmates.

MOTION: Schorr moved and Stevens seconded to authorize the Corrections Director to house up to 90 inmates at out-of-county facilities. Schorr, Stevens, Workman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Heier noted that the Requests for Proposals (RFP's) for jail design are scheduled to be reviewed on November 15th.

Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer, reported receipt of a legal opinion that states Lancaster County cannot utilize private jails.

5 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Stevens moved and Schorr seconded to adjourn the meeting at 12:08 p.m. Schorr, Stevens, Workman, Heier and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk