

Justice Services Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

June 26, 2020

9:00 am

VIA WEBEX EVENT

I. Roll call

Rev. Phillip Duvall - present

Dr. Timothy D. McBride - present

Mr. Jeff Smith - present

Dr. Alexander Garza - present

Ms. Twyla Lee - present

Ms. Spring Schmidt - present

Ms. Mary Zabawa Taylor – present

Dr. Garza motioned to accept the minutes from the May 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. Rev. Duvall seconded the motion.

II. Opening remarks from Director Raul S. Banasco, Department of Justice Services

Mr. Banasco spoke about opening up social visitation in the jail. Of the 205 visits scheduled 150 showed up. These numbers are comparable to the numbers prior to COVID 19.

This past weekend all inmates received a complimentary bar of antibacterial soap.

We are continuing to follow CDC guidelines to keep the inmates safe.

In mid-July we will be launching our new webpage design. Tricia Rodgers will be our new web master. The goal is to have it fully alive in August.

III. Mr. Banasco stated the Jail Census is 764 inmates today. 707 males and 57 females.

IV. Rev. Duvall made a motion to go into closed session pursuant to RSMo Sec. 610.021 (1), (3), (5), (13), (14), (18), (19), and (20), and SLCRO Sec. 114.020.1 1, 3, 5, 13, 14, 18, and 21.

Mary Taylor seconded the motion.

Dr. Garza – Yea

Dr. McBride – Yea

Dr. Smith – Yea

Mr. Duvall – Yea

Ms. Lee – Yea

Ms. Schmidt – Yea

Ms. Taylor - No

V. Closed Session

VI. Board returned to Open Session

VII. COVID 19 Overview

Valerie Nelson, Chief Operating Officer of Corrections Medicine spoke about the conclusion of testing the inmates for COVID 19.

To date we have tested 1,163 inmates with a total of 4 positive tests. In mid-May we held weekend staff testing. 145 staff members took part. Of those 145 we identified 2 positive cases of COVID 19.

Ms. Schmidt requested that Ms. Nelson explain the difference between the staff being tested for COVID 19 and those that self-report. Ms. Nelson provided an explanation.

Ms. Taylor told Valerie Nelson how much she has appreciated her reports and the strong communication she and her department have demonstrated. Ms. Nelson spoke of the team effort with the Department of Justice Services it has required.

Ms. Nelson asked if the Monday morning overview that she has been providing is still acceptable. She spoke of the balance between awareness and overload.

Dr. McBride also praised Ms. Nelson's efforts. It was the consensus that the weekly way Ms. Nelson has been informing the Board is acceptable.

Rev. Duvall questioned Ms. Nelson on overtime and staffing. Ms. Nelson stated we have lost a few more staff since last month. COVID 19 overtime concluded at the end of May. Ms. Nelson stated we have hired 4 new nurses and will be interviewing for 2 more this week.

Rev. Duvall asked if there was a contingency plan in place if we see a spike in COVID 19 cases. Ms. Nelson responded that yes, the mitigation plan is in place.

Rev. Duvall inquired about the policy on alerting staff on positive COVID 19 cases. Ms. Nelson stated they have been navigating that question from the onset. Mr. Banasco stated we have met with the staff (all shifts) and we continue to meet and

communicate within the guidelines. Ms. Nelson stated we are continuing to be very diligent in our safety practices and following all mandated protocol.

Ms. Taylor asked Mr. Banasco about the mask protocol in the jail now that we are opening back up to visitation. Mr. Banasco stated that anytime anyone is in the building they are required to wear a mask per St. Louis County protocol.

Mr. Banasco spoke about the vacancies on the operational side. He stated we have 19 vacancies with 70 applicants. He stated there is an increase in applicants for Correctional Officer positions.

Valerie Nelson gave an overview of the Corrections Medicine Dashboard. Dr. McBride asked if the Dashboard could be sent to the members of the Board before the meeting next month. Ms. Nelson responded yes.

#### VIII. New Business

Ms. Schmidt requested a discussion at next month's meeting as to the additional re-entry services plan. She stated this process was heavily impacted by COVID 19.

Dr. Smith spoke of a virtual second chance job fair on July 9<sup>th</sup>. He would like to send a job fair link to share to inmates. Mr. Banasco and Ms. Nelson answered yes. Mr. Banasco stated this would be beneficial to probation as well.

Ms. Taylor shared her concerns as to how the agenda is created. Director Banasco stated that some items must be reviewed by our County Counselor's office and we defer to their legal advice.

#### IX. Hear Visitors

Two emailed submissions from the public were read. The Board requested copies of the emailed submissions. Mr. Banasco stated we would provide those to the Board.

#### X. Set next Board meeting

Next Board meeting will be July 24, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

#### XI. Adjournment

Dr. McBride motioned to adjourn. Ms. Schmidt seconded the motion.

