

STARKE COUNTY
COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
July 18, 2022
Meeting Minutes

The Starke County Community Corrections Advisory Board held its meeting on July 18, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Members Present:

Vice Chairman Todd Willis
Judge Charles Hasnerl
Magistrate Micah Cox
Abby Columbia
Rachel Oesterreich
Lorie Bailey
Annette Warkentien

Staff Present:

Shawn Matraw
Kolleen Woods
Brandon Pettit

--Meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m. by Vice Chairman Todd Willis. Attendance was taken by Secretary Kolleen Woods.

--The board was given time to review the April 18, 2022 meeting minutes. Mrs. Oesterreich made a motion to accept the minutes, Mrs. Columbia seconded the motion and the minutes passed unanimously with no changes.

Announcements:

--None

Reports:

--Mr. Pettit reported on the second quarter drug screen results; 174 were administered to the sentenced population. Of those, 7 were new use/not consistent with prescription medications and have an overall compliance rate of 92% for the quarter. Additionally, 87 drug screens were waived as an incentive with a total savings of \$2,610.00. Mrs. Warkentien inquired about the waiving of drug screen costs and whether that was excusing them from testing or if it was waiving the cost for negative drug screens and if so, how is the cost being absorbed. Mr. Pettit reported that an offender would be excused for the drug screen in lieu of taking it, saving them from having to pay the cost associated with drug testing.

Old Business:

--None

New Business:

-- Director Mattraw requested approval for take home vehicle for on-call officers and provided the board with the IDOC procedural bulletin and referenced the section regarding take home vehicles stating, "With the approval of the Community Corrections Advisory Board, a vehicle may be driven home...if the job requires an employee to be on call." Director Mattraw explained that with the new law regarding vulnerable victims and responding within 15 minutes, a take home vehicle will assist with response times. Additionally, Director Mattraw explained that there are currently no policies in place and those would need to be created if approved by the board. Mrs. Oesterreich expressed it being a good idea however would like to see policies beforehand; Mrs. Warkentien inquired about County policy and Mrs. Oesterreich shared there is one that is out dated and however has some they are referencing from other counties that she will forward to Director Mattraw. Judge Hasnerl inquired as to how would this change actually impact or help in response times based off locations of the officers and the destinations; Director Mattraw and Mr. Pettit shared some insight as to how the change could be beneficial as they could travel directly from home versus having to go to the office and get the gear on and then get in the vehicle and head out to respond to the violation. Lengthy discussion was held. Vice Chairman Willis suggested presenting data as to how often this occurs and to see what a policy for a take home vehicle would consist of. Mrs. Woods made the board aware of current policies regarding radios, badges, and other field equipment that prohibits those from being taken home, and allowing take home vehicles would also require adjustments to those policies as well. Vice Chairman Willis suggests putting together policies to present, look at how this will change other policies already in place, and data as to how often this happens and how it would have helped in certain situations. Judge Hasnerl shared that this seems to be a "hot topic" right now with other counties as well and is not opposed but would like to see some policies before moving forward. Mrs. Warkentien clarified that Starke County is in alignment with the new law right now as law enforcement responds within the appropriate time frame.

-- Director Mattraw requested approval from the board for a monetary stipend for the on-call officers to compensate for additional duties related to the new law as well to be more consistent with other agencies. Mrs. Oesterreich inquired if they are compensated in any way currently; Mrs. Woods reported that they get comp time but do not get paid over time. Mrs. Warkentien shared that historically with Probation they got comp time and only if they had to leave the house and comp time only started when they arrived at the destination. Vice Chairman Willis and Magistrate Cox shared their experiences with Porter Starke and St. Joe County and both were in agreement with compensation for their additional time. Stipend requested totals \$6,000.00 to be split evenly between two field officers as they alternate being on call. Mrs. Columbia shared that she gets a stipend for being on call and supports the stipend request to be in alignment with Court Services. Magistrate Cox made a motion to approve the monetary stipend for on-call

officer(s), Mrs. Oesterreich seconded the motion, nay noted by Judge Hasnerl and motion passed.

--Director Mattraw shared that there are currently 8 offenders on Day Reporting Home Detention that follow the general conditions of Home Detention without electronic monitoring equipment and pay \$5.00 a day instead of \$10.00 per day. Day Reporting has been utilized as incentive and step down between Home Detention and Probation. After some research, we are unsure as to whether Day Reporting earns credit time as the credit time statute uses the word "confined". Other community corrections agencies have reported that they do not give credit time for Day Reporting offenders. Director Mattraw asked the board if they think that Day Reporters should be entitled to credit time and if not, could those currently on Day Reporting get credit time up to this point, and then eliminate Day Reporting all together; or should we continue with Day Reporting and advise the offenders through a waiver that they will not earn credit time if they continue on Day Reporting. Magistrate Cox made reference to the recent Sarah Russel case and that in some cases Home Detention would have to be as a condition of probation and not earn credit time. Discussion was held. Vice Chairman Willis stated that he would trust the Director's Judgement on what programs to offer and provide. Further discussion was held, Director shared that he would like to eliminate Day Reporting going forward, Magistrate Cox expressed that if it has to be a term of Probation then Day Reporting wouldn't make sense. Additional discussion was held. Vice Chairman Willis reported that the board will support Director Mattraw's decisions regarding Day Reporting moving forward.

Public Comments:

--None

Adjournment:

-- A motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Oesterreich, Judge Hasnerl seconded the motion, motion passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kolleen Woods

SCCCAB Secretary