

**MINUTES
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS
QUARTERLY MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2007
8:30 A.M.**

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

Commissioners Absent: Bernie Heier, Chair

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

The Vice Chair opened the meeting at 8:34 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM

1 APPROVAL OF BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MINUTES OF THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 2007

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded approval of the Board of Corrections Meeting minutes dated April 12, 2007. Stevens, Workman, Schorr and Hudkins voted aye. Motion carried.

2 POPULATION STATISTICS

A. Population Comments

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, said the average daily population is up 13.2 %. He said bookings are up 36.9% and said that is primarily due to a clearing of warrants.

Thurber said negotiations continue with Douglas County for additional out-of-county beds.

B. Population Graphs

See agenda packet.

C. Monthly Statistical Report

See agenda packet.

3 DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

A. Training

Thurber gave an overview of training activities which included the Officer's Training Academy and training through the United States Attorney's Office regarding the responsibility of law enforcement officers to notify Consular Officials when foreign nationals are arrested.

B. Mental Health Jail Diversion Project

Thurber said 152 individuals have been diverted through the program, to date. There are currently 27 clients, with three openings.

C. Platte/Butler County Housing

Thurber said Platte County has agreed to house up to 50 inmates and Butler is providing housing for 10.

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

Thurber said crews continue to assist the Election Commissioner with elections by handing out materials for the polling sites. Crews also worked on in-house projects at LCF.

E. Programs Division

Thurber said the department coordinated an average of 31 evaluations, per month, with the consulting psychiatrist this quarter. An average of six inmates, per month, were placed in Emergency Protective Custody and transferred with a jail hold to the Crisis Center or the Lincoln Regional Center, meeting the criteria of mental illness and being a danger to themselves or others.

Thurber said the Work Release Coordinator reviewed an average of 192 court-ordered release applications, per month. The average number of individuals on work release this quarter was 51.

Thurber also reported an average of 12 professional contact visits, per month.

G. Building Development

Thurber reported on final site selection and said he is still working with the Purchasing Department on the Request for Proposals (RFP) for an architect.

4 NEW BUSINESS

A. Booking Fees

Lieutenant Brad Johnson gave an overview of the following (Exhibit A):

- * Historical and Current Uses of Booking Fees
- * 1997 National Institute of Justice Study
- * Purposes of Booking Fee
- * Current Status of Booking Fees
- * Survey of Neighboring States
 - * Olmsted County, Minnesota Program
- * Status of Nebraska

Thurber said he will continue to explore the concept of booking fees. He said it might also be beneficial to reassess the work release fee.

Workman suggested that the County also explore legislation to provide incentives to the judges to utilize alternatives to incarceration.

B. Out-of-County Beds

Thurber requested authorization to house an additional 30 offenders out-of-county, due to overcrowding. He said he will continue to explore housing options at different facilities throughout Nebraska.

The Board directed Thurber to report back when he finds the additional beds.

5 ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Stevens moved and Hudkins seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried.

Dan Nolte
Lancaster County Clerk