

LARIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
November 17, 2020

Members Present: Ed Seegrist, William Sublette, Matt Landers, Cliff Riedel, Sid Simonson, Chris Gastelle, Chief Judge Stephen Howard, Allyce Lobdell, Sara Steen, Chief Swoboda, David Koons, Jeff French, Michael Allen, Sam Houghteling, Judge Susan Blanco

Staff Present: Shelley Durkin, Alexis Ongley, Alex Danielson, Ingrid Schroeder, Mike Ruttenberg

Community Guest: Rosemary Van Gorder

The meeting took place via Zoom and was called to order at 12:03 by Ed Seegrist

- **New Chairman and open Secretary seat**
 - Ed Seegrist announces that he is taking over as Chairman of the Advisory Board, with the retirement of Jeff French. Ed wishes Jeff well and thanks him for all he has done for the Advisory Board.
 - Matt Landers will move up to the position of Vice Chairman, which leaves a vacant seat for Secretary.
 - Ed asks if there are any Board Members interested in joining the Executive Board, no one volunteered at this time.
 - If anyone is interested in the Secretary Seat, please contact Ed, Tim, or Alexis.
- **December Board Meeting**
 - Unfortunately, due to COVID, we will not have our celebratory Holiday Meal. Although not the same, a small gift will be mailed to each of the Board Members as a thank you.
 - We will meet over Zoom for our December meeting.
- **Surveillance Testing**
 - Alexis Ongley shares that at a recent Community Corrections stakeholder meeting with DCJ, it was strongly recommended that facilities begin surveillance testing. They offered Curative tests at no cost to our department, and we feel fortunate for this process in keeping our facility safe.
 - We have tested our first round of clients, testing new intakes and anyone who was reporting systems on the daily system survey. It is a fairly easy process, with some data entry.
 - The tests are mouth swabs and sent off to a lab. Results are given back to us within 48 hours.
 - There is another meeting this week to work out the details on whole facility surveillance testing. We feel very fortunate to have these tests and we want to use the tests in the most effective way, with the least amount of disruption.
 - Sara Steen asks for clarification on surveillance testing, asking if it is testing everyone in the facility at random times. Alexis says, "yes." Details are still being worked out on how this process looks.
 - Out of the tests so far there was only one positive, and it was a Non-Res client. ComCor knew he was sick, and he does not pose a risk to the facility.
- **COVID-19 update**
 - Mike Ruttenberg shares that on the Treatment side they are moving forward. The testing will open the window on bringing people in, especially with no shows and needing to fill bed space. We can now test upon arrival and again at 7-10 days to get people out of quarantine and into programming.
 - Alexis Ongley shares that we are still maintaining a healthy facility, and we are all working very hard to keep the facility safe. Alexis chatted with the clients after the first round of testing and they shared that they feel very relieved that we have onsite testing, an isolation process, and quarantine as needed.
- **Budget Update**
 - Alexis shares a brief update, as it is still early in the game. Community Corrections is looking at some significant budget cuts across the state. In the Governor's Proposal, Community Corrections would be looking at a grant funded model appose to a per diem bed model. This is still very early, and a lot must happen before any changes are made.
 - Mike shares that they are suggesting paying for Treatment beds with Medicaid.
 - Chris Gastelle asks if in the Governor's proposal, they are trying to make funding performance based.
 - Alexis shares that it does not appear a Performance Based Model would be going through. The proposal is looking at a complete legislative overhaul with changes in funding, auditing, and new

standards. They want to focus on local needs instead of the state determining what the needs are for everyone.

- Again, this is very early, and the changes may happen in 2022-23.
- Judge Howard shares that he met with Emily Humphrey and Tim Hand and recalls this will cut the state budget by about a third. They were optimistic that with our well-run program, we may have smaller cuts than other facilities.
- Representative Herod will be coming up Monday the 23rd to tour our facility. Judge Howard and Judge Blanco are invited to join in with that meeting to express to Representative Herod how important Community Corrections is to the judicial process.

- **Local Support and Potential Support Programs**

- Mike Ruttenberg share that he has been in conversation with Homeward Alliance, a local WAGEES grant funded program. They are figuring out how we can work together to provide services to clients. Homeward Alliance helps with housing, employment, equipment for work, etc.

- **Facility Overdose and Drug Intervention**

- Alexis Ongley shares that there was a Community Corrections client who suffered an overdose. The client was housed at ASD, and staff responded quickly, administered Narcan, and called EMS. The client is doing well now.
- With further investigation, Management and staff figured out where the drugs were coming from and The Drug Task Force took it over from there.
- Alexis is continually impressed with staff and their responses in these scary situations. There is a debriefing coming up to go over the incident with staff.

- **Facility Staff Support with John Gray**

- John Gray, a counselor, will be offering support to staff for an outlet for their stressors.
- He has held one small class so far, touching on topics such as: stressors, language and how it impacts how we think and feel, trauma and the sense of self, processing the events in our life, building trust and empathy and balancing it with consequences with poor behavior.

- **Veterans Day Breakfast Report**

- Tim Hand held the annual Veterans Day breakfast (with Covid protocols in place) for staff and clients who are honorably discharged veterans.
- Several clients and staff showed up to enjoy a breakfast burrito and share stories.
- Lee Cooper, Larimer County Veterans Service Officer, also attended to answer questions and offer resources.

- **Adjourn at 12:30**

