

Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board
Minutes of the Meeting of October 13, 2020

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Place: Second Floor Conference Room, MH/ID/EI, 220 East Lehman St., Lebanon

Present

Pier Hess Graf, District Attorney and CJAB Chair; Audrey Rakow, Director of Probation Services; Erin Moyer, Director of Children and Youth; Jamie Wolgemuth, County Administrator; Robert J. Phillips, County Commissioner; Brandon Smith, Drug and Alcohol Commission; Daniel Wright, Police Chiefs Representative; Brian L. Deiderick, Chief Public Defender; Bruce Klingler, Sheriff; and, John P. Shott, CJAB Planner.

Absent

Honorable John C. Tylwalk, President Judge; Holly Leahy, MH/ID/EI Administrator and CJAB Vice-Chair; Karen Hess, Director of Domestic Relations; Robert Karnes, LCCF Warden; Stephanie Axarlis, Court Administrator; and, Kim Mackey, PCCD Regional Representative

District Attorney and CJAB Chair Pier Hess Graf called the meeting to order at 11:12 a.m. *Presence of a quorum announced.*

Noted for the record: Brandon Smith served as proxy for core member James Donmoyer, Director of Drug and Alcohol Commission. Mr. Wolgemuth and Ms. Moyer participated in the meeting via ZOOM.

Minutes of 08/11/20 CJAB Meeting—Approved on a motion by Sheriff Klingler, seconded by Mr. Deiderick

CJAB Chair Pier Hess Graf formally introduced and welcomed Audrey Rakow, who was recently named Director of Probation Services.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

- **D.U.I. Court**—At present, 45 offenders are participating in the program. One participant recently involved in a fatal auto accident. Two participants were sanctioned at this morning's DUI Court session.
- **Renaissance-Crossroads--** Current number of offenders in the long-term program is nine, with one in short-term. Three offenders are being supervised on the street. President Judge is holding Crossroads Court today and is unable to attend the CJAB meeting. Continued concern about the number of participants and whether the program will be fiscally viable going forward. Noted that some offenders eligible for the program have opted to serve a prison sentence rather than complying with the program's stringent guidelines.
- **Prison Reduction**—Warden Karnes was not able to attend the meeting, but provided information to Mr. Shott via email. ADP at the LCCF for September was 300; average length of stay, 20.91 days; average length of stay for the year, 58.37 days. The LCCF continues COVID cleaning, detection, and mitigation protocols with the assistance of PrimeCare medical services. At present, the LCCF has no positive cases among the incarcerated. Warden has imposed intermittent quarantining of inmate-housing areas due to new commitments released prior to testing results being forwarded back to the facility. LCCF using PA Department of Health, via PrimeCare, as a means of expediting inmate-testing analysis upon commitment, which has shortened wait time. LCCF programming—visiting, work-release, volunteering, etc.—remains suspended. Only Court officials—attorneys, law enforcement, Probation and Parole, bail officials—are

permitted to visit at this time. Program reinstatement, particularly visitations and work release, are reviewed monthly based on COVID-19 reporting for the county.

- **Veterans Court**—Current number of participants is 21, with one pending.
- **Mental Health**—No official report. The TEAM M.I.S.A. meeting scheduled for October 12th was cancelled. No updated suicide statistics at this time.

CJAB DEPARTMENTS: REPORTS AND ISSUES OF INTEREST

Day Reporting Center—Current number of active participants is 38, with six referrals pending and another six offenders identified as possible referrals to the program. Also, five participants have graduated from the program over the past month. Paul Amico has been named as the new Director of the DRC, replacing Rolando Ponce.

Offender Reentry Coalition—Community Action Partnership has submitted a proposal to subcontract management of the position of Offender Reentry Coordinator to F.O.R.E. No additional information to report.

Heroin Task Force—Task Force held a meeting via ZOOM on October 8th. To date, the County has confirmed 30 overdose-related deaths, with four pending. Among the deceased: 22 males, eight females.

Other Updates from CJAB Departments—

IP Funding for FY 2020-2021—PCCD’s Board of Directors awarded Lebanon County \$500,000 in IP funding at their Sept. 9th meeting. This will enable the County to continue the successful IP-Crossroads program. However, the official Award Letter has not been received. PCCD and the Commission on Sentencing continue to examine County IP plans and their compliance with the sentencing guidelines under Act 115 of 2019, which replaced IP with Restrictive Condition of Probation. The Sentencing Commission is having a teleconference with IP-grant applicants this morning to review this issue. Christopher Frye, Adult Probation Supervisor, is representing Probation Services at this session.

Coronavirus Supplemental Funding—PCCD approved Lebanon County’s application for \$74,630 in Coronavirus funding for law enforcement. Mr. Shott is working with the Controller’s Office to reimburse accounts for COVID-related items and services that had been purchased as early as March. Three municipal police departments have also been reimbursed for expenditures related to the pandemic. PCCD approved the quarterly fiscal report for July-September. Another round of Coronavirus funding could be announced by PCCD in the near future.

Body-Worn Cameras (BWC) Initiative—The County will submit a grant application to PCCD later this week for federal funding to purchase body-worn cameras and related equipment for Probation Officers. Under terms of the application, requests for federal funding must be matched dollar-for-dollar with local funding. The total grant budget is for \$63,846. Of this \$31,923 will come from federal funds, with the other half coming from Act 35 Supervision Fees.

ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nothing to report or discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Business to be conducted at the December CJAB meeting:

Election of Officers for 2021

Approval of CJAB meeting schedule for 2021.

ADJOURNMENT—The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Deiderick, seconded by Ms. Rakow.

NEXT CJAB MEETING: Tuesday, December 8, 2020, 11:00 a.m., MH/ID/EI