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**LANCASTER COUNTY
CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT**

LANCASTER COUNTY
BOARD

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FEB 17 2005

LANC COUNTY CLERK

LANCASTER COUNTY CORRECTIONS BOARD

-AGENDA-

Thursday, February 17, 2005

LANCASTER COUNTY CORRECTIONS BOARD

- AGENDA -

**Thursday, February 17, 2004
9:00 a.m.**

I. Approval of the October 28, 2004 Meeting

II. Population Statistics

- A. Population Comments
- B. Population Graphs
- C. Monthly Statistical Report

III. Department Activities

- A. Good News Jail & Prison Ministry
- B.. Mental Health Jail Diversion Program
- C. LCF Updates
- D. Security System Update
- E. Overcrowding/Expansion Discussion

IV. Adjournment

Attachments

- 1 - October 28, 2004 Minutes
- 2 - Population Graphs
- 3- Monthly Status Report
- 4- Jail Diversion Charts
- 5- Jail Standards Letter- July 2003

Lancaster County Corrections Board
Meeting of Thursday, February 17, 2005

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- October 28, 2004

II. POPULATION STATISTICS	2003	2004	Change
	Oct/Nov/Dec	Oct/Nov/Dec	
Average Daily Population	390.1	375.1	-4.0 %
JAIL	270.6	259.0	-4.5 %
LCF	119.5	116.1	-2.9 %
Total Bookings	2,117	2,169	+2.0%
Average per month	706	723	

Population Comments

- A. Comparing the same quarter population totals of 2003 vs. 2004, we are continuing to be out of compliance at our downtown facility. However, there has been a 4.5% decrease in population, 270 down to 259 inmates, at the maximum security facility.

In the calendar year 2004, we booked 9,422 persons, compared to 9,656 in 2003. This can attributed to the elimination of the U. S. Marshal Contract.

- B. Population Graph (see attached)
- C. Monthly Statistical Report (see attached)

III. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

- A. Good News Jail & Prison Ministry

Rev. Dan Morgan organized approximately 250 church sessions this quarter at both facilities. Over 1,400 Bible study sessions were completed with nine Bible Study Awards being issued. There were 120 one-on-one mentoring sessions conducted. He is implementing over 100 volunteers from 46 different area churches.

During the month of October, a fund-raiser was held to support the ministry. Over \$9,000 was raised. They are planning a golf challenge fund-raiser in May 2005 and hope to do more in the future by recruiting five more council members.

B. MENTAL HEALTH JAIL DIVERSION PROJECT

As of December 31, 2004, the Mental Health Diversion Project has identified 2,883 people as meeting the criteria for psychiatric screening at the time of booking. This represents 26.7% of the population since the program began in November, 2003. Between October and December, 2004, eleven individuals have been diverted and nine cases have been closed, meaning they have met the expectations of the program and continue with on-going community services.

The Board has given approval for the continuation of this program. Community Mental Health will resubmit the SAMHSA paperwork for re-funding.

C. LCF UPDATES

1. In house crews continue to progress on the installation of the emergency generator obtained from the former blood bank building. Crews are also installing a second security door into the court holding area at the downtown facility. Inmates helped to move offices and provided demolition work for local agencies in the 4th quarter of 2004.
2. In December, the facility obtained a new 15 passenger van.
3. Most of the installation is completed on an alarm system for the exterior doors and windows in the dorm. This will be used to house minimum security IDF inmates when constructions begins on the new intercom system.

D. SECURITY PROJECT UPDATE

Latta Technical Services has forwarded the screen layout and floor plan schematics from our security contractors, Metroplex Control Systems, regarding the jail security project. Latta Technical Service's staff and engineers are reviewing all of MCS's work including the hardware, PC screen design, and on-site equipment for this project. It is expected that MCS will be on-site beginning late April to begin installation of the security equipment. This project is on schedule and should be completed by the end of December, 2005.

E. OVERCROWDING/EXPANSION DISCUSSION

Since year 2000, the maximum security facility (IDF) has experienced ongoing overcrowding. Since the Needs Assessment Report was presented in December, 2001, the average daily population at the jail has increased from 213 to 265 inmates. In the last

three years, the department has not been in Jail Standards compliance due to over population issues.

The County Board responded by letter in July, 2003 (see attached) to Nebraska Jail Standards. In that letter, the Board gave the Standards Board a list of strategies to deal with our overcrowding.

Today, I come to the Board asking for your help in allowing the department to move ahead with pre-architectural planning for expansion. As stated in our mid-year budget review letter, we are out of options for housing above our rated capacity. All criminal justice agencies in the county that deal with incarcerated individuals have expanded their operation in the last eight to ten years. This is attributed to higher case loads and demands for their services. The Lancaster County Department of Corrections is not immune from this same pressure.

I am in need of your direction for the department's physical plant future needs. From booking adult individuals from no less than seven different law enforcement agencies and courts, then housing those individuals throughout their court process, providing record management, medical services, and a food service department that provides meals for three additional outside agencies, the department has run into severe building shortages. We have stretched our operations and need a plan for the future.

The need of a pre-architectural plan for the jail cannot wait. I ask for the Board's consideration.