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Sedgwick County Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC)		
Meeting Minutes: 01/25/2018	Location: Sedgwick County Detention Facility, 2 nd Floor Training Room	Prepared by: Elizabeth Biles, Management Intern
Attendance		
Voting Members (nine is a quorum)	Voting Designees	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Judge James Fleetwood, 18 th Judicial District (Chair)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Judge Jennifer Jones, Municipal Court of the City of Wichita	<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Probation Officer Gail Villalovos	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheriff Jeff Easter, Sedgwick County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Undersheriff Brenda Dietzman	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief of Police Gordon Ramsey, City of Wichita	<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Chief Jose Salcido	
<input type="checkbox"/> District Attorney Marc Bennett, 18 th Judicial District	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Deputy District Attorney Ann Swegle	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Public Defender, Mark Rudy, Sedgwick County	<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Public Defender Jama Mitchell	
<input type="checkbox"/> Chief Deputy City Attorney, Sharon Dickgrafe, City of Wichita	<input type="checkbox"/> Assistant City Attorney Jan Jarman	
<input type="checkbox"/> Director, Glenda Martens, Sedg. Co. Depart. of Corrections	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corrections Administrator Jay Holmes	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Manager Mike Scholes	<input type="checkbox"/> Deputy County Manager Tom Stolz	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Richard Ranzau, Sedgwick County		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commissioner Jim Howell, Sedgwick County		
<input type="checkbox"/> Council Member Brandon Johnson, City of Wichita		
<input type="checkbox"/> Executive Director Joan Tammany, COMCARE of Sedg. Co.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director Tisha Darland, Crisis & Access Services COMCARE	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assistance County Manager, Russell Leeds		
<input type="checkbox"/> Criminal Presiding Judge Jeffery Goering, 18 th Judicial District		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sedgwick County Association of Cities, Tom Jones		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> President of Sedg. Co. Chief's Association, Ken Winters	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Vice President, Mark Hinkle	
Other attendees:	Tom Struble (DOC), Janice Bradley (JENI), Doug Ballard (JENI), Greg Gann (DITSS), Jared Schechter (SCSO), Rick Morey (KBAA), Karen Powell (Counselor's Office), Elizabeth Biles (Manager's Office), Toni Parker (SCSO), Daniel Foster (SCSO), Mike Ebner (SCSO), Kiana Knolland (ACLU)	



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Sheriff Easter called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Judge Fleetwood was delayed and quorum was not present at this time. The agenda was taken in the following order to allow time for a quorum to arrive.

III. Old Business

- a) Jay Holmes spoke about current changes within Corrections with the transition of Work Release from the Sheriff's Office to DOC. The transition is going well; 15 inmates have been transferred out of current 63. The remainder will be transferred over in groups of 15-20. All should be transitioned over by first of March. In Mid-February, DOC will begin accepting new Work Release inmates from the Courts.

Colonel Dietzman spoke about the timeline for remodeling the Work Release facility into the Annex. They are working with an architect and plan to remodel pods one at a time in order to transition out-of-county inmates into the facility as quickly as possible. Construction is expected to be done September/October.

- b) Sheriff Easter provided an update on the Mental Health Taskforce. Monday evening they presented to about 60 legislators who all serve on KDADS/Mental Health related committees. Support expressed for a regionalization approach which would include a state run mental health facility in Sedgwick County. This would help with issues of dual diagnosis and mental health patients who have medical issues; KDADS is currently not accepting these individuals. Having a regional facility here would help keep families closer together. There is also discussion of moving the competency evaluation from Larned State Hospital to this area. Larned State Hospital is having extreme employee shortages; short 390 employees. About 50% of individuals needing these evaluations come from this area. About 30%-40% of patients at Osawatomie State Hospital come from this area; they remain an acute care only facility. Problem is money to build a facility or to find buildings which could house the programs. General support to try a new direction in mental health care. Western Kansas has no mental health resources and they are suffering. Hospitals are unable to take patients; Sheriffs are holding people in their custody, which is a violation of state law, but the only option they have.

County Manager Scholes attended the Mental Health Summit on Monday. He stated that there is unity on this issues; Susan Wagle is positive on the issues in addition to support from Secretary Keck (KDADS); commissioners are on board. There is no lack of legislative support. The issue is funding; legislators are focused on education funding requirements from the Supreme Court and the decisions they make will impact the remaining budget.

Sheriff Easter added that there is land available on the North side of the Jail, which is already zoned correctly, and could be a viable option to place a mental health facility. Being a block from COMCARE is a bonus. Working on Medicaid suspension in place of benefits termination. Before mental health pod, inmates were released and had to be re-enrolled in Medicaid through COMCARE. This process took over a month. We have



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been able to streamline the process unless the rest of the state. Once an inmate is released, they can be waiting for re-enrollment for more than a month.

Tisha Darland, COMCARE, noted that the current waiting period for re-enrollment into Medicaid is 4-5 months. Benefits are terminated when in jail or when in a state hospital for more than 30 days.

Sheriff Easter stated that recidivism is down here by the expediency of getting individuals reconnected with Medicaid benefits through COMCARE. Suspending would solve the delaying issues as it would only take about a day once released to get reinstated. There is support from the Sheriff's Association to integrate Victim Information Network (VIN) into the process. This software is already used to notify victims when an suspect in their case is being released. Same could be done with KDADS to notify them of a release and to streamline the reactivation process. There would not be additional costs to this. About 40 other states are already doing something similar, including Texas. The Senate Bill is 195, which I testified at on Tuesday and there was no opposition to it; it has also be introduced into the House by Elizabeth Bishop.

Judge Fleetwood led the remainder of the meeting.

I. Approval of the Minutes for October 26, 2017.

A quorum is now present. Motion was made by Judge Fleetwood. Motion passed unanimously.

II. Committee Reports- none

IV. New Business

a. Population Report

Sheriff Easter direction the group's attention to the Average Length of Stay data. There was a spike in Summer 2017, which was a result of the number of increased pre-trial individuals. Normally about 70% of the people housed are pre-trial. Total monthly Average Daily Population (ADP) high through November and December but is down in January. This is based on the number of out-of-county individuals, which was over 200 during the summer and fall, and is currently down to about 146. Housing a lot of sex offenders due to their high bonds.

Captain Schechter spoke about the new data included in this month's report. With the new jail re-entry program being started, questions about recidivism arose. The data includes only inmates being released onto the streets/into the community by bond, court order, or probation. The number for November and December serve as the baselines for the program which started this month.

b. Jail Re-entry Program (SCORE), presentation attached.

Colonel Dietzman stated that the program began Monday. The process to join the program is that inmates will complete a request through E-Kites, then complete



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two additional forms which will determine eligibility. With this program, a new classroom has been setup for their use along with a computer lab. High priority issues from community partners include getting proper identification and addressing medical needs. Working on setting up a process to streamline getting Social Security Cards; lack of a SSC creates a barrier for people trying to find legitimate employment. The state has a mobile ID process which will be trailed at our facility.

A theme with this program is creating warm transfers for participants when they exit the jail, this includes for shelters and other community resources. Currently, inmates can use the SECURUS video program to look for jobs but cannot apply; program participants will be able to apply through the computer lab. Program will help inmates write a letter of explanation covering “why, why I’m never doing it again, and what I learned.” Setting up job fairs for the noncontact area; trying to arrange with SECURUS to allow for video job interviews. In the Fall, high school competition program will return. The issue is that inmates have to be here long enough to complete the program. There is no cost to the completion program for testing, unlike the GED, which is why it is preferred. TB Tests are an issue; you cannot stay at a shelter without a clean one. TB tests will be offered at the jail and if an inmate leaves before it can be read, they will be able to go to a community partner.

A backpack program is being developed which will include leftover hygiene items, maps, and a calendar. The calendar is necessary based on community partner feedback. Once released, individuals have a lot of appointments to keep track of. This will help. Partners will also see the backpack and know to ask for the calendar to mark appointments. EMS has provided leftover blankets which are being given to individuals who do not have seasonally appropriate clothing. In the future would like to have sweatshirts and sweatpants that could be given out. Mental Health pod 2 is doing some innovative things including a recent labyrinth which was painted on the gym floor.

Hurdles include releasing individuals outside of normal business hours, this prevents a warm handoff. We will be having conversations with the Courts about seeing if stimulations can be set for individuals within the program about when they can be released. Funding is a concern; currently no tax payer dollars are being used. Future wants include adding parenting classes, which are shown to save a lot of taxpayer money in the long run; adding chess which is shown to aid in decision making. Mental Health pod 2 has chalkboards which have shown to be helpful and would like to add elsewhere. Currently inmates draw/write on the walls, this would provide a dedicated place for expression. Adding color to the facility would be both good for inmates and employees. It would also help with learning the layout. At the University of Utah, Dr. Nalini Nadkarni has been studying the impacts of bringing nature into prisons. She recently was awarded a National Geographic Grant and we are trying to see if she can bring her study here.

There is serious interest in the program. We received over 200 inquiries within 24 hours.



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Tisha Darland, COMCARE, asked if the jail is hiring part-time or full-time employees.

Colonel Dietzman stated that they have created six part-time positions but as deputies only right now.

Captain Schechter spoke about the impact of Parenting Classes based on a conversation from a recent KDOC event. A woman who had been released spoke about how parenting classes helped her learn what she had never experienced in her own upbringing, which included how to prepare a meal and how to put kids down to bed.

Commissioner Howell asked if new deputies will be able to be a part of SCORE right away.

Colonel Dietzman stated that they are needed to fill the current openings so that there is more overall mobility within the facility. Currently, deputies are working overtime due to the shortages, so to execute the SCORE Program more employees are needed. As deputies advance, they will have more opportunities to engage with the SCORE Program. Currently short 52 employees.

Commissioner Howell stated that after 1 year, 55% of individuals had been re-arrested. Clarity was sought on what counts as a re-arrest.

Captain Schechter stated that re-arrest included being arrested for a new offense, probation violation, etc.

c. Bylaw updates

Elizabeth Biles, management intern, spoke that the changes to the Bylaws mirror the changes made to CJCC by the Board of County Commissioners. Specific areas which were updated included: Membership by Position (updating titles and adding the Sedgwick County Association of Chiefs); Regular meetings (change from monthly to quarterly); Designees (may now designate up to two individuals instead of one); added Council Liaison; Article VI (clarity added regarding appointment of Chair).

Judge Fleetwood moved to adopt the bylaws as presented; Sheriff Easter seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

V. Other Business

a. Next meeting: April 26, 2018

b. Tom Jones, SCAC, attended the Cities and Counties meeting yesterday in Topeka. In the 4pm meeting, they discussed the new prison, which is a lease-buy with the



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state providing daily management. He expressed concerns about increasing the number of beds in the new facility without also increasing staff.

Sheriff Easter noted that the state prison system is in dire need of employees just like Sheriff's Offices. At El Dorado, they are experiencing big fights and riots. Fewer employees will not solve that problem. Too often, low level offenders get released from jail/prison with knowledge of how to be a better criminal.

Judge Fleetwood noted that no action was appropriate from CJCC, but encouraged individuals to be vocal on this issue.

VI. Public Comment

- a. Janice Bradley, JANI, stated she has been struck by the medical costs with the jail. She supports Medicaid expansion and says it could help with inmate costs. We have refused to take federal money; we were close to expansion last year but it was vetoed by the Governor. She encouraged those present to advocate for another try to pass expansion.
- b. Kiana Knolland, ACLU of Kansas, introduced herself. She is interested in working together with those present.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.