

**Adult Advisory Board Meeting
Illinois Department of Corrections
Kaskaskia Community College
August 24, 2009
11:00am**

Minutes

Present: James Gannon, Chair – Adult Advisory Board
Michael Geriets – Adult Advisory Board
Patrick Hartshorn – Adult Advisory Board
Keith Lape – Adult Advisory Board
William Warnell – Adult Advisory Board
James Reinhart, Chief of Staff – IDOC
Ed Huntley, Chief Legal Counsel – IDOC
Jerry Buscher, Deputy Director/Southern Region – IDOC
Bradley Robert, Warden – Centralia CC

Introductions

The Adult Advisory Board Meeting immediately followed the Women’s Issues Sub-Committee Meeting; therefore there was no need for everyone to re-introduce themselves.

Approval of Minutes

The July 13, 2009, meeting minutes were approved.

Centralia CC Overview

Warden Robert provided an overview of the facility.

Centralia Correctional Center was opened in 1980. Centralia is a Level 4 facility (medium security). The average inmate population is 1,536 w/the average age of the inmates being 35. The annual cost to house an inmate @ Centralia is \$22,340. 48% of the inmate population is from Cook County. There are currently 314 staff employed @ Centralia Correctional Center.

Stateville CC/Budget/Staffing – Chief Reinhart

The Illinois Department of Corrections is required to cut \$125million out of their budget this fiscal year.

The Department has not received approval from the Governor’s Office yet w/regard to the early release of inmates. Phase I of the budget cut would be to reduce the number of staff @ the following facilities; as a result of the early release of inmates: East Moline CC, Decatur CC, Vandalia CC, Vienna CC, Logan CC, Lincoln CC (only the Asbestos Program). The layoffs are targeted for September 30, 2009.

Director Randle is internally working on an additional project that could help cut the Department’s budget. This particular project has to do with “61-day wonders”. The Department currently receives inmates that have spent the majority of their sentencing time @ a county jail and by the time they are sent to IDOC, they only need to stay a short time. The Department’s rule is for an offender to wait 61 days prior to receiving

any MGT and/or SMGT. Therefore, these offenders would only end up staying 61 days in the Department once they are awarded their MGT and/or SMGT. The current process for the 61-day wonders is that they are received @ an R&C and then transferred throughout the state to other facilities until such time they are paroled. W/the amount of time they are in the Department, they cannot possibly receive any type of programming and it is quite costly to the Department to receive them @ an R&C, transfer them out to a different facility once they are processed @ the R&C, and then parole them shortly thereafter and provide them transportation to their parole site. The Department is looking @ cutting their time down, holding them @ Stateville in a designated housing unit in the MSU until such time they are released.

The Department has not received approval to begin Phase II. Phase II would involve reducing beds in the old part of Stateville Correctional Center. Stateville was built in 1925. The newer part of Stateville; which is the Northern Reception Center would not be affected. Due to the age of the facility, there are a lot of infrastructure needs. Stateville is the #1 cost of overtime for the Department. Stateville's staff attrition rate is the highest (9 per month). The round house is the only one left in the nation. It is currently used for four different processes – segregation, protective custody, court writs & medical writs. Stateville currently has 1,500 filled beds and 1,200 closed beds. The NRC has 2,000 beds.

The Department is also looking @ reinstating the reclassifying process. In the past the Department stopped doing annual reclassifications of inmates due to staffing levels. James Austin w/NIC is an expert in the country on classification issues. The Department has been in contact w/Mr. Austin and he will be reviewing the Department's classification system and then provide the Department w/his recommendations.

Old Business

The meeting that was originally scheduled @ Tamms Correctional Center on October 26, 2009, needs to be changed. The Board would like to change the meeting location to Vandalia Correctional Center on September 28, 2009.

Mr. Lape motioned that the Women's Issues Sub-Committee Meeting should be scheduled for September 28, 2009, @ Vandalia Correctional Center as well.

All were in favor of this motion. Therefore, the meeting date and location will be changed to September 28, 2009 @ Vandalia Correctional Center.

Public Comments/Open Discussion

The Governor's Office has received approximately 60 applications for appointments/re-appointments to the Adult Advisory Board. The applications are currently being reviewed and a decision should be made w/regard to appointments to the Adult Advisory Board w/in the next month.

The following topics will be discussed @ the next Adult Advisory Board meeting:

- Staffing (employee layoffs)
- Early Release of Inmates
- Budget
- Programming (budget cuts)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned @ 12:05pm.