

**LARIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS**  
**ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**  
**July 21, 2020**

**Members Present:** Ed Seegrist, William Sublette, Katie Mangan, Jeff French, Emily Humphrey, Kristine Miller, Cliff Riedel, Michael Allen, Commissioner John Kefalas, Sam Houghteling, Matt Landers, Sid Simonson, David Koons, Beth Ayesse, Stacey Shaffer, Laura Walker, Chris Gastelle, Chief Judge Stephen Howard

**Staff Present:** Shelley Durkin, Alexis Ongley, Tim Hand, Mike Ruttenberg, Ingrid Schroeder, Beth Corbitt, Dana Hersch, Culley Flynn, Ingrid Schroeder

The meeting took place via Zoom and was called to order at 12:01pm by Chair Jeff French

**Advisory Board Seat Vacancies**

- Tim Hand updates the Board that there is one seat vacancy. Commissioner Kefalas shares that 2 interviews are scheduled for this Friday to fill the seat. They will be in person and allow for social distancing.

**Legislative Updates**

- Tim Hand shares that he spoke with the Commissioners this morning touching on HB20-1017 – Treatments of individuals with substance use disorders. This Bill requires local jails, DOC, private prison, and Department of Human Services to make available opioid agonists and opioid antagonists to persons with an opioid disorder. The Bill also requires prerelease resources for opioid users. He shares that Larimer County is far ahead than many communities partnering with Summit Stone, Health Partners, the local Jail, etc.
- Tim Hand also shared that walkaways from Community Corrections has changed from an Escape Felony to an Unauthorized Absence (M3.) Tim shares that this is already having a large impact on LCCC, with having 3 escapes in June last year, and 11 this June. One of the walkaways fell in the Felony Escape category due to having a VRA case, the rest were all Unauthorized Absences.
- Emily Humphrey comments on Unauthorized Absences. She and the Directors are concerned about the change because the clients are coming in knowing that they consequence has lessened. She shares that there was a walk-away from ASD recently, he was using when he left, and he died the next day.
- Tim Hand adds that they know from research that the first 30 days in our facility are critical to their success. It is difficult to convince them that this is the right place for them to be, and to stick with the programs. They are less incentivized to stay.
- Cliff Riedel suggests that if this continues to be a trend to consider writing to state legislators and let them know the impact this is having on our programs, and our clients.
- Jeff French asks Tim if he has heard from any other facilities around the state to see how they are doing. Tim defers to Dana Hersch
  - Dana shares that they talked about this a couple meetings back. Some facilities are looking at 20-30% walkaways. She says that it is a problem statewide.

**CCAB Retreat update**

- Tim Hand and Jeff French share that the Executive Board has decided there will not be a retreat this year. The decision was based on COVID-19 restrictions and that a Zoom retreat would not be as beneficial.

**CACCB online meeting- July 24<sup>th</sup>**

- Jeff French shares that the online CACCB meeting Friday looks interesting and hopes that a lot of people will attend.
- Kristine Miller shares that she thinks it is going to be a productive meeting and that there will be the election of officers.
- Shelley Durkin shares that she can still sign you up today if you are interested.

## Budget and Financial Impact

- Tim explains that the financial impact has hit all CJS, not just a Community Corrections.
  - He shares that Emily Humphrey has done a great job looking at our financial situation and making the best of our budget and problem solving where needed.
- Emily Humphrey shares that there have been tons of stresses across all departments. She shares because of the closure of ASD to support Community Corrections, there were months of revenue loss. She shares that resources through FEMA and Cares Act money will help and be allocated accordingly. She also notes that we have applied for a Federal Grant and are hoping to hear back by next week.

## Day to Day Operations and Facility Update

- Tim Hand shares that many decisions were made in the month of July. He asks the Assistant Directors to share changes that have happened.
- Mike Ruttenberg on Treatment.
  - Mike explains that Treatment is still doing intakes as cohorts with a 14-day quarantine process prior to the Treatment Program. Challenges have come up if a client does not show up that day, then they are down that bed because there is no space to put a client in a room alone. He shares that they are working in partnership with the Health Department on increasing capacity. Mike also received a verbal variance from Health Department with mask wearing; some adaptations have been made to face to face services thanks to cohorts and quarantine.
  - Commissioner Kefalas asks what some of the reason are that individuals would not show up on their individual day?
  - Mike answers that some “didn’t sign-up” for treatment and don’t want to come, so they don’t come, for some it could be a ride issue, or could be from the health screening upon entry that they have Covid-19 like symptoms. There is more luck with clients coming from surrounding areas than clients coming from in town.
  - Mike also shares that treatment is working with Signal on funding for clients on their 14 days of quarantine days.
  - Mike Ruttenberg was on a 3 hour Zoom licensing audit with OBH. They were reviewing files and programs. We received 1 violation for having non-CAC staff sign off on paperwork.
- Alexis Ongley talks about Case Management and Evaluations.
  - Plexiglass is installed in all the offices so Case Managers can now meet with their clients in office. Case Managers are also working on getting more clients out on pay days passes as well as moving clients up on levels. She shares that 19 people out on furlough, and that security has been very helpful with monitoring. Alexis is got permission from the Health Department to raise capacity in rooms to allow for more clients.
  - Alexis Ongley also explains that the Evaluations unit was set up with plexiglass. Like Treatment, there will be a symptoms and temperature check as in person meetings resume. Non-Res case load has dropped a tad and is becoming more manageable. She mentions that with the help of Derik Stalls and Ingrid Schroeder there is an app running that clients can use for checking in, symptom survey, etc.
  - Alexis shares the new selections criteria regarding juveniles. It is added in as a Mandatory Exclusion for any individual referred on a juvenile case.
    - Cliff asks for clarification if a client is now an adult and has an adult case, can they be sentence to ComCor on all cases.
    - Alexis clarifies that they may only serve the adult case at Community Corrections due to legality in housing, paperwork, supervision, and other logistical concerns.
  - Cliff Riedel makes a motion to have the criteria accepted. All Board members are in favor.
  - New criteria will be added.
- Dana Hersch shares on Security and DRC.
  - Dana explains that all clients are back from ASD except for the 24 that are contracted to be there. They have opened a significant amount of rooms to job searching individuals. As of August 1, there will only be a few rooms without community access – medically fragile, quarantine, treatment. There will be a big jump in employment once July numbers are in.

- Working clients are now receiving a 3-hour pass to their family's residence for more contact with their support systems
- She shares that Loveland DRC is now open on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- DOC is now at a 14% vacancy rate. 7 facilities shut down because of COVID.

### Re-screens

- Tim Hand shares the process that gets a client to a rescreen. He explains that a given client may no longer be progressing in the program and is receiving after violation after violation. The client then goes to Administrative Review and a decision is made to Terminate and Transfer and send the client to county jail. Thereafter, the courts are requesting rescreens for the same clients. Tim shares that after discussion with Alexis Ongley and the executive board, that without new evidence coming to life they do not see the reason to rescreen.
- Alexis shares that there have been about 5-6 requests this month.
- Chief Judge Howard shares that the law says that when an individual is terminated from Community Corrections, they have the right to have all sentencing options considered. He shares that judges are not ordering a rescreen unless requested by the Defense Council. By the law if a rescreen is requested and sentencing is open, a screen is requested. However, he agrees that it would be rare to accept back without new information.
- Alexis Ongley shares that other judicial districts have seen a consistent increase in rescreen requests.

### Conrad Ball winner

- Shelley Durkin shares that this year's winner is Gary Darling.
- Alexis Ongley mentions that there will be no award ceremony this year, and that we are looking at options on award presentation.

### Loveland Office

- Dana Hersch shares that they have been very creative with having male and female staff member. All departments are helping, thanks Alexis for working there today. Once there is enough volume, she anticipates staffing the position.
- Mike Ruttenberg states that Loveland AIIM is working very closely with probation to identify folks to screen. They are focusing on current caseload and identifying numbers. To begin there will be one case manager there until clients are built up.
- Tim Hand adds that although we are two departments, ASD and Community Corrections continue to work closely together. Everyone is doing a great job sharing duties and are learning from one another.
- Dana Hersch echoes that the ASD staff have been very helpful in getting the Loveland DRC open and settled. It has been a group effort.

### Client Feedback (guest speakers)

- Tim Hand introduces a Community Corrections client, Erin. Erin shares that she is here for making bad decisions, including theft and drug use leading to addiction. She shares that she really likes the environment at LCCC and is in IRT program. Erin is so thankful for the supportive staff and to be around people who want to help her change and succeed. She has never had this kind of treatment before and she feels grateful to be here. She is starting to think about the future, looking at jobs and schools, she is working on her self-esteem and issues she has had in the past. Digging deep is going to help her get over the hump of addiction and poor decision making. Erin explains that she did have a fear coming in during COVID but shares that it is just as functional as a normal household.
  - Commissioner Kefalas asks 2 questions 1) are you from the local community and 2) what are your aspirations for when you complete? Erin answers that she is local and has as lived in Fort Collins since she was 2. She shares that she started getting into the system when she was 18 and that she is now 34. She aspires to possibly go back to school at CSU with Social Work. She now respects the process and criminal justice system, and all the people who are here to help including: Sheriffs, Case Managers, Treatment Providers, Social Workers, etc.
- Tim introduces Demetrious. Demetrious shares that he has been here 45 days and that he 49 years old. His charges include Burglary and Domestic Violence and states that he has an addiction

problem. It has been a while since he has been in any structure. Matt Landers jumps in and wishes Demetrius luck. Demetrius is in the IRT program. He explains that the program touches on everything including relationships, drug use, life goals and more. There is a focus on family, community, nature, and it has opened his eyes to a lot. He is thankful he got the opportunity for therapy over jail time. He feels like he is benefitting a lot. Dana Hersch asks if he will be staying here after IRT. He explains that he will have around 9 months or so to complete in the Residential program. He notices lots of opportunity and hopes to get back to work and make better choices in life.

- Judge Steve Howard asks about Domestic Violence treatment before or after IRT. Demetrius shares that the IRT program is touching on relationships but he will contact probation when completed for domestic violence treatment.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:04 pm

There will be no August meeting, see you in September