

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF CORRECTIONS  
QUARTERLY MEETING  
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING, ROOM 113  
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2010  
10:00 A.M.**

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

Board Members Absent: Bernie Heier, Chair

Others Present: Mike Thurber, Corrections Director  
Brad Johnson, Transition Coordinator  
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer  
Gwen Thorpe, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer  
Cori Beattie, Deputy County Clerk  
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

The Vice Chair opened the meeting at 10:12 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM**

**1 APPROVAL OF BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MINUTES OF THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010**

**MOTION:** Hudkins moved and Stevens seconded approval of the August 12, 2010 Board of Corrections Meeting minutes. Hudkins, Stevens, Schorr and Workman voted aye. Motion carried 4-0.

**2 POPULATION STATISTICS**

A. Population Comments

Mike Thurber, Corrections Director, reported an 8% increase in average daily population compared to the same quarter in 2009. He said the reporting period covered the summer months when they typically have a higher population. A record number was recorded in September (584 prisoners - 317 in the downtown facility, 159 at the Airpark facility and 108 placed out-of-county). He said the number out-of-county

placements have had an impact on the budget and so they have reduced the numbers to help hold down costs. Thurber also reported a decrease in the number of bookings this quarter.

B. Population Graphs

See agenda packet.

C. Fiscal Year 2010 Monthly Statistical Report

See agenda packet.

D. Fiscal Year 2009 Monthly Statistical Report

See agenda packet.

**3 DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES**

A. Training

Thurber said the Training Division handled 394 applications for correctional officer positions this quarter and orientation training was provided to four new correctional officers and two nurses. Six full-time officers completed the Field Training Officer Program. Training was also provided to Adult Probation staff so they can conduct interviews and pre-sentence investigations in the facility.

B. Mental Health Jail Diversion Program

Thurber said 68 individuals were screened and 10 were accepted into the Mental Health Jail Diversion Program this quarter. He said Adult Drug Court received a grant that will allow a case manager position to be filled. This will allow the program to increase its capacity from 30 to 45 individuals (15 for Adult Drug Court).

C. Out-of-County Housing

Thurber said they are housing inmates in Butler, Platte, Saline and Saunders Counties, due to overcrowding in the jail facility. He said they have also given a contract to Dawson County as a backup for the other facilities.

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

Thurber said jail work crew activities this quarter included outdoor projects, removal of water damaged flooring from Trabert Hall, moving furniture for Adult Probation, collection of food containers for the annual Food Bank drive and routine facility maintenance. In addition, they assisted with the Lancaster County Fair by picking up the grounds and dumping trash barrels.

#### E. Programs Division

Thurber said Correctional Specialists coordinated an average of 27 evaluations per month with the consulting psychiatrist this quarter. An average of two inmates per month were placed into Emergency Protective Custody and transferred to the Crisis Center or Lincoln Regional Center with a jail hold. He said Correctional Specialists also had an average of 583 contacts with inmates, addressing personal problems and mental health and confinement concerns. Thurber said the Chaplain coordinated 155 educational, self-help and religious programs per month during this quarter and said there is a strong volunteer base with the Good News Jail and Prison Ministries coming in on a regular basis to provide services.

#### F. Transition Activities

Thurber said Bob Jarrett, Corrections Maintenance/Construction Manager, and Brad Johnson, Transition Coordinator, have finalized the lock functions on nearly 500 doors and reviewed the design of plumbing chases and toilet fixtures throughout the facility. He said they are also working with Troy Hawk, Court Administrator, Lancaster County District Court, on the issue of video arraignments. In addition, Johnson is working with Information Services (IS) on the upgrade of the inmate management system.

Stevens asked whether the video arraignment system could be piloted before it is introduced into the new facility.

Thurber said perhaps they could arrange to have a mock setup.

Thurber also clarified that the facility should be completed by the third or fourth quarter of 2012. **NOTE:** Commissioner Heier had previously reported that Thurber had told him the facility would not be completed until the third or fourth quarter of 2013.

Schorr suggested that an invitation be extended to Lancaster County State Senators to tour the facility.

#### 4 ADJOURNMENT

**MOTION:** Schorr moved and Hudkins seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:31 a.m. Stevens, Schorr, Hudkins and Workman voted aye. Motion carried 4-0.

/s/ Dan Nolte

Dan Nolte  
Lancaster County Clerk