

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

MEETING: Advisory Board

DATE: October 19, 2023

START TIME: 12:02 p.m.

LOCATION: Community Corrections
309 S Broadway Blvd
Salina, KS 67401

END TIME: 12:30 p.m.

MEETING CHAIR: Todd Heitschmidt

DATE REPORT SUBMITTED: October 23, 2023

ATTENDANCE LIST:

Todd Heitschmidt	CJ Wise	Jeff Ebel	Richard Buck
Judge Amy Norton	George Troutfetter	Kevin Ellis	LaNay Meier
Douglas Lawson	Russell Thornton	Mary Thrower	Robert Collier
Susan Montague	Brad Steen	Phillip Smith-Hanes	Rodger Sparks

NUMBER OF MEMBERS ABSENT: 8

STAFF PRESENT: 4

Michelle Callam	Krisann Barnaby
Sherry Krous	Brian Vessar

1. Approval of Minutes (action)

Todd Heitschmidt called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m.

Todd Heitschmidt asked for any revisions or additions to the August 10, 2023, Advisory Board meeting minutes.

Susan Montague made a motion to approve the August 10, 2023, Advisory Board meeting minutes as submitted by staff. Richard Buck seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. Director's Report

a. New Board Member: Brad Steen

Director Callam introduced new board member Brad Steen. Mr. Steen shared with the board that he is primarily a criminal defense attorney and was appointed to the board by Judge Serrault-Wiseman.

b. Community Corrections Team Building Day

Director Callam told the board about the Community Corrections Team Building Day. Staff were able to tour the El Dorado Correctional Facility and see areas such as the mental health unit and some of the areas of industry on the prison campus. After the tour of the correctional facility, staff went to Chicken N Pickle to eat and participate in a pickleball tournament.

c. Crenshaw Interviews

Melissa McCoy, Saline County's Public Information Officer has arranged for a couple of interviews for Crenshaw the agency's certified professional therapy dog. Salina Post published an article with information about Crenshaw recently, and KSN will be airing a piece about Crenshaw at the end of October as part of their Positive Connections segment.

3. Amendment of Bylaws

Todd Heitschmidt stated that no meeting had been held, but one would be scheduled soon with the sub-committee members George Troutfetter and Glenna Phillips. The plan is to review our local bylaws and compare them with bylaws from other districts.

4. Kansas Department of Corrections

a. JCAB Report

The annual JCAB Report has been completed by staff. The board had no questions. Mary Thrower made a motion to approve the JCAB Report for submission. Richard Buck seconded the motion. Motion passed.

5. Drug Court Update

a. Drug Court Program Overview

Drug Court Supervisor, Brian Vessar provided an overview of the Drug Court Program for any board members who may be unfamiliar with it. The program is a five phase program that uses a team based approach to assist clients in recovery from addiction. It is the most structured program we have for probationers. The drug court team meets each week prior to court to discuss where participants are at and determine if they will receive any sanctions or incentives. A total of 471 clients have been served by the program with 201 graduating successfully and approximately 90-95 active at any given time.

b. Upcoming Specialty Court Conference

The Specialty Court Conference is being hosted by our agency on December 11th and 12th at the Webster Conference Center. Two nationally known speakers will be presenting at the conference: Paul Cary and Jermaine Galloway. Attendees are registered from active drug court programs around the state as well as from some districts that are working to start a drug court program of their own. Retired Chief Justice Lawton Nuss and Senator Roger Marshall are planning to attend part of the conference.

6. Kansas Community Corrections Association Meeting

The fall meeting of the KCCA was held recently. Stuart Little, Community Corrections lobbyist provided updates on HB2021 which has brought about some adjustments to SB367. He also addressed the fact that unification of Court Services, Community Corrections and Parole had been brought up by some legislators. At this point, KCCA's position is that if further talks happen, we would like to be part of those discussions. The 28th Judicial District is fortunate in that our agencies have a good working relationship, but not all districts have that between their supervision agencies. The final topic of discussion at the fall meeting was the request for increased funding for Community Corrections agencies. The link to the presentation by Randy Regehr will be shared with the board to provide more information about the funding request.

7. Adjournment (action)

Todd Heitschmidt asked for a motion to adjourn the October 19, 2023, board meeting.

George Troutfetter made a motion to adjourn the October 19, 2023, meeting at 12:30 pm. Richard Buck seconded the motion. The motion passed.