

# **IDOC Adult Advisory Board Minutes**

**Monday, October 15th, 2018**

**Logan Correctional Center**

**10:30 am**

**Attendance In-Person:** Phil Whittington, John Baldwin, Keith Lape, Carolyn Gurski, Dr. Henton, Glen Austin, Rich Stempinski

**Call in:** Sheriff Watson, Lindsay Poeschel, Sharon Shipinski, Dave Olson, Gladys Taylor, Gwyn Troyer

- I. Phil Whittington called the meeting to order at 10:30 am
- II. Motion to approve meeting minutes, seconded, meeting minutes approved.
- III. Director's report (Director Baldwin) – Welcome to Logan.
  - RASHO decision will be out in about a week, we'll see where that goes; we will continue to make progress. Last week Menard CC's south cell house was deemed structurally unsound, we were able to move 600 people out in less than 48hrs. CDB has issued an emergency repair, timeframes are 2-6 months, costs are unknown.
  - Continue to hire, graduated staff officers at robust rate. Did data for 13% more than there were 4 years ago. 6% more non-security staff, a lot of facilities are at their highest in multiple years. Tomorrow DOC will host Puerto Rico DOC; will look at O360. Also hosting Romanian Delegates at Springfield, huge level of activity, things are changing for the better, lots of training. Final stages in negotiating with SIU who will be studying how to move some medical presence into DOC. UIC also very key in same thing in northern part of the state. Finally getting quality improvement review of all our medical, both Wexford and state.
  - Question: Have there been any plans in reviewing facilities that are older that ought to be closed? Continued renovation for Menard, is that in the best interest of IL? Our count is 39,584 today. That's the lowest in a long time. Expect that to continue to drop. We are still over what the design capacity of our system, but we're not going to close something until we get several more thousands out of our custody. We do need to consider looking at our 3 maxs but could be more cost efficient if we built 3 new ones. We need to start looking at what's logical.
  - Question: Mental health via video, have you tested on court case? Yes, it's amazing treatment and state of the art. It is truly a way to provide very adequate care for a majority of people under our supervision.
- IV. Education (Rich Stempinski): Annual report.
  - FY18 pretty good year overall. Highlights: EPSC which just over 6 million dollars in cost savings for the department. Saw an increase in our GED numbers for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row. Goal for FY19 is 1800. We are at 93%. Last year we had 12,892 tested at

- intake, 5000 below 6.0 grade level. Waitlist numbers increase dramatically. Currently a little over 4700 statewide. Anticipate an increase on our waitlist after Jan 1<sup>st</sup>. Try and do our best to target staffing in FY19 to keep waitlist down.
- Participants, vocational we have 6000 offenders enrolled in some sort of coursework. Decline in vocational coursework, results of budget impasse. Working with fiscal to get those instructors back hired, Danville and Kaskaskia CC coming back in FY19. Staffing from dept has gone down over last couple years, budget as well, we identified positions and filling retirements. Priority remains filing library associates. FY18 we were award 1.9 mil grants.
  - Lape: Commend you and staff who put this report together. Lakeland has been involved since the mid 60's, I don't know how they've been able to continue with budget constraints, but I want to recognize them for all these years of working with us and programming. Credit hour program, numbers for cosmetology are 9; some other are 4-6 credit hours, I closed programs that didn't have the numbers. I suggest closing those with low numbers.
  - Dave – mention of change in law – are you comfortable that that's what is behind the increase? They were more eligible, we saw a ramp up in the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 months it was put into effect.
- V. Recidivism (Director Baldwin) – numbers continue to go downward, 40% overall. There's a lot of factors that go into that. County, parole revocations, etc. We need to keep going down that path. We are having success with NYU graduating program. Hopefully we will get down to 29-30%. We are very pleased by the numbers but have a long way to go.
- VI. Systemwide Programming update (AD Taylor)- Chief Sawyer has team together focus currently on cognitive behavior therapy programs. Thinking for Change – we have to start with getting our population to understand the reasons why they are in custody. SIU is developing 3 additional programs that will be deployed at our max and med facilities. Additionally, we are going to look at where our priorities are, standard basic education programs will have priority (adult education, vocational, cognitive) then try to re-align the volunteer activities so they can continue to be a support for the population.
- Motion to close the meeting, motion seconded. Adult Advisory porting of the meeting closed.

Move on to Women's subcommittee 11:25am.

- VII. Gender responsive trauma (Gurski) – Updates on training: up to 450 staff that have been trained so far, over half-way mark. Confident that everyone will be trained by June of next year. Logan staffing is 508, Decatur is at 211 total staff. We are at that tipping

point, focus on training security staff. Discussed searches and some of the changes in procedures, that make environment safe, take away the trauma that searches have had in the past. Also working on truck driving training here at Logan. Started pilot program with McKinsey group. Our mental health and medical backlogs are almost non-existent, doing well. Significant vacancy are social workers, 12 vacancies at Logan, 10 at Decatur. We are moving forward at a more aggressive pace to get staff trained.

- Warden Glen Austin – Discussed gender responsive policies in several areas at the facility. Process of shakedown policy changes based on gender differences. Recidivism rate is down, women’s division is down to 23.9%. Elated with the progress that we’ve made and will continue to make progress. Count is decreasing as well. We are seeing increase in offender in programming and evaluating our current programs to see how affective they are. Improved behavior is going to cause a reduction in recidivism. The challenge is having effective program that can roll over into the community for the offenders. We still must weed out some programs that are not as effective. Discussed horticulture program.
- Any last questions? Next meeting will be in January.

Move to close, 2<sup>nd</sup> motioned. Meeting concluded 11:48am.