

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2009  
9:00 A.M.**

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

Others Present: Mike Thurber, Corrections Director  
Terry Weber, Facility Administrator, Corrections  
Department  
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Dan Nolte, County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Chair opened the meeting at 9:04 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 APPROVAL OF BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MINUTES OF  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2008**

**MOTION:** Stevens moved and Workman seconded approval of the Board of Corrections Meeting minutes dated November 13, 2008. Hudkins, Schorr, Stevens, Workman and Heier voted aye. Motion carried.

**2 POPULATION STATISTICS**

A. Population Comments

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, reported a 3.8 decrease in the average daily population the final quarter of 2008, compared to 2007. He said there has been a 22% increase in bookings and a 16% increase in monthly lodgings for the same period. Out-of-county holds have decreased 42%. Platte County has capped housing at 27 individuals, per day. Thurber said the department is currently in negotiations with Hall County and is looking at Saunders County's new facility, as well.

## B. Population Graphs

See agenda packet.

## C. Monthly Statistical Report

See agenda packet.

# 3 DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

## A. Training

Thurber said in-service training was conducted for all uniform staff on procedures for passing medications.

## B. Mental Health Jail Diversion Program

Thurber said the Mental Health Jail Diversion Program is currently serving 41 individuals. He said 17 individuals were accepted this quarter, 6 were terminated and 3 cases were successfully closed.

## C. Out-of-County Housing

Thurber said the department continues to house inmates in Butler, Platte and York Counties, due to overcrowding. He said Platte County housed an average population of 27.7 this quarter. Butler County's average this quarter was 15.0 and York County's average for the same period was 4.3.

## D. Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF)/Work Crew Projects

Thurber said work crew projects include miscellaneous facility and lawn care at the Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF), repair work in the Intake & Detention Facility (IDF) kitchen area, assisting the Election Commissioner during the November election and moving furniture for the Health Department and County Extension Office.

In response to a question from Schorr, Thurber said work crews are also assisting the Lincoln City Libraries by moving book collections.

## E. Programs Division

Thurber said an average of 4 inmates were placed into Emergency Protective Custody (EPC) per month and moved to the Crisis Center or Lincoln Regional Center (LRC).

Thurber said Good News Jail and Prison Ministries has ceased travel, due to financial issues, and reduced the chaplain's salary.

#### **4 NEW BUSINESS**

Brad Johnson, Transition Coordinator, appeared and discussed the jail design/planning. He said he has presented information on the proposed design to correctional staff and solicited their suggestions and comments.

#### **5 OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **A. Introduction of Brian Hansen, Correctional Officer**

Thurber introduced Brian Hansen, a Correctional Officer who recently returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.

Hansen thanked the Corrections Department for their support during his tour of duty and presented them with an American flag that was flown in Camp Bucca, Iraq on September 11, 2008.

Board consensus was to schedule a special presentation at a regular County Board of Commissioners Meeting.

##### **B. Correctional Specialist I Position**

Thurber requested authorization to hire an additional Correctional Specialist I in the Program Division. He estimated the cost at \$52,000 a year, including benefits.

**MOTION:** Workman moved and Hudkins seconded to approve the Correctional Specialist I position out of the Corrections Department budget, with the understanding that it may be necessary to supplement the budget at the end of the fiscal year. Hudkins, Workman, Schorr, Heier and Stevens voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **6 ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Hudkins seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr, Heier and Workman voted aye. Motion carried

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Dan Nolte  
Lancaster County Clerk