

LARIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

JANUARY 21ST, 2020

Members Present: Ed Seegrist, Kristine Miller, Jeff French, Justice Stephen Howard, John Eggers, William Sublette, Sid Simonson, Katrina Mangan, Laura Miller, Michael Allen, David Koons, Chris Gastelle, Jeffrey Swoboda, Donald Van Pelt, Linda Hoffman, Commissioner John Kefalas, David Koons, Staci Shaffer, Matt Landers

Staff Present: Ingrid Schroeder, Beth Corbitt, Tim Hand, Mike Ruttenberg, Dana Hersch Araceli Santistevan

Dr. Tara Opsal is in attendance to present the Structured Decision-Making Tool. Also in attendance are several DCJ employees to debrief on the Core Security Audit.

The meeting was called to order at 12:15pm by Ed Seegrist, vice chair.

He has rotated into the vice chair position, Jeff French is now the board chair, and Matt Landers is the new secretary. He explains that the agenda will be slightly out of order due to two guest presentations from Dr. Opsal and DCJ staff.

FACILITY FLOOD

- Ed Seegrist reports that the facility had a major flood event. The plumbing on the Women's Side backed up with no way to shut it off. As a result, a number of beds and rooms were lost and unusable. However, recovery has been very quick with crews clearing the water and drying and replacing walls and flooring. Alexis Ongley adds that twenty of the forty beds lost will be back online today.
- Tim Hand commends staff and the clients for handling this professionally, especially as it occurred the weekend after Christmas. Currently the facility population is hovering around 280, but this number will be increasing shortly.

DCJ VISIT

- Tim Hand reports that Katie Ruske from DCJ visited with LCCC directors about several topics including Non-Res numbers. This issue will not be going away any time soon, especially since the total population is currently 85% diversion sentences. LCCC is still working hard to assist DCJ and DOC with the closing of CMRC. They also have an agreement with Logan County to help keep their numbers up and support DOC. Trends have also been changing as fewer people are sentence to DOC.

CMRC CLOSING

- Tim Hand reports that the 700 bed Cheyenne Mountain Re-entry Center gave DOC 60 days' notice of their intent to close. Jeff French adds that a lot of the inmates are being moved to CSP II (converted from a maximum-security facility to a medium-security one). They are also paroling a portion of their population, although not many have been sent Larimer County thus far.

ANNUAL REPORT

- Ed Seegrist explains that the LCCC Annual Report is due next Friday, January 31st. The executive board (including Staci Shaffer, who is staying on for the next 6 months) will review the 2019 report at their next meeting and provide feedback. The final report will be submitted at the next regular board meeting.

CONRAD BALL

- Araceli Santistevan reports that the nomination form for the Judge Conrad L. Ball Award is active (see attached link) and available on the website. Bryan Schissler is also creating a Spotlight article advertising this process.
 - The awards banquet itself will be on May 1st, 2020 at the Lory Student Center at CSU. This event will be in partnership with Dr. Opsal's department, saving several thousand dollars for the county. More information will be forthcoming.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING IN REDWOOD ROOM IN 2020

- Alexis Ongley reports that the current subcommittee room will be converted into an office soon Dana Hersch reports that they are meeting with facilities this week to finalize the change. An email will be sent out with the room change when it occurs.

SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS NOTIFY EVALUATIONS WHEN USING SLACK

- Alexis Ongley asks that board members who cannot attend a subcommittee meeting let the evaluations unit know that they are voting through slack. The evaluators do not always upload all victim input and want to make sure that those voting remotely are receiving all the relevant information.

FEBRUARY 3RD – DOC CASE MANAGERS IN SUBCOMMITTEE

- Alexis Ongley reports that DOC case managers will be observing subcommittee’s process on February 3rd to strengthen their referrals process and learn more about LCCC’s selections criteria.

ONE-ON-ONE MEETINGS WITH TIM HAND

- Tim Hand hopes to meet one-on-one with all board members in the coming months. He hopes to discuss what has been going well and points for improvement as well as give board members a chance to be heard. Araceli Santistevan will be sending out the signup sheet.

BOARD MEETING POSTINGS

- From the Commissioner’s office: “The Commissioners' Office will no longer post boards and commissions meetings on the Commissioners' weekly schedule; Staff Liaisons will be responsible for posting the Board/Commission meetings online no less than 24 hours in advance of the meeting.
- Matt Landers moves that the Community Corrections Advisory Board designate www.Larimer.org as the place for posting notice of public meetings, and if exigent or emergency circumstances prevent the online posting at such location, public notice shall be physically posted at the bulletin boards located at the north and south entrances to the Larimer County Courthouse Offices Building at 200 West Oak, Fort Collins, Colorado, in accordance with Colorado's open meetings laws.
 - Chief Justice Stephen Howard seconds, and Ed Seegrist asks for a vote. The motion passes unanimously.

DCJ CORE SECURITY AUDIT REVIEW

- Ed Seegrist introduces Chrystal Owens, Cynthia Lockwood, Kara Wagener, and Jeff Jorden from the Division of Criminal Justice. Cynthia Lockwood opens the discussion up to questions from the board regarding the recent Core Security Audit.
- William Sublette asks how the staff treated the auditors. Cynthia Lockwood responds that the staff and auditors had good interactions. Ingrid Schroeder was present the entire time, and Dana Hersch and Jake Hupp were also available. The DCJ audit process is not just about case files, paperwork and systems. They try to look at all day-to-day operations and shifts. They listened to interactions with and interviewed staff and clients and felt it was very refreshing to see the respect and dignity clients received in this facility. It was both great work on the part of staff and training and coaching on the part of management.
- William Sublette asks what the best and worst things about the facility were: Cynthia Lockwood responds that best thing was the culture (included in DCJ’s program summary of the report). Culture is something that cannot be bought—staff must get along and work well with high-risk and high-needs clients. The new DCJ standards were published in 2017 but take time to implement and audit (auditing will be complete in June 2020). Some standards have a lot of moving parts and are harder to implement. During the audit, DCJ employees noticed that some aspects of LOIS needed to be adjusted, but LCCC staff were able to make adjustments in many cases while they were still on-site. She has nothing negative to say; LCCC was compliant in most areas and had several perfect scores.
- Tim Hand adds that the pre-/-post-audit time is very critical, and Ingrid Schroeder has been vital to this process by keeping people on track and focused.
 - Cynthia Lockwood says that while going through standards, it was nice to have Dana Hersch, Jake Hupp, and other staff engaged. She felt it was a win-win all the way around for everyone--not just the providers but in DCJ office as well. Larimer County reaching out for assistance and feedback is appreciated, because it helps both sides.
- Linda Hoffman observes that some audits focus on “dos” and “don’ts” instead of “shoulds”. DCJ must have seen best practices while looking at facilities. She asks what Larimer County is doing that is best practice, and

what it can learn from other facilities. Cynthia Lockwood says an important area is professional interactions—engaging with positive behaviors from clients and being constructive while speaking to them. She would love to see that in all facilities.

- Kara Wagener adds that every facility population is different. DCJ is moving towards more best practice evidence in their standards. Larimer County’s partnership with their office is something they’d like to see everyone do. LCCC has been fantastic about asking policy questions and ways to improve. That curiosity and desire to grow is crucial to facility success. The on-site conversations and brainstorming were great experiences during the audit.
- Dana Hersch appreciates that it was a learning process and DCJ staff were so available and willing to talk. Kara Wagener responds that the availability of LCCC staff was great too; it made the process much smoother and more accessible.
- Ed Seegrist thanks them for their time and feedback. Cynthia Lockwood adds that they appreciate further questions, and anyone can reach out.

DR. OPSAL SDM TOOL REVIEW

- Please see the attached PowerPoint and informational materials prepared by Dr. Opsal.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04

February’s meeting will be held February 18th, at 12:00pm at 2307 Midpoint Drive in the Powderhorn Room