

STATE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BOARD MEETING

April 20, 2006

Michigan State Library and Conference Center
Lansing, Michigan

Approved Minutes

PRESENT: Alfred Butzbaugh, Louis Dean, Stuart Dunnings, Charles Brown, George Zulakis, Patricia Caruso, Brigette Officer, Carl Solden, Larry Inman and Dennis McMurray.

ABSENT: Inez Brown, Bernard Parker and John Phillips.

Chair Larry Inman indicated that Mr. Phillips had e-mailed regarding his absence from this meeting. Chelsea's Chief of Police, Riley S. Sumner and Fire Captain, Matt Tuttle, were killed in the line of duty in Washtenaw County. Mr. Phillips was a close friend of Chief Tuttle and would be attending his funeral today.

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion by Mr. Brown, supported by Mr. Solden, to approve the agenda.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

II. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEW BOARD MEMBER: Pastor Dennis McMurray from Grand Rapids, Michigan, replaces Michael Nye, and represents the General Public. Pastor McMurray introduced himself and the Board introduced themselves. Chair Inman welcomed Pastor McMurray to the Board.

III. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 19, 2005 MINUTES: Motion by Mr. Dean, supported by Ms. Officer, to approve the August 19, 2005 Minutes as written.

VOTE: Motion passed unanimously.

IV. MDOC BUDGET OVERVIEW:

Chair Inman introduced Barry Wickman who is the MDOC Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Wickman gave a general overview of the MDOC funding. He discussed the FY 2007 Governor's Executive Budget, baseline increases/reductions, spending priorities and the OCC's funding history. Mr. Wickman indicated that for FY 2007 there is no new funding for additional prison beds, and that this is the first time in 21 years that the Department has not asked for new money for prison beds. Mr. Wickman indicated that the FY 2007 budget for community corrections is a continuation budget from FY 2006 – there are no funding reductions though there will be no funding increases as well.

The MDOC budget has passed the Senate and the House is now active on the bill. Mr. Wickman indicated that last year there were restrictions on budget adjustments within residential services and because of the same fiscal pressures this year, the decision to approve adjustments will be decided later in the year. Within the comprehensive plans and services line items, reallocations were allowed within each jurisdictions last year and this will continue as long as the redistribution of funds meet the goals of improved jail utilization or reduced prison commitments.

Mr. Brown questioned whether or not counties can be brought on board for the GPS program. Mr. Wickman indicated that the GPS Program will be a piloted first. Director Caruso indicated that she does not see a problem with bringing counties into the GPS program. Administrator Brzozowski indicated that there were already counties who do contract with the Department of Corrections through the Electronic Monitoring Department. Mr. Brown indicated that he is looking forward to the GPS Program in his county.

V. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Brzozowski indicated that he would be giving a brief overview of the Department's Felony Disposition data as it had been previously sent out to all CCAB Managers in March and also that he would be giving a more detailed presentation during the Midyear Review section of the meeting.

Administrator Brzozowski indicated that the overall trends for felony dispositions statewide show that there is continued growth in felony dispositions. In 2003 there were approximately 54,400 dispositions, the number of dispositions increased to 56,000 in 2005. Although the data shows that the overall dispositions have increased, there has been a decrease in the actual number of prison dispositions. In 2003 the number of prison disposition was nearly 11,850 compared to 11,260 in 2004 and 11,760 in 2005. He indicated that as counties have experienced increases in their overall dispositions, the State has had fewer actual prison dispositions.

Mr. Brzozowski reiterated some of the budgetary details presented by Mr. Wickman and indicated that due to the financial strains of the Department's budget, OCC may not be able to reallocate funds from those CCABs that are under utilizing residential services to those CCABs that are over-utilized.

Administrator Brzozowski indicated that the comprehensive community corrections plans and services thru February data shows that the program utilization rates are consistent with last years – there have been any significant increases and/or decreases in programs utilization statewide. OCC is providing technical assistance to a few counties that are not providing services at the expected levels though these issues do not rise to the level which would require the county representatives to appear before the State Board.

Administrator Brzozowski indicated that the County Jail Reimbursement Program (CJRP) was transferred from the Department's County Jail Services Unit to the Office of Community Corrections last year. A preliminary review of the FY 2005 reimbursement data shows that some counties are not requesting reimbursement for eligible offenders. Specifically, offenders who are lodged in jail though participating in a "work release" program and paying for a portion of their housing costs. The Code of Criminal Procedure (769.35) and the Department of Corrections Annual Appropriations Act does not prohibit reimbursement for those offenders that have paid for a portion of their housing costs. If an offender meets the CJRP eligibility criteria established by the Department of Corrections, the Michigan Association of Counties and the Michigan Sheriff's Association then County Sheriffs may request for reimbursement regardless if the offender has paid the county for a portion of their housing costs.

Further, the data revealed that several counties failed to capture nearly \$300,000 in reimbursements. To further assist County Sheriffs capture all CJRP eligible offenders for reimbursement the Office of Community Corrections CJRP Coordinator will review local billing processes during the CJRP "on-site" audits of county jail reimbursements. This review will focus on local billing practices to ensure County Sheriffs are requesting reimbursement for all CJRP eligible offenders. OCC has assisted two counties in the past month and captured over \$45,000 in reimbursements for the first quarter of FY 2006.

OCC staff provided training for the FY 2006 Comprehensive Community Corrections Plans & Services Application in January. The training evaluations were primarily “very good to outstanding”. The application had a few minor revisions from the previous year and was disseminated to the CCAB Managers in March.

The Auditor General completed a “performance audit” of the Office of Community Corrections and the final report was published in November 2005. The auditor’s concluded the Office monitoring of local community corrections programs was effective. The report did not include any reportable conditions related to the audit objective. A copy of the report was provided to all State Board Members.

Director Caruso acknowledged Administrator Brzozowski and the OCC Staff on their audit. She indicated that she cannot remember when there has ever been a perfect audit. Administrator Brzozowski then acknowledged his staff as well.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

CCAB Presentations

Eaton, Macomb and Wayne counties each gave an overview of programs being operated in their respective counties. The presenters included Steve Siegrist, Eaton County; Russell McPeak, Pat Mazola, Barb Caskey and Linda Verville for Macomb County; and Debra Hendrix, Rod Pitts and Christopher Lole for Wayne County.

CCAB Manager Siegrist discussed Eaton County’s Jail Re-Entry Program, Jail Motivation Dorm Program, Cognitive Restructuring, Jail Inmate Road Crew, Residential Services, Felony Drunk Driver Drug Court, Program Utilization, Jail Bed Savings, Prison Diversion, Recidivism, and Comprehensive Plan Success. A handout package was provided to all State Board Members.

CCAB Manager McPeak, Asst. Director Verville and the Mental Health Program Coordinator Caskey discussed Macomb County’s Mental Health Jail Reduction Program. A handout package was provided to all State Board Members.

CCAB Manager Hendrix, CDU Project Director Pitts and ETRS Director Lole discussed Wayne County’s Court and Jail Services for mental health and drug court screening as well as their Jail Based 3 Phase Program. A handout package was provided to all State Board Members.

OCC Felony Disposition Overview

Administrator Brzozowski gave a presentation on the Office of Community Corrections Felony Disposition Overview in more detail. Mr. Brzozowski provided the members additional data which provided more detail on felony dispositions. In the past three years OCC has created felony disposition data tables which has been utilized by the CCABs in developing their local strategic plans and establish goal and objectives to reduce prison commitment rates. Prior to 2003 the Department’s data was two years old and the CCABs had used local data to develop their plans. Administrator Brzozowski indicated that today the State’s data is produced quarterly – the dispositions are extracted from the Department’s OMNI database which provides for more consistent data collection and analysis from county to county.

During 2003 the State placed greater emphasis on local jurisdictions to reduce their prison commitment rates for straddle cell offenders and probation violators. The overall prison disposition rate has steadily declined from 21.8% in CY 2003 to 20.9% in CY 2005. Further, the prison commitment rate for straddle cell offenders decreased from 42% in CY 2002 to 34.5% in CY 2005. In the past two years the overall percentage of prison commitments for the straddle cell offenders and technical probation violators decreased, whereas the prison commitment rate for presumptive prison increased by nearly 12.3% (446 dispositions).

In past several months, OCC has analyzed the felony disposition data in more detail. Administrator Brzowski indicated that local data analysis and planning should include more information on offender crime class (i.e. assaultive v. non-assaultive) and offender status (i.e., probation, parole, prison) at the time that they committed their offense.

In 2005, 36% (4,233 dispositions) of the total prison dispositions (11,760) statewide were given to offenders that were under the Department's jurisdiction at the time they committed the offense. The majority (77% or 3,255 dispositions) of these cases were within the straddle and presumptive prison sentencing guidelines cells. Thirty-eight percent (1,311) of the total (3,474) prison dispositions in the straddle cell group were for assaultive type crimes – 58% (1,249) of the non-assaultive prison dispositions were given to offenders that were under the Department's jurisdiction at the time they committed the offense.

The previous calendar years data sets will be reformatted and distributed to the CCAB Managers for analysis and local planning.

Multi-Year Contracts

Administrator Brzowski indicated that last year the Board approved those counties with Comprehensive Community Corrections Plans & Services awards less than \$100,000 to be able to enter into multi-year contracts provided that they were not on probation for the previous six months. Administrator Brzowski indicated that the multi-year contracts have worked very well and recommended to move that threshold from \$100,000 to \$155,000 and include those CCABs that are multi-county. He indicated that this change will allow 15 additional multi-year contracts next year. As a result of having these multi-year contracts in place the Board would then only have to review approximately 30 CCABs every two years and 17 CCABs every three years.

Chair Inman asked if there were any questions regarding the above and Ms. Officer indicated that she still did not feel that this was a good idea to include counties with multi-counties within them as it appeared to her that the more smaller counties were having difficulties in their regular reporting and needed the extra control factor. Administrator Brzowski indicated that these counties were still required to submit their required information and that it did not change OCC's day-to-day business. CCAB Managers would have additional time to complete their monthly reporting requirements – if a county fails to submit monthly data then reimbursements are withheld.

Mr. Brown indicated that he would be comfortable including these counties if the county were to receive an on-site visit at least once a year. Manager Curtis confirmed that per OCC's policy each county receives an on-site visit at least once a year and that based on county needs, more frequent site-visits would be conducted.

MOTION: Chair Inman requested a motion by the Board to approve the moving of the threshold of multi-year contracts from \$100,000 to \$155,000 and all multi-county CCABs. Motion by Carl Solden, supported by Stuart Dunnings. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chair Inman asked if there were any public comments and hearing none, closed the consent calendar.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS:

Administrator Brzowski indicated that last year there were two work groups established. The first one was to evaluate the residential services eligibility criteria. In July, OCC had Professor Lowenkamp from the University of Cincinnati give a presentation to the workgroup. After the presentation it was determined that more data was required before moving forward with eligibility

criteria. OCC has worked internally with the Department's Office of Research. Administrator Brzozowski hopes that within the next couple of months, data reports will be generated and the committee will be able to regroup to evaluate the eligibility criteria.

The second group is the Comprehensive Plans and Services Minimum Standards. OCC expected to finish the work on the residential services eligibility criteria before moving into program standards. Recently, Manager Curtis has been assigned to this project and the workgroup members should be hearing from her in the near future to convene the first meeting.

Chair Inman asked if there were any questions and hearing none, closed old business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Inman mentioned that the next Board Meeting would be August 24, 2006 and that the Board will be reviewing the FY 2007 Applications. New business closed.

Chair Inman moved to adjourn the meeting. Motion by Charles Brown, supported by Carl Solden. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned.