

The monthly meeting of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board was held on Thursday, November 1, 2012, in Conference Room #1 of the Court House, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at 4:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

The Honorable Donna Jo McDaniel
The Honorable Chelsa Wagner
Austin Davis representing The Honorable Rich Fitzgerald
Joe Catanese representing The Honorable Dr. Charles Martoni
The Honorable Sheriff William Mullen

Also present were Joe Asturi, Warden Orlando Harper, Deputy Warden LaToya Warren, Major Ron Pofi; Marion Damick; Dana Phillips, Doug Williams, Chuck Madarino, Larry Ludwig, Mike Gilmore, Carol Hertz, ACCHS and other interested parties.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Marion Damick discussed the following:

- Congratulated the Jail on the Anti Recidivism Award
- Announced the Re-Entry Recognition Breakfast on 11/2 at 10:30 a.m.
- Support of the Pittsburgh Child Guidance fund working to address issues of Children of incarcerated parents. Statistics of children of incarcerated parents becoming incarcerated themselves is very high. Keeping families together is vital.
- Attended Broken on All Sides at Synod Hall. Good to be kept in form on what is being done regarding Re-Entry.
- Governor Corbett has signed a law to cut State prison population. We need to be prepared on what this could mean for Allegheny County Jail.
- Criminal Justice Advisory Board – is looking into putting more state prisoners into County Jails. Cost more to keep in State than in County Jails. How will this affect Allegheny County Jail, and is there a plan.
- The Solicitation of bids for Health Care in the County Jail. She asked that those asking the decision realize it doesn't save money in the long run to go cheap.
- Judge McDaniel stated that both she and the Warden are talking with Secretary Wetzel. The plan is for not as many state prisoners to be placed in our County Jail as first proposed. They are currently working on a Plan

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of October 4, 2012 were motioned by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Catanese and approved by the members of the Board.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Judge McDaniel opened with welcoming our New Warden Orlando Harper. She also welcomed LaToya Warren, newly appointed Deputy Warden of Allegheny County.

Her next order of business was to place into official record a motion be made to Accept Warden Orlando Harper as newly appointed Warden of Allegheny County Jail. Sheriff Mullen so moved and seconded by Mr. Davis and approved by the members of the Board.

WARDEN'S REPORT:

Warden Harper stated that in looking at the Library it was decided that having a Centralized Library is ineffective. They have decided to have a Library in each Pod. He is looking at proposals now. A question was asked regarding acceptance of contributions? He stated yes, and that Jack Piske made contact to receive hard copy law books.

There was a motion made by Ms. Wagner and seconded by Mr. Davis and carried by the members of the board regarding the following proposed expenditures from the Jail Commissary Fund in November 2012:

- Lexis/Nexis Provider of Inmate Law Library materials for the pod kiosks. The cost will not exceed \$47,628.00.
- Zone 2 bus tickets from the Port Authority of Allegheny County for transportation assistance to individuals exiting the Jail from the Discharge Center. The cost will not exceed \$20,000.00 in 2013.
- Gwen's Den/Family Activity Center. Funding for an additional one (1) year period, From January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 cost not to exceed \$27,344.

Executive Actions:

Warden Harper had no Executive Actions for this meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Nothing to report.

Allegheny County Correctional Health Services Report

Ms. Phillips distributed her report for the month. She reported an increase in mental Health Referrals from under 4,000 in 2005 to up to 8,289 in 2012 which is up 1,600 from 2011. Mental Health Admissions are stable. Real reason is no additional mental health beds. There are currently 75 for the acute/chronic and 60 single celled because of security. Recently the hiring of 3PT psychiatrists, that were originally hired to cover Dr. Rodriguez when he was gone have agreed to stay on. New full time psychiatrist will start shortly. Additionally a part time psychiatrist will work two days a week starting in next few weeks. They also received a new dialysis contract.

Judge McDaniel asked are we meeting the National or State Standards in regards to step down pods in terms of the mental health services provided. Mr. Phillips responded, yes, with the staff mentioned previously and the 5 social workers, a part time psychologist, and parole consultations, med checks every 30-60 days, etc.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS REPORTS

Nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Sheriff Mullen, duly seconded by Mr. Davis to adjourn. The Allegheny County Jail Oversight Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Chelsa Wagner
Secretary