The monthly meeting of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board was held on Thursday, May 1, 2014, in Conference Room #1 of the Courthouse in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania at 4:00 p.m.

The following members were present:

The Honorable Judge Donna Jo McDaniel

The Honorable Judge Joe Williams

Dr. Claire Walker

Brad Korinski representing The Honorable Chelsa Wagner

Deputy Kevin Kraus representing The Honorable Sheriff William Mullen

Austin Davis representing The Honorable Rich Fitzgerald

Also present were Warden Orlando Harper, Deputy Warden Long, Deputy Warden Emerick; Marion Damick; Doug Williams, Chuck Madarino, Larry Ludwig, Mike Gilmore, Ted Johnson, and other interested parties.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mrs. Marion Damick reminded the Board of the following:

* + Jail Subcontractors – complaining about paying to park.
  + Continued Complaints regarding Corizon:
    - The Corizon answering machine does not respond. The feeling is and probably so, is to keep cost down, so maybe they are not hiring anyone to answer the phone. Not unusual. But the problem is that for the past 2 or 3 months their mailbox is full, and there is no administrative staff from Corizon in the afternoon.
    - Under Corizon policy it is up to Doctor to contact emergency contact. What seems to happen is that often other inmates get to the families to let them know that their loved one is in the hospital. Currently mandatory calls are when they are critical or most serious conditions. It would be helpful to the families to know sooner, upon the request of the inmate, and it would settle the matters concerning communication to inmates’ families upon hospitalization. No information is given out when inmates are ready for medical release.
    - Corizon is not informing inmates when they are finished with the medical check out and particularly if they are taking medications. These seem small but they affect the relationship with the family, which begins the cycle. (Not clear – I think this has to do with discharge – and why families don’t know when their loved one will get out and so can’t pick them up.
    - Escapees from various institutions. Review how many are rearrested and what are their statuses.

Most of the issues discussed previously have not changed.

* + - Schedules remain the same.
    - Unsafe staffing reports
    - March 6, 2014 discussion on Safety Syringes – Nurses state that they unable to find any
    - Diabetics – Medications they are taking when they come to Jail which are working well are routinely changed by Corizon.
    - The Jail’s medication does not work for some diabetics but that is all Corizen will provide. There are 3 inmates in intake whose sugar was high, with the use of this medication.
  + Judge McDaniel is meeting with Corizon next Wednesday. Haven’t met because they were waiting for the new person who will be in charge. Decided to wait until the new person is on board. A meeting is scheduled with Deputy Warden Long, Warden Harper and Corizon.

**Sister Barbara Finch – Nursing staff**. The Board should not focus entirely on the numbers of staff. Other Corizen management issues are critical. One major problem is that Corizen is shifting staff members from one duty to another, disregarding the staff person’s knowledge and expertise.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of April 3, 2014 were motioned for approval by Dr. Walker and seconded by Sheriff Mullen and approved by the members of the Board.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Judge McDaniel provided to the Board the best practices regarding restraints used on pregnant prisoners, which coincides with our policy at the Jail. Dr. Walker thanked her and stated that she asked for the unusual occurrences report and being able to see the report regularly. A report is submitted each month, and the Warden has no problem in providing. It should be distributed with the notes mailed out for our meeting.

**WARDEN’S REPORT:**

Warden Harper informed the Board:

* Promotions - 3 part time to full time positions. 10 officers in the Academy.
* Next week is Correction Employees Week. Memorial services are 10am Wednesday in front of ACJ.
* Respond to Mrs. Damick’s notification to family members when inmates are being sent to hospitals. Process is when inmate is transferred to the hospital with a serious medical issue. Hospital Doctors will contact Corizon of the need to inform next of ken. Corizon will notify supervisory staff, supervisory staff will contact the Chaplain’s office, and Chaplain’s office will notify the family. Judge McDaniel reminded the board that there are true safety concerns when inmates are transferred to the hospital.
* Pertaining to escape policies: alternative housing providers are to notify the Jail and Sheriff within 3 hours. We do have policies and procedures in place and were followed in recent incident.

**EXECUTIVE ACTIONS:**

1. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit – Educational Coordinator - $41,400**
2. **Allegheny Intermediate Unit – GED/Pre-GED/Computer Literacy Programming -$53,000**
3. **Touch Sonic - $29,040.00**

**Total Costs of Requests: $123,440.00**

Judge McDaniel asked for clarification of who the 90 people to be served are. Response is that is for evening classes alone. There are 7 funding sources for morning classes. Dr. Walker asks how do you decide who gets in? Response was that it is based on an educational assessment of need. What is noted is that literacy is an issue. His response is that is why we are resurrecting Inmate Tutor Program.

Motion to approve was made by Dr. Walker and Seconded by Mr. Davis, and approved by the Board.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Dr. Walker during a walk around with the Warden noted that Lexus Nexus is available on the law kiosks. We asked various people their perceptions. It was difficult to use for many, and Dr. Walker asked that Lexus Nexus training be included in the instruction during the computer literacy training. It would be a rational step to include in the training. The Warden and Jail staff indicated that they would work on making this part of the curriculum.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Presentation by Janice Dean Director of Pre-Trial Services and Supervisor Of The Behavioral Clinic**.

Janice reported on the difference between the behavioral assessment, and competency assessment. Behavior Clinic Assessments are only done by court order and only to determine if the inmate is competent or incompetent to stand trial. Down the road the evaluation could be used for diagnosis, or pre-trial sentencing. Judge McDaniel stated that the board was concerned about what happens on the weekends. Currently the Behavior Clinic does not operate on weekends. and by statute we have 72 hours to evaluate competency in accordance with court orders. Ms. Dean indicated that the only reason a doctor would come on Saturday, if they had not completed their work on Friday and there was a special circumstance that it cannot wait until Monday. Does the Behavior Clinic do more than that? While they are only writing for competency assessment, there could be information within that shows if there is further need. This is provided when requested. Any issues of mental health are seen by Corizon directly. Judge McDaniel would like to schedule Corizon to present on how they deal with mental health issues over the weekend and in general.

**PRESENTATION BY CORIZON**

Dr. Patterson reviewed the monthly report. Some items do standout. As far as Clinic Visits it appears there was a dip, but what happened is that we revised the method of counting to be more accurate. Infirmary has been steady about 23 patients to date. Intake is very busy with screenings. Plan is to be more pro-active during pre-screens at booking. . Judge McDaniel thinks it is a big step forward. In one example, few people coming into the Jail test positive for STDs but Corizen is working with the Health Department to determine whether to begin treatment immediately based on symptoms.

Dr. Walker stated that last month we talked about quarterly reports that would be done in April that was separate from what you handed out today. Are the quarterly reports to be shared with the Board? Dr. Patterson stated he is not sure exactly what reports but if pointed out, he will provide it to the Board.

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS REPORTS**

* PROGRAM for Offenders, Inc – Nothing to report. Welcome Ted Johnson, the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer.
* House Arrest – Nothing to report –
* Renewal Inc – Nothing to report.
* Goodwill – Nothing to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board unanimously approved a motion by Sheriff Mullen, duly seconded by Austin Davis to adjourn. The Allegheny County Jail Oversight Committee meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chelsa Wagner

Secretary