

MINUTES
LANCASTER COUNTY BOARD OF CORRECTIONS
QUARTERLY MEETING
COUNTY-CITY BUILDING
MEETING ROOM #113
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1998
9:00 A.M.

Board Members Present: Linda Steinman, Chair
Kathy Campbell
Bernie Heier
Larry Hudkins

Board Members Absent: Steve Svoboda

Others Present: Mike Thurber, Corrections Director
Kerry Eagan, Chief Administrative Officer
Ann Taylor, County Clerk's Office

Steinman opened the Board of Corrections meeting.

AGENDA ITEM:

1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 14, 1997 BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING

MOTION: Hudkins moved and Campbell seconded approval of the minutes. On call Hudkins, Campbell, Heier and Steinman voted aye. Motion carried.

2 POPULATION STATISTICS

a. Population Comments

Thurber reported an 11.8% increase in the average daily population during the second quarter of 1998, with both facilities reaching their maximum capacity in May (Exhibit A). He also noted an 8% increase in admissions and a 7% increase in the average length of stay for the quarter.

b. Population Graphs

Thurber briefly reviewed statistics noted on the following graphs (Exhibit A):

- O Total Populations FY95 to FY99
- O Jail-Only Population FY95 to FY98
- O Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF)-Only Population FY95 to FY98

c. Corrections Statistical Report

Thurber briefly reviewed a chart of monthly population statistics for the Jail and the Lancaster Correction Facility (Exhibit A).

3 POTENTIAL LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

- a. Report on Legislative Activities - Mike Thurber, Corrections Director

Thurber identified the following legislative issues (Exhibit A):

- O Implementation of LB 695, Which Changes Provisions Relating to County Property Tax Relief and County Criminal Detention Costs
- O Medical Co-Pay
- O Jail Credit on Fines and Fees
- O Good Time Calculation
- O Consensual Sexual Relations
- O Work Release Decisions

Board consensus to schedule a discussion with the Clerk of the District Court and the District Court Judges on the issue of instituting a continuous jury term, prior to the courts moving into the Hall of Justice and Law Enforcement Center.

4 OTHER ITEMS

- a. Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) Heating/Air Conditioning Systems

Thurber reported that options for a new heating/air conditioning system for the Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) are being researched.

b. Inspections

Thurber reported that a quarterly inspection of the jail and Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) facilities by the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department noted minor deficiencies at the jail and one deficiency, caused by the obsolete air conditioning system, at LCF.

c. Lancaster Correctional Facility (LCF) Construction Program Activities

Thurber reported that construction crews participated in specialized and routine maintenance at the jail and the Lancaster Correctional Facility, in addition to transporting records and moving surplus equipment and furnishings for City and County agencies.

d. Offender Transport

Thurber reported that 2,321 County and City offenders were transported by Corrections staff to the courts during the quarter. An additional 130 offenders were transported to other locations, such as medical appointments, State facilities, the Crisis Center and Department of Public Institutions (DPI).

e. Outside Contracts

Thurber reported that Lionel Killian has assumed the position of food service manager with Aramark.

f. Recruitment/Training Activities

Thurber reported than 92 applicants were screened/interviewed for positions within the Corrections Department this quarter. Five full-time positions and one on-call officer positions were hired. Training activities included a semi-annual training academy for correctional staff, training/orientation for new employees, re-certification training in advanced CPR, suicide prevention and disciplinary review training.

g. Litigation Pending

Thurber reported that the lawsuit related to the floor area of the Lancaster Correction Facility (LCF) sinking, as a result of inadequate compaction during construction, has been settled. Bids are being gathered and repair work is scheduled to begin this fall.

5 NEW BUSINESS

a. Lincoln Children's Museum Renovation

Thurber reported that the Lancaster Correction Facility (LCF) construction crew is currently performing demolition work at the Lincoln Children's Museum, which will result in savings of approximately \$100,000. He noted that materials from the building will be recycled in other projects, for additional savings.

Campbell suggested that the Board recognize the LCF Construction Crew Program at a Tuesday, County Board of Commissioners meeting and that a small plaque be placed in the museum recognizing their contribution.

Thurber also reported briefly on the Good News Jail and Prison Ministry, which is supported entirely by donations from individuals, churches and businesses in the Lincoln area.

6 ADJOURNMENT

By direction of the Chair, the meeting was adjourned.

Kandra Hahn
Lancaster County Clerk