

# **IDOC Adult Advisory Board Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry Center  
Video Conference – Springfield & JRTC  
10:30 am**

**Attendance Kewanee:** Phil Whittington, Dave Olson, John Clegg, John Baldwin, Sandy Funk, Gladyse Taylor, Jan Schoen, Sharon Shipinski, Alyssa Williams-Schafer, Keith Lape, Katrina Burlett, Jared Brunk.

**Attendance Springfield:** Lindsay Poeschel

**Attendance Chicago JRTC:** John Crivellone

**Call in:** Edna Lee, Carlos Gomez

- I. Phil Whittington called meeting to order at 10:35am.
- II. Approval of minutes from January 22, 2018 meeting. Two changes needed. Motion to approve minutes with changes. Emended minutes are approved.
- III. Director's Report, John Baldwin - Welcome to Kewanee, happy to have you here. During lunch there will be a panel with some people who are housed here, Kewanee is a life-skills entry center that will eventually focus on high risk, medium need offenders. This is the first in America of its kind. UIC is involved on the academic side. The goal is to focus on preparing people to leave here with an above-average wage income job. DOC is looking to expand the land just to our west, would like to put up buildings for programs such as welding, etc. and train offenders in job skills that they choose. DOC recently opened up Murphysboro facility. It is minimum security, the same type of program as Kewanee. Murphysboro will hold over 100. Update on Elgin Treatment Center - facility has females now. We had a bump or two, but expected that. Staff have been really, really good. Elgin has very challenging people there. Will eventually reach capacity of 22. Staffing update - continuing to hire staff, just graduated 50 parole agents. Desert waters - a program that started in CA that focuses on staff wellness. The program is about helping our staff cope with the realities of corrections. Huge effort to train 100's of staff, will take about a year to complete. Very close to expanding telehealth with SIU and UIC.

Assistant Director Gladyse Taylor spoke on the enhancement to sentencing credit and the integration of risk assessment tool into the process. The department has expanded our award of program sentence credit based on the new eligibility criteria. At this point we have not awarded any discretionary credit. Discussed the resource shortages in the community; housing for potential groups released, etc. Parole division added to total of 370 parole agents, with 26,000 individuals under parole supervision, limited housing and limited treatment, budget shortfalls from 16 and 17. We do not want to repeat what happened in 2009 and 2010. Those who have successfully completed program we are releasing according to schedule. Also looking at opportunity for those currently out on parole, so that our agents have the capacity to manage the parole

population. This takes a lot of training and effort. It is a systemic change and DOC clearly supports and wants to do it in a way that is right and safe. Discussed implementing a new reception and intake process, risk of recidivism and violence prediction tool called CARE classification. Will incorporate any programming or treatment the offender has been involved in. Discussed the sex offender registrant and challenges with that. DOC hopes to expand service provision for that.

- IV. Budget Update, Jared Brunk - We have a supplemental need that must be absolutely met. Working with GOMB to get resources that are needed. Discussed current issues with vendors and vouchers (see PowerPoint attached). Fiscal Year 2019 GRF budget request – \$1,404,075.1; Fiscal Year 2019 OSF budget request – \$91,736.3; Working Capital Revolving Fund – \$44,636.3; Department of Corrections Reimbursement and Education Fund – \$47,000.0; Sex Offender Management Board Fund – \$100.0; Fiscal Year 2019 total budget request – \$1,495,811.4. Discussed budgets on new facilities.
- V. Pending Legislation Updates, Gladys Taylor: lots of legislation that focuses on us; some good, some bad. Have walked through what those things are. Discussed proposed bill that would increase visits to 30 per month. 50 persons on visiting list would take years to happen and makes no practical sense. Not likely to happen, we have proposed 7 visits per month. Discussed in-person vs. video visitation, visiting hours, recommendations from wardens and line staff on what an appropriate number of visits would be, etc. 104 – Would take away prepaids and commissary funding. As of yesterday commissary portion has been removed. Discussed oppositions to oversight bill that would eliminate most corrections. Bill sponsored by Rep Rita Mayfield AD Taylor commented that to add another layer of oversight only delays the effectiveness of what we do.

*Guest Katrina Burlett gave the following comment/statement to the board: Ms. Burlett stated she came as messenger from God to deliver a message and here is the message: "Justice is on Illinois' doorstep. There is time to repent, but it is short. She is already knocking." Suggested board members read the book of Jonah.*

- VI. Update on DR 504, Sharon Shipinski/John Clegg - Handout of summary was distributed. Highlights were discussed. There was a change in structure - you can see with additions of new charges it has offset some of the balances from '16, '17, '18. We are seeing a shift in some of the more serious charges and increase in lesser charges; seeing slight reduction in placements with exception of admin detention placements. Results are based on data collected through operations monthly and can isolate down to facility.

Phil Whittington discussed handout looking at growth in IL prison population. Population drop in the last few years is the biggest we've seen in 40 years. Last slide on page 5 shows the crimes are driving the decrease which can be traced back to

fewer drug arrests from Chicago police districts. A drop in recidivism is also part of it.

- VII. Motion to conclude Adult Advisory Board meeting, motion seconded. Meeting concluded at 12:18pm.
- VIII. Transition to Women's Subcommittee Meeting, Gladys Taylor/Sandy Funk - Women's division is up and running. Discussed Elgin briefly, stated there is a lot of movement in women's side of equation. Results are being seen as a result of all the training they have done with their staff. Assaults are down across the state except for Dixon, Pontiac and Logan. Logan assaults have dropped dramatically. Department has seen success when trying these new techniques. Suggest a visit to Logan or Decatur for October meeting.
- IX. Move to adjourn, motion seconded. Women's subcommittee meeting concluded at 12:22pm.