

Sixth Judicial District Department of Correctional Services
Board of Directors Meeting
Friday, February 11, 2022, 1:00 P.M.
Linn Room | Zoom Teleconference due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Board Present: Monica Challenger, Bill Faircloth, Shelby Humbles, Shane Kron, Joe Oswald, Royceann Porter, Steve Rackis, Keith Rippy, Susie Weinacht

Absent: Michele Canfield, John Gahring, Jan Kazimour, Shelly Kramer, Fred Mims, Rick Primmer, Stacey Walker

Staff Present: Bruce Vander Sanden, Director; Laura Strait, Assistant Director; Rob Metzger, Division Manager; Drew Konicek, Division Manager; Vickie Kindl, Administrative Officer; Jodie Stoessel, Administrative Assistant; Cathy McGinnis, Psychologist

Guests: Mike Kitsmiller (Law Enforcement Advisory Committee); Sally Kreamer (IDOC); Myrna Loehrlein (Northern Advisory Committee); Jennifer Mooney (Statewide Corrections Pathway Navigator)

Keith Rippy, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

Joe Oswald and Shelby Humbles moved and seconded approval of the December 10, 2021 Board of Directors meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF PRESENTATION

Mindy Lamb, SOP Supervisor, and Cathy McGinnis, Psychologist, provided an overview of the Sex Offender Program.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Weekly Management Team (MT) calls** continue to discuss COVID updates and issues. We are looking forward to being able to end this practice.
- Participate in several **DOC conference calls** to discuss budget and the upcoming legislative session. IDOC Communications Director, Nick Crawford, monitors all legislation impacting CBCs and provides directors with a summary, which is very helpful to keep up with all of the proposals and changes.
- Presented to the **Board of Parole** along with Laura Strait, Rob Metzger and Drew Konicek to highlight our intervention process, agents of change approach to our work and successes.
- Continue to work with **de Novo Marketing** to create a marketing strategy and logo design around the “agents of change” approach to our work.
- Attended **Directors/Wardens meeting** in Des Moines to participate in strategic planning and team building.
- Attended **APPA Leadership Institute in Atlanta**. Serving as a mentor again. Thanked the Executive Committee for their approval. One of the highlights was listening to attorney Bryan Stevenson. He has obtained a recording of the presentation and would like to share it with staff at some point.
- Sixth DCS is hosting the **DOC Board meeting** on March 4th, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

February 11, 2022 – Page 2

FINANCIAL REPORT

Vickie Kindl, Administrative Officer, provided a budget update.

Monica Challenger and Susie Weinacht moved and seconded approval of the December Financial Report as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Client Services (next meeting on 2/22/2022) – No updates.
- Cultural Competency (last meeting on 1/13/2022) – Mark Achey and Shari Miller shared an update on the Racial Disparity Report. Liz Nead will be doing a training in March as part of the District’s annual Diversity Appreciation event. It will be recorded to accommodate shift workers. Michelle Azevedo, Personnel Specialist, provided an update on employee demographics—we remain consistent at 11% POC. Of the last 16 hires, 25% have been POC. We will continue to report this information out to the committee.
- Law Enforcement (next meeting on 3/2/2022) – No updates.
- Northern (last meeting 1/18/2022) – Have been focusing efforts on the goal of a “humanizing campaign” to include uplifting the voices of our clients and uplifting the professionalism of our staff. We are proud of the work we do and with some of the national narrative around criminal justice reform around technical violations, etc. it is important to showcase the work we do in terms of being agents of change and the processes we follow to engage our clients. Current initiatives involve: working with the Cedar Rapids Public Library to be part of a human library; a “Wall of Success” or “Wall of Change”; continuation with the client art showcase. We would also like to explore a School to Prison Pipeline Project with the African American Museum. Myrna Loehrlein shared her experience of recently working with Michelle Reese, PO, to host the client art show at her church. It was a powerful and impactful event with much interest expressed, including inquiries made to purchase the art. The showcase was a great connection piece for others who don’t have any connection with the CJ system. She recommended a short summary or simple handout be created to handout at future events.
- Southern (last meeting on 12/14/2021) – No updates.

BOARD BUSINESS

1. **Board Elections**

Bruce Vander Sanden presented current officers from and Executive Committee members 2021; he proposed to replace outgoing Board member Ben Rogers with current Board member Susie Weinacht on the Executive Committee for 2022. This helps to create a more balanced gender composition.

Monica Challenger and Bill Faircloth moved and seconded to reelect the current officers and Executive Committee membership as presented through 2022. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Table of Organization Review**

Shane Kron and Joe Oswald moved and seconded to approve the Table of Organization as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. **Contract Review (ratify)**

Shane Kron and Monica Challenger moved and seconded to ratify the Unzeitig Construction contract for the Nelson sprinkler system. Motion carried unanimously.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
February 11, 2022 – Page 3

4. **Out-of-State Travel (ratify)**

a. Bruce Vander Sanden (Atlanta, GA)

Susie Weinacht and Shane Kron moved and seconded to ratify the out-of-state travel as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. **Director's Evaluation**

Keith Rippy thanked the Evaluation Committee for their work. He presented the final evaluations to Bruce on Wednesday from each committee member as well as a summation. The consensus from the committee was that Bruce's rating was exceptional.

Susie Weinacht and Bill Faircloth moved and seconded to approve the Director's Evaluation. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Other**

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sally Kreamer, IDOC Deputy Director, applauded the Board's recognition of Bruce. She is very appreciative for the District's partnership and for all of the ways they go above and beyond.

OTHER

None

There being no further business coming before the Board, Bill Faircloth and Joe Oswald moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 1:58 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

The next Board meeting will be held on **April 8, 2022**.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jodie Stoessel, Board Secretary

Approved by Board:

Keith Rippy, Board Chair