

LANCASTER COUNTY CORRECTIONS BOARD

- AGENDA -

**Thursday, February 23, 2006
9:30 a.m.**

I. Approval of the November 3, 2005 Meeting

II. Population Statistics

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

III. Department Activities

- A. Platte County Housing
- B. Mental Health Jail Diversion Program
- C. In-House Projects
- D. Good News Jail & Prison Ministry
- E. New Business

V. Adjournment

Attachments

- 1 - November 3, 2005 Minutes
- 2 - Population Graphs
- 3- Monthly Status Reports

Lancaster County Corrections Board
Meeting of Thursday, February 23, 2006

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES- November 3, 2005

II. POPULATION STATISTICS	2004	2005	Change
	Oct/Nov/Dec.	Oct/Nov/Dec.	
Average Daily Population	375.0	393.5	+ 5 %
JAIL	258.9	263.9	+ 2%
LCF	116.1	129.6	+10%
 Total Bookings	 2,169	 2,366	 + 8%
Average per month	723	789	
 Total Lodgings	 1,415	 1,503	 + 6%
Average per month	472	501	

Platte County Inmate Housing

Oct/Nov/Dec. 2005

Average per month

35.6

Population Comments

- A. Comparing our average daily population totals from the 4th quarter of 2004 to the 4th quarter of 2005, we have seen a 5% increase. Total bookings and lodgings have also increased 8% and 5%, respectively. This, in turn, reflects directly on our increased average daily population.

We are continuing to see more detainees who are demonstrating psychotic behaviors. These individuals require more care and tend to become dangerous to themselves and others while incarcerated. Throughout the years, this population has varied in our population numbers. Presently, this is not the case. On any given day, we are dealing with several behavioral and suicidal watches. Along with this, is the increased need for psychotic medications for these offenders. These inmates are difficult to manage in a jail setting and even more difficult to bond out, as we discover they have no adequate housing once released from our custody.

- B. Population Graph (see attached)

The population graph shows the month to month populations for FY05 and FY06. This graph shows the facility's rated capacity as of 1991 when the Adult Detention Facility opened.

C. **Monthly Statistical Report (see attached)**

This is a statistical report giving the average daily population for both facilities, number of bookings, types of arrests and releases, as well as medical and mental health services provided.

III. DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

A. PLATTE COUNTY HOUSING

Since September 2005, Platte County Detention Facility has been housing sentenced and pre-trial inmates for Lancaster County due to population concerns. The peak for this population so far was 44 inmates on September 23, 2005. In October, we maintained an average in the lower forties due to the security renovation project. Currently, our average is around 35 inmates per month.

The contract with Platte County requires transporting inmates back and forth between facilities due to court appearances or for release. The department transported 41 inmates during the month of September using 32 staffing hours. In October 2005, 38 inmates were transported, using 28 hours. November required 37 inmates for transfers and 22 hours. In December, only 29 inmates were transported, using only 14 staff hours.

B. MENTAL HEALTH JAIL DIVERSION PROJECT

The Diversion Project currently has 23 active members. During this past quarter, they have worked with Community Corrections on four releases. Two individuals have been successful and one was terminated due to continuous criminal behavior, although Community Corrections continues to work with him.

They recently had a person accepted into the program who was charged with a low level felony. Without Community Corrections involvement, she continues to do well. The Jail Diversion Project hopes to consider more individuals with low-level or non-violent felonies.

On January 21st, Katherine Powers, National Director for Mental Health and Substance Abuse, spoke to the legislature and a public forum about jail diversion and mental health reform. Several senators and representatives attended the meeting.

The Jail Diversion Project's research agency (SPPG) has submitted a publication regarding the program and data results. They are now scheduled to speak at the National Gains Conference in Boston, MA this April.

The Jail Diversion Project has been approved for an extension of funding based on monies saved from the grant. They should be able to continue the program for at least another 11 months.

C. IN-HOUSE/ROAD CREW PROJECTS

1. Between August 23 and November 22, 2005, on-call Officer Curtis Shell has supervised inmate crews on the installation of 2,240 rural county address signs. I have invited Officer Shell today to introduce him to the Board.
2. In January, the department received a mini-grant from the Health Department for \$3,000 for county road litter removal. According to Harry Heafer of the Health Department, the same grant will be available next year in the amount of \$4,000.
3. Maintenance staff supervised an inmate crew at the Election Office on February 13, distributing materials for the Lincoln Public School bond election.
4. Maintenance/Construction staff are scheduled to begin moving the Health Dept. offices on March 15. Staff will supervise a crew of 10 inmates to begin moving the 88 employees offices in the first phase of this project.
5. The final stages for IDF's Security Project have taken place over the last quarter. The final phase included testing the new equipment and training staff on how to use and service the system. A few minor updates are currently taking place, with completion expected by the end of February, 2006.

Terry Harless of Latta Technical Security Systems, visited during the month of January and completed the site observation report on all updated equipment, including the new control system. Metroplex made some final corrections and additions based on the report to complete the project.

D. GOOD NEWS JAIL & PRISON MINISTRIES

At the end of December, 2005, Chaplain Dan Morgan is no longer working for Good News Jail & Prison Ministry. Regional Director, Rev. Bob Potter of Omaha, will be recruiting for a replacement. We hope to have a Chaplain sometime this Spring. Until then, our Program staff will work with our volunteers to continue the on-going Bible studies and religious services.

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. Our training department is currently engaged in quarterly in-service training to update certifications in CPR and First Aid. This is a requirement to remain in compliance with Nebraska Jail Standards regulations.

In addition to this training, we have added the first class regarding the use of AED's or Automated External Defibrillators. Our department purchased trainers which allows users to practice scenarios. We have also developed a policy regarding the usage of AED's. Two units will be placed at IDF and one at LCF in Airpark.

In April, we'll begin the Spring Officer's Academy. This is a two week training course for staff to ensure training requirements are met according to Jail Standards.

2. In January, LCF inmates were issued new fire-retardant footlockers. The design of the lockers will provide better sanitation and improved security for their personal property.
3. In January 2006, 22 inmates required transportation between IDF and the Platte County Detention Facility with 16 staff hours being used.

F. SAFETY SMOCK DEMONSTRATION AND REVIEW