

**Illinois Department of Corrections
Advisory Board
Women's Issues Subcommittee Meeting**

**Monday, January 30, 2012
12:00pm – 12:45pm
Pontiac Correctional Center**

Meeting Minutes

Subcommittee Board Members present: W. Kendrick Berry, Laura Kunard, David Olson, Jesus Reyes, Angela Rudolph and Gladyse Taylor

Other Board Members Present: James Gannon, S.A. Godinez, Wm. Patrick Hartshorn, Keith Lape, Donald Young and Malcolm Young (by phone)

Non-Board members present: Jerry Buscher, Lisa Armagast, Marvin Reed, Randy Pfister, Jaclyn O'Day, Michael Lemke, Kevin Gilson, Brad Curry, Joni Stahlman, Deb Denning, Emily Ruskin, Joe Rose (by phone) and Sara Sullivan

Board member and Subcommittee member not present: Shaena Fazal

Welcome and Roll Call

Angela Rudolph called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Sara Sullivan called roll; quorum was established.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Rudolph called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from the October 24, 2011 meeting. The motion was made by David Olson and seconded by Jesus Reyes. The motion carried with no objections or abstentions.

Proposed Female Offender Electronic Detention Program

Deb Denning distributed a handout entitled, "Electronic Detention Eligibility for Review". She noted the Department's been charged with coming up with ideas regarding population management without knowing the budget. It has been proposed that we reinstitute electronic detention with women. Females enter the Department at an older age and have a lower recidivism rate. They are a smaller population, but a more expensive one.

Of Class 3 or 4 female offenders, 251 are eligible. Of any class, 336 female offenders are eligible with nine months or less to MSR. It was noted many female offenders have domestic violence arrests, but not necessarily convictions, because both parties are often arrested in domestic incidents. Ms. Denning pointed out a similar program in California was challenged as it applied only to women. They circumvented that by adding the stipulation that the incarcerated person must be designated as the primary child care provider for the family. Director Godinez stated this would facilitate the re-entry process and it is the right thing to do. David Olson asked

if they would still earn good time; Assistant Director Taylor responded that they would. Mr. Olson then asked about violations. Ms. Denning replied that unauthorized movement is the main infraction, and they weigh the seriousness of the violation. Jesus Reyes reported the successful use of GPS monitoring for domestic violence offenders in Cook County probation. Ms. Taylor indicated the Department will be looking at GPS. Mr. Olson stated Cook County was using electronic monitoring to relieve jail overcrowding, but the offenders don't want it because their time is not credited. Director Godinez and Ms. Denning believe that to be erroneous.

Patrick Hartshorn inquired if there would be a new group of people to deal with violations occurring on electronic detention. Director Godinez stated technology and risk assessment will come in to play as we keep better tabs on more people. We want it to work. Mr. Reyes explained Cook County set up an agreement with the suburbs to call local law enforcement to report violations. Assistant Director Taylor agreed a reciprocal program would be helpful. Jaclyn O'Day noted there are restriction zones, and if offenders enter those zones, the victim is notified by phone call or text.

Open Discussion

Director Godinez thanked the Pontiac Correctional Center staff and his staff for their efforts in accommodating the Board today. Sara Sullivan announced that she has travel expense forms available for those that need one. Once the meeting is adjourned, we will break for lunch and then tour the facility.

Keith Lape extended the Board's appreciation for Sara Sullivan's work with them. He thanked Sara and wished her well.

Gladys Taylor advised the Department is deploying equipment, upgrading approximately 3500 machines, throughout the state. This will lead to video visitation, inmate mail and trust fund transactions being made available, and increased access to law libraries at no cost to the Department.

Jesus Reyes thanked Angela Rudolph for serving as the Subcommittee Chair.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Laura Kunard and seconded by Donald Young. The motion carried with no objections or abstentions.