

The monthly meeting of the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board was held on Thursday, December 6, 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 Sheriff William Mullen  
Austin Davis representing The Honorable Rich Fitzgerald  
Joe Asturi representing The Honorable Chelsa Wagner  
Joe Catanese representing The Honorable Dr. Charles Martoni  
Elliott Howsie, Chief Public Defender  
M. Gayle Moss

Also present were 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:

- Opened with Happy Holidays
- She expressed sympathy for the Controller's Office on the budget and the possibilities of terminating staff. She hopes that it can be remedied as soon as possible.
- She discussed the editorial of November 3 in the Post Gazette which had to deal with inmate Health care. The PA Prisoner Society agrees with the editorial.
- She asked that the board keep in mind the developing a process for when an Inmate found unconscious in the cell is taken to the hospital, and the notification of their family. The news reported that the family was not notified until the papers call them up. This lack of process was discussed before – a committee was formed – but no results. She was told in the past that the results are lost in a big hole in the County Law Department. County Law Department said this isn't so. Mrs. Damick request that the Warden please locate the report and implement the Plan for notification of family - especially when it is a serious matter the family should be notified as soon as possible and hope there will be a policy established.

### **Response from Warden Harper:**

This administration's primary responsibility will be to inform the family as soon as possible, but safety and security must come first. Once the security is determined, the family will be informed through the Chaplain's office. We are reviewing the policies and want to make sure the families know as soon as possible.

**Judge McDaniel:** One of the difficulties is that one does not know if the families and friends coming to the hospital jeopardize the security of the hospital and the guard. With one guard watching murderers it would be a night mare if his friends or fellow gang members came to the hospital, and in these times you never know.

**M. Gail Moss** stated maybe we can have some sort of policy or procedure regarding when something happens to your relative that is incarcerated these are the steps – and provide this to the public.

**Judge McDaniel:** And maybe we can expand the Warden's Chaplain's procedures to include anyone that has been injured, and will be arrested for a crime; that notification process for informing the family.

## **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

The minutes of November 6, 2012 were motioned by Mr. Davis and seconded by Mr. Catanese and approved by the members of the Board.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

There RFP out to have someone to take over for the Health Services provided at the jail. It is going very well. We expect it will not be in place for two or three months and Allegheny County Health Services will continue to be available to avoid a gap in service.

Second thing, the County Jail operating fund has a \$2 million dollar shortage. The county needs from us about \$1,000,000. There is a balance \$2.5 million dollars in The Jail Inmates Fund, where we can agree to give \$1,000,000 towards the operating of the jail. In doing this, we would not endanger any of our programs or any of our services this year or next year. I have been assured that this is a onetime only event. The Warden requests that the board approves this transfer, so we can continue to take care of the inmates needs.

Motion was made, and moved, and approved unanimously.

## **WARDEN'S REPORT:**

Warden Harper stated January 2013 there are 18 recruits in the correction basic training. In addition, Training for management staff has been completed as well. Ms. Moss asked, "How many of the 2013 Recruits are of color?" Warden Harper stated he was unsure and would let the Board know.

Warden also informed the board of the Staff Annual Christmas part is set for December 12, 2012 from 10am – 1pm.

## **Executive Actions:**

1. Transfer of \$1,000,000 from Inmate Fund to County Jail Operating Fund
2. Purchase 2, 507 thermal shirts - \$7,964.99
3. Extend the Contract of DT Interpreting Services - \$40,000
4. Domestic Abuse Counseling Services Extend Contract 6 months.
5. Supplies for HOPE Program - \$5,000.00

A motion was made to approve the 5 Executive Actions and seconded by Moss. There were no objection and the motion carried.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business. Justice Reinvestment Programs

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing to report.

## **Allegheny County Correctional Health Services Report**

Report provided and RFP for Medical Facility is still in process. The report was provided for your review and accepted by the Board.

### **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