IDOC Adult advisory Board Minutes
Tuesday, July 18th, 2017
Video Conference – Springfield & JRTC
10: 30 am

Attendance Springfield: David Olson, Keith Lape, Gladysie Taylor, John Baldwin, Richard Watson,

Guests Springfield: John Gio, Doug Stephens, Rich Stempinski, Sharon Shipinski

Attendance Chicago: Phillip Whittington, Carlos Gomez,

Guests Chicago: Sharon Shipinski, Yasmin Algohari, Nate Steinfeld, Gwen Troyoer. Kelly Presley

Call in: Marcus Hardy

I. David Olson called the meeting to order at 10:36 am

II. Approval of the minutes from March 6th, 2017. 1 correction. Motion to approve minutes with correction. There was a 2nd. No opposition, no discussion. Motion carries.

III. Illinois Governors Commission report read by Nate Steinfeld. He provided an overview on the purpose of the Commission. There were 27 recommendations made by the commission in Dec 2016. David Olson Loyola University Chicago is working with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority to support the development of county criminal justice coordinating councils in five Illinois jurisdictions (your list is correct). This was one of the recommendations of the Illinois Governor’s Commission on Criminal Justice and Sentencing Reform, and is in part designed to provide counties with a better understanding of how they sentence people and use prison as a sentencing option. These efforts will result in strategic plans developed for each county to aid in their system improvement efforts.

IV. Legislation report provided by Jon Gaeta. SB 2872. Changes sentence credit for good conduct as Director deems proper. May not receive probation or conditional discharge for Class 2 not sex or gun offenses. Study conducted that would decrease prison population and provide budget savings. 1722 changes the distance in which a crime can occur for drug offenses. from 1000 to 500 ft. Change in provision of truth in sentencing.

   o Discussion re: changing the name of supplemental sentence credit or earned sentence credit.

V. Budget report given by Director Baldwin. There is a budget. Major cuts in what we projected to spend in FY17. 52 mil reduction in spending. This will be a challenge. Looking at options to acquire that sum of money. Trying to figure out how to pay the bills. Comptroller says will pay children & health and human services first. IDOC will need to make some drastic changes in order to live with a 52 mil reduction in the
operating budget. There has been discussion on where cuts would make sense. This is difficult because many corrections costs are fixed.

VI. Education / Programs report given by Richard Stempinski. This has been a good year. Offenders who passed the GED in FY 16 was 346. This increased by 314 to 660 in FY 17. The goal for FY 18 is 900 but we should hit 1000. 95% success rate, #1 nationally. We were contacted by FL and UT to figure out how to assist them improve. Offering 73 classes in vocation to 1600 offenders. There will be more classes for offenders in FY 18. Wait list is stable for GED/ABE/ Advanced ABE FY 16-FY17. 3900 students on wait list. Currently trying to streamline the GED process for offenders who are ready to take more than one tests at one time. We are in the 3rd year of computerized testing. The department is looking at Northeastern, Northwestern and Western Illinois to offer 4 year degree program.

VII. Legal report given by Kelley Presley.
   o Kewanee – opened in Feb 2017. Currently 89. Expecting 11 more by next Tuesday. Contract signed with Lakeland College to assist with vocational training. The educational program is running smoothly. No areas of concern. There has been great feedback with the opening.
   o RTU’s
     ▪ Pontiac/Dixon – has a selected vendor to complete construction. Different vendor filed protest. Construction anticipated to begin as soon as the protest has been resolved.
     ▪ Logan – further along in the process. Over 50% complete.
     ▪ Elgin – slated to open Nov 1st opening. Joliet treatment center will be considered Elgin’s parent facility. Discussions continue with DHS regarding shared services. The biggest issue currently being addressed in staffing. There is an open house scheduled for July 20th at 10 am.
   o Lippert – class action medical care at facilities. Still in discovery phases.

VIII. Population report given by Sharon Shipinski. IDOC population continues to decrease, although more moderately then in the past couple of years. Decreases are due to reduced admissions from the counties. As IDOC continues to expand credit programs and launch reentry programs and activities on a larger scale, the population will decrease due to internal policies as well. Dr. Olson commented that James Austin has projected that new laws which take effect Jan 2018 will allow the department to accelerate credit programs and we should be in line to meet the 25% population reduction by 2025.
IX. Electronic Detention given by Doug Stephens. We updated the criteria for ATC and ED a couple of months ago, relying on the risk assessment tool for much of the work. We are starting with the ATC population, using the new criteria, then will be moving on to the ED population.

X. Old Business – Laura Kunard working to obtain additional funding for the Department. David Olson working with women’s issues. Looking to have students conduct research to assist IDOC with data on women’s population and their needs.

XI. New Business – Looking to have next IDOC Adult Advisory Meeting in September 2017.

XII. Motion to adjourn the meeting. There was a 2nd. No discussion, no opposition. Meeting adjourned at 12:16 pm.

XIII. David Olson called to order subcommittee on women’s issues. Encouraged board members to review handout given by Margaret Burke and Carolyn Gurski. Will have more information at the next meeting.

XIV. There is a motion to adjourn. There was a 2nd. No opposition, no discussion, meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.