

OKLAHOMA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING

Hillside Community Corrections Center
3300 Martin Luther King
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Tuesday, April 26, 2011, at 1:00 p.m.

1. Opening and Roll Call

Ted Logan, Chair

A regular meeting of the Oklahoma Board of Corrections was held at Hillside Community Corrections Center, Oklahoma City, on April 26, 2011. The meeting convened at 1:08 p.m., Chairman Logan presiding and welcoming those in attendance. Members of the board in attendance were:

Ted Logan
Gerald Wright

Matthew McBee

Linda Neal

Robert Rainey

Absent from the meeting were Board members David Henneke and Earnest Ware; however, a quorum was present and the meeting continued as scheduled.

The Honorable Constance Johnson, Oklahoma State Senate, was introduced by Chairman Logan and invited to speak to the Board and attendees. Senator Johnson expressed her pleasure in attending the meeting. She stated that she highly regards DOC and she knows that the work that lies ahead of the BOC is important. She thanked the BOC for their support of the efforts that the legislature undertakes to work on bills that affect DOC. She also thanked the BOC for allowing her to speak and congratulated all the employees who were awarded recognition at the luncheon.

2. Remarks/Comments

**Mike Thompson, Cabinet Secretary
Safety and Security**

Commissioner Mike Thompson thanked the BOC for allowing him to participate in the meeting. Commissioner Thompson indicated that although he was new to his position as Governor Fallin's Secretary of Safety and Security, he holds a "deep-seated affection" for DOC. Commissioner Thompson stated he started his career in June 1984 as a Correctional Officer in Lexington and worked there for almost 6 years as both an officer and a Correctional Counselor. He stated that he understands the challenges DOC employees face and extended an offer of support to the agency if his position as Cabinet Secretary can assist with issues that may arise. He acknowledged that he is aware that DOC is understaffed, underpaid, and very much unappreciated by outside entities. He stated "I worked alone on a housing unit at 21 years of age with 158 offenders and I know exactly what Correctional Officers are faced with every day. With that knowledge," he further stated, "I have true appreciation for the employees of DOC" and again offered his assistance with issues.

3. Old Business

Ted Logan, Chair

None noted.

4. Approval of March 17, 2011, Board Meeting Minutes

Ted Logan, Chair

Chairman Logan sought a motion for approval of the minutes of the March 17, 2011, meeting of the Oklahoma Board of Corrections.

Motion: Moved by Mr. McBee and seconded by Mr. Rainey. Results of roll call: Mr. Henneke – absent; Mr. Logan – yes; Mr. McBee – yes; Ms. Neal – yes; Mr. Rainey – yes; Mr. Ware – absent; Mr. Wright – yes.

5. Director's Comments

Justin Jones, Director

Director Jones welcomed everyone in attendance, including a special thank you to Commissioner Thompson for attending and appreciation for his offer of support to DOC. Director Jones also introduced Ms. Rebecca Frazier, Assistant General Counsel, Governor's Office, and welcomed her attendance at the BOC meeting. He further acknowledged and welcomed members from Oklahoma Chapter of National Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errants (OK CURE). Director Jones then provided the following information to the BOC:

- Although DOC has cut back tremendously on programming, Director Jones expressed pride in announcing that there are 891 offenders participating in Substance Abuse Treatment programs and last month, 59 successfully completed those programs. In addition, 64 offenders have completed Thinking For a Change, a cognitive-based program that is also best practices and that is developed by the National Institute of Corrections; 60 offenders completed Adult Basic Education; 45 completed Literacy programs; and 84 offenders completed General Education Development (GED) programs. As a reminder, Director Jones stated that DOC's successful completion rate on first-time tests for GED is much higher than the national average and also those testing in Oklahoma. Altogether, there are 2,963 offenders participating in Education programs and one offender has obtained an Associate's Degree since the last BOC meeting.
- American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation has been ongoing at facilities and Director Jones stated he was proud to announce that Lexington Assessment & Reception Center (LARC) received re-accreditation April 11-13, 2011, with 99.77% on non-mandatory standards and 100% on mandatory standards. Joseph Harp Correctional Center (JHCC) was also re-accredited April 13-15, 2011, with outstanding scores of 100% on non-mandatory standards and 100% on mandatory standards. Director Jones reminded the BOC that ACA accreditation requires 100% on mandatory standards, but it is not required on non-mandatory standards. He commended both facilities for their results on both mandatory and non-mandatory standards. Jim E. Hamilton Correctional Center (JEHCC) is scheduled for ACA accreditation April 25-27, 2011, and Northeast Oklahoma Correctional Center's reaccreditation will conclude on April 29, 2011.
- Correctional Crisis Resolution Training (CCRT) was provided to Wardens and Deputy Wardens in March 2011 and in May 2011, it will be provided to Chiefs of Security. This training is provided as part of DOC's mental health awareness to recognize those that are in crisis or need resolution due to mental illness or other issues.
- R. B. 'Dick' Conner Correctional (DCCC) graduated their 52-member Faith & Character program on March 31, 2011, and every offender was recognized for their achievements and character. The Leadership Academy, hosted by Executive Communications, toured the facility on April 7, 2011, and was able to visit with and observe the offenders participating in the program. Director Jones noted that the Leadership Academy attendees were moved to tears by the offenders' testimonies during the class.
- Back Office Support Systems (BOSS) visited the Mabel Bassett Correctional Center (MBCC) operation. BOSS is a private-industry enterprise at MBCC that expanded their operations by adding a second shift on March 28, 2011, and are increasing their crew to 60 female offenders.
- Although the Oklahoma Correctional Industries (OCI) lost funds from the revolving fund due to budget changes, the Mack Alford Correctional Center (MACC) OCI Upholstery shop completed, within four weeks from the date of the order, a rush order for the Pontotoc County Courthouse for 329 pieces of seating. Also, they were awarded a contract to refurbish 600 banquet chairs for the City of Oklahoma City.

- OCI was awarded the furniture contract for a new residence hall at Rogers State University in Claremore, Oklahoma.
- The OCI Metal Fabrication Department recently produced a prototype above-ground storm shelter for our new private industry customer, Area Septic Systems, Inc. (ASSI), which was delivered to Texas Tech University on March 1, 2011, for an extensive test of the products' safety and stability levels. The testing was conducted to ensure certification credentials were received to assure customers of a quality product for emergency weather situations. The storm shelter received certification by Texas Tech which now places OCI's shelters among the top in the field.
- OCI has been awarded the contract for the Tulsa County Fairgrounds project, priced at over \$600,000 for various fabricated metal products.
- The Oklahoma County Health Department recently purchased modular furniture valued at \$45,000 from OCI.
- The Creek Nation, a new customer for OCI, recently purchased signage valued at \$17,000.
- Dr. Don Suttmiller met with PharmaCorr to discuss pharmacy pricing. Based on their discussion, PharmaCorr voluntarily gave back a 4% increase in prescription fill fees, saving an estimated \$55,000 per year for the remainder of their contract.
- Executive Communications, headed by Ms. Joyce Jackson, developed and completed the first on-line Leadership Academy Newsletter – L.A. Update – to be distributed on a quarterly basis.
- Enid Community Correctional Center now has a 16-week Substance Abuse Treatment program through Associated Treatment Services (ATS) and currently 10 offenders are enrolled.
- DOC had a percentage gain in Correctional Officers (CO) – the first since April 2009 – from 67.7% of authorized CO positions in March 2011 to 68.1% in April 2011. The overall FTE for DOC is 69.28% for March.
- On April 27, 2011, Director Jones will be going with the Air National Guard and Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) on a 'Boss Lift' to Camp Shelby in Mississippi. DOC has thirteen staff members currently in training at Camp Shelby before deployment to Afghanistan. One of the goals of the Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve 'Boss Lift' is to familiarize employers and community leaders with the vital role that the Guard and Reserve play in preserving national security. Another is to acquaint people with how the Guard and Reserve train to respond to their community and their country in time of need.
- Correctional Officer Appreciation Day was held earlier this date at the State Capitol for recognition by the House and Senate. More importantly, citizens in attendance were also able to witness the recognition of DOC's CO, CO Supervisor, and Probation and Parole Officer (PPO) of the Year awardees. Director Jones also noted that for the last two years, Oklahoma DOC's PPO of the Year has been recognized as the National PPO of the Year.

6. Budget Update

**Tom James, Chief Financial Officer
Finance and Accounting**

Mr. Greg Sawyer, Chief of Departmental Services, provided the budget update for the month of March 2011. Based on nine months of expenditure data, a deficit of \$100,000 exists for Fiscal Year 2011. This deficit compares to a \$1.6 million surplus last month. The report does not take into account changes in staffing or offender population that may occur through the course of the year.

The overall funded payroll is 73%; this totals 4,303.1 out of 5,894.6 authorized FTE. At the end of March 2011, 4,084.2 positions were filled for a rate of 69.3% with 218.9 FTE under the funded rate. A surplus of \$7.5 million currently exists.

Expenditure trends for private prison contract beds are based on current offender levels as of the end of March 2011. A \$5.5 million deficit exists at this time. Any offender growth during the course of the fiscal year that would require additional contract bed space will increase this deficit.

Medical and mental health services expenditure trends for March 2011 reflect a deficit of \$2.1 million should current expenditure trends continue.

7. Population Report

**Ed Evans, Associate Director
Field Operations**

The population update as of March 7, 2011, is as follows:

Total System Offender Population = 25,234	County Jails with Contracts = 451
Total Incarcerated Population = 24,134	County Jail Offender Backup = 1,527
DOC Facilities = 17,650	Halfway Houses = 1,288
Private Prisons = 4,745	Probation Supervision Offenders = 22,506
Total System Population = 51,121	Parole Supervision Offenders = 3,381

8. Legislative Initiative Update

Neville Massie, Executive Assistant

Ms. Massie provided the following updates on DOC Initiatives:

- HB 1388 – OCI purchasing bill is on the Senate agenda and will hopefully be heard before the April 28, 2011, deadline. If it does pass the House, it will be going to conference.
- HB 1991 – Execution drug bill was signed by Governor Fallin on April 18, 2011, and will be effective November 1, 2011.
- HB 2131 – Representative Steele’s criminal justice bill was amended in the Senate, striking the consecutive and concurrent language and adding some additional crimes to those that the Governor must personally review for parole consideration. It has passed the Senate as amended and it now goes back to the House for consideration of the amendments.
- SB 137 – Achievement Credits for offenders getting their Associate’s or Bachelor’s degrees was signed by Governor Fallin on April 4, 2011, with an effective date of November 1, 2011.
- SB 180 – Offender healthcare passed the House on April 19, 2011, and is back in the Senate for consideration of the House amendment to restore the title.

Other bills that DOC has been monitoring:

- HB 1208 and SB 606, which address the Governor’s appointment of boards and agency directors, have both failed to meet deadlines and are now dormant.
- HB 1234, authorizing the courts to utilize video-conferencing between a courtroom and a correctional facility has passed the House and is on the Senate agenda.
- Several bills regarding IT consolidation are actively continuing through the legislative process.
- State retirement systems – funding of COLAs, changes to retirement eligibility – are getting a great deal of attention and continuing through the process.

Thursday, April 28, 2011, is the deadline for bills to pass from the house of origin to the opposite house, so the next several days will be very busy. The Senate was not in session on Thursday, April 21, 2011, and President Pro Tempore Brian Bingman has said the Senate may take another furlough day on Thursday, April 28, 2011, to save on per diem.

9. Approval of Board Resolution

**Greg Thomas, Administrator
Personnel**

- **2010 Correctional Officer of the Year – Larry Baker
Sayre Community Work Center**
- **2010 Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year - Cory Ketch
Mabel Bassett Correctional Center**
- **Public Service Recognition Week (May 1-7)**

Mr. Thomas presented three resolutions for consideration and approval by the BOC; Correctional Officer (CO) of the Year, Correctional Officer Supervisor (COS) of the Year, and Public Service Recognition Week. Mr. Thomas requested and received approval to waive the reading of the CO and COS of the Year Resolutions, as neither of the awardees was present. For historical purposes, the CO and COS resolutions have been included in the minutes and were written as follows:

Correctional Officer of the Year

WHEREAS, correctional officers are trained professionals who unselfishly provide humane conditions of confinement while ensuring security of the state's correctional institutions and contributing to the rehabilitation of offenders; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is extremely fortunate to have correctional officers who are conscientious, dedicated, and committed to performing their duties in a professional manner; and

WHEREAS, each year one correctional officer is selected as the outstanding officer for his facility as well as his division; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections conducts a comprehensive interview process and selects an Agency Correctional Officer of the Year who exemplifies high standards and serves as a role model for others to follow in fulfilling the agency's mission of "Protecting the Public, the Employee and the Offender":

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Oklahoma Board of Corrections does hereby announce and proclaim to all, its recognition of LARRY C. BARKER, Sayre Community Work Center, as the 2010 Agency Correctional Officer of the Year.

ADOPTED this 261h day of April, 2011.

Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year

WHEREAS, correctional officers are trained professionals who unselfishly provide humane conditions of confinement while ensuring security of the state's correctional institutions and contributing to the rehabilitation of offenders; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is extremely fortunate to have correctional officers who are conscientious, dedicated, and committed to performing their duties in a professional manner; and

WHEREAS, each year one correctional officer supervisor is selected as the outstanding officer supervisor for his facility as well as his division; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections conducts a comprehensive interview process and selects an Agency Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year who exemplifies high standards and serves as a role model for others to follow in fulfilling the agency's mission of "Protecting the Public, the Employee, and the Offender":

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Oklahoma Board of Corrections does hereby announce and proclaim to all, its recognition of CORY E. KETCH, Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, as the 2010 Agency Correctional Officer Supervisor of the Year.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2011.

Mr. Thomas read the following Public Service Recognition Week Resolution for the BOC's approval:

WHEREAS, May 1-7, 2011, is Public Service Recognition Week; and

WHEREAS, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections has over 4,000 employees who dedicate themselves to providing countless hours of essential service to the citizens of the state of Oklahoma; and

WHEREAS, these employees provide these services with the highest degree of professionalism, proficiency, honor, and dedication and are committed to fulfilling the Department of Corrections mission of "Protecting the Public, the Employees, and the Offenders," 24 hours a day, 365 days a year; and

WHEREAS, this dedication and commitment to serve and the value of the services provided is worthy of the highest form of recognition and commendation:

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that the Oklahoma Board of Corrections does hereby announce and proclaim to all, its recognition of the employees of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections for the essential services they perform on a daily basis.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2011.

Chairman Logan sought a motion for approval of all three resolutions.

Motion: Moved by Mr. McBee and seconded by Ms. Neal. Results of roll call: Mr. Henneke – absent; Mr. Logan – yes; Mr. McBee – yes; Ms. Neal – yes; Mr. Rainey – yes; Mr. Ware – absent; Mr. Wright – yes.

10. Approval of Board Resolutions

- **National Teachers Appreciation Week (May 2-6)**
- **National Nurses Appreciation Week (May 6-12)**

**Kenny Holloway, Deputy Director
Treatment and Rehabilitative
Services**

Mr. Holloway thanked the Board for allowing him to present for BOC approval the resolutions for National Teacher's Appreciation Week and National Nurse's Appreciation Week. The DOC, under an umbrella of the Lakeside High School, provides Literacy, Adult Basic Education, and GED preparation and instruction to the offender population. Last year, of the offender receptions into DOC, the average grade level for females was 6th grade, 4th month; for males, it was 4th grade, 9th month. Of the offenders received in 2010, over 50% of them reported that they had not graduated high school, nor did they have their high school equivalency diploma. In March 2011, 709 offenders were participating in Literacy classes; 719 in ABE classes; and 724 in GED classes. Between 2005 and 2010, DOC offenders earned 6,203 General Equivalency Diplomas within the agency's school system. In 2010, the pass rate for GEDs was 90%; 922 GEDs were awarded to offenders last year.

In addition to general education courses, DOC offenders can also participate in college courses offered through various partnerships with colleges and universities, which are funded by the offenders and grant monies. In March 2011, 619 offenders were actively participating in college courses. DOC's educational staff members have devoted their lives to learning; each day, the 60 full-time teachers and administrators and 13 part-time teachers provide instruction to over 1,500 students. Correctional Teachers not only serve DOC but, most importantly, they serve those offenders who are motivated to embrace the educational opportunities afforded to them.

Mr. Holloway recognized DOC's 2010 Teacher of the Year, Phillip Collins with Howard McLeod Correctional Center (HMCC), who was seated in the audience. He is also the Correctional Educational Association's Teacher of the Year for 2011. Mr. Collins began his career with DOC in 1984 as a Food Service Supervisor. During the time he was working in Food Service, he received his teaching certificate and was then hired as a teacher. He has spent 27 years in minimum- and medium-security facilities and currently, at HMCC, he teaches Literacy classes and coordinates the college program.

Mr. Holloway read the following resolution for BOC approval:

WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections employs 60 full-time certified teachers and administrators across the state who work diligently to ensure that the educational needs of offenders are served; and

WHEREAS, these professional staff are called upon to provide educational services to a population with more concentrated special needs in a challenging population who have, for the most part, been unsuccessful in the public school setting; and

WHEREAS, the education staff must meet and maintain rigorous standards to remain accredited through three entities: State Department of Education, North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement, and the American Correctional Association; and

WHEREAS, the knowledge and skills provided to offenders through the services of the correctional education unit consistently prove to be one of the main deterrents against offenders recidivating back into the system; and

WHEREAS, the provision of education by the teachers in corrections proves to be a cost savings to the State of Oklahoma each year through reduction in incarceration services; and

WHEREAS, National Teachers' Week will be celebrated from May 2-6, 2011, with May 3 known as National Teachers' Day, a day in which to "Thank a Teacher":

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, request that all Oklahomans join us in honoring the professionalism, commitment, and compassion of the education staff of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, affirm our appreciation for the accomplishments and efforts of our certified education staff to improve the academic achievements, employability, and lives of the offenders under their care.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2011.

Mr. Holloway then stated that DOC's Medical Services Unit provides medical care and health education to over 19,000 offenders. During March 2011, medical staff responded to 6,063 sick call requests and coordinated 7,023 medical appointments at local hospitals and clinics. The backbone of the Medical Services Unit is the nursing staff. DOC has 86 Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs), 73 Registered Nurses (RNs), 22 Patient Care Assistants, and 6 Advanced Nurse Practitioners. Nursing staff serve as the frontline for the medical unit – they are the primary contact for the offenders needing medical care. Nurses use formal protocols to triage offender medical needs, either providing immediate medical services or scheduling them with a mid-level practitioner or with a physician. In March 2011, nurses completed 2,894 nursing protocols with offenders. These interventions are overseen by nursing managers or mid-level practitioners. Many of DOC's nursing staff work on the Mental Health Unit with mentally ill offenders.

Nursing staff are not only called to tend to the sick and injured, but they must also serve the disadvantaged of our society. Their compassion and dedication to helping their fellow man is demonstrated each and every day. Representing the nursing staff at the BOC Meeting was Amber Chester, RN III, from James Crabtree Correctional Center (JCCC). During the last snow storm in Oklahoma, staff could not get to the facility due to the road conditions. Ms. Chester, who lives approximately 4 blocks from the facility, would walk to the facility each day to ensure offenders had access to medical care. Also in attendance and representing DOC's nursing staff, was Judy Brinkley, Nursing Manager, from Medical Administration. Ms. Brinkley was recognized earlier this day as the DOC Employee of the Year. Ms. Brinkley has assisted with implementation of the Electronic Health Record throughout the state. She has been traveling to various facilities throughout the last year to train medical staff in utilizing the Electronic Health Record.

Mr. Holloway then presented the National Nurse's Appreciation Resolution which read as follows:

WHEREAS, the Department of Corrections employs 162 professional nurses across the state who work diligently, 365 days per year to provide nursing services to our offenders; and

WHEREAS, these dedicated staff are called on to provide nursing care to an underserved and challenging population, and respond to that vocation unselfishly; and

WHEREAS, the quality services provided by nurses continue to be a critical component of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections health care delivery system both now and in the future; and

WHEREAS, National Nurses Week is celebrated annually from May 6, also known as National Nurses Day, through May 12, for the birthday of Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing. This year's theme "Nurses Trusted to Care" is in celebration of the importance of nurses in the lives of all U.S. citizens:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, request that all Oklahomans join us in honoring the strength, commitment, and compassion of the nursing staff of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, affirm our appreciation for the accomplishments and efforts of our professional nursing staff to improve the lives and health of the offenders under their care.

ADOPTED this 26th day of April, 2011.

Chairman Logan sought a motion for approval of both resolutions.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Rainey. Results of roll call: Mr. Henneke – absent; Mr. Logan – yes; Mr. McBee – yes; Ms. Neal – yes; Mr. Rainey – yes; Mr. Ware – absent; Mr. Wright – yes.

11. Approval of Board Policies

Justin Jones, Director

- **P-030200, Offender Housing, Job and Program Integration**
- **P-040100, Security Standards for the OK Dept of Corrections**
- **P-110300, Drug Free Workplace Program**
- **P-120100, Management of State Funds and Assets**

Director Jones provided information on the changes to the various policies and then opened the floor for discussion. No further comments were noted by the Board.

Chairman Logan sought a motion for approval of all policies.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Rainey and seconded by Ms. Neal. Results of roll call: Mr. Henneke – absent; Mr. Logan – yes; Mr. McBee – yes; Ms. Neal – yes; Mr. Rainey – yes; Mr. Ware – absent; Mr. Wright – yes.

12. Program Updates

Kristy Warren, Administrative Specialist

- **Program Participation Database – Software Application Demonstration**

Programs

Mrs. Warren provided information on the Program Participation Database. In the early 1990's, the Programs Unit began collecting program attendance data from facility representatives who would:

- Collect program attendance data from the various program providers at the facility;
- Enter the data into an excel spread sheet; and then
- Email the file to the Programs Unit.

Once the file was received by Programs, staff would compile the information into one master file. This process was repeated monthly. Reporting program attendance became mandatory in 2003. Through the years, it became ever more apparent that a more efficient process for collecting and tracking programmatic data was in order. Staff considered the data that was currently being collected and with that information,

the Data Management Coordinator and other unit staff developed a web-based application that incorporated as much of the existing data as possible. Sites were then selected to pilot the application. After a successful pilot, statewide training was provided to facility representatives beginning in July 2009, with full implementation by September 2009.

Mrs. Warren stated that the program attendance data is validated through OMS. When a user enters the DOC number of a new program participant, this application searches the Offender Management System and confirms the DOC number, name and location of the offender. In addition, the Data Management Coordinator built quality assurance checks within the application to eliminate common user errors. For example, the application will not allow a user to enter a program termination date that precedes the program start date.

Now that the data had been collected, the unit wanted to share the information so they made the data available electronically to the Evaluation and Analysis Unit. Programmatic data is used for automated reports and are included in department and facility profile reports, as well as facts at a glance and other information materials. Reports can include participant numbers for both males and females in Education, Cognitive Behavioral, Treatment and other programs. It also provides average LSI scores of program participants in selected program categories.

After the initial introduction on the new tracking system, the unit developed the application further to provide facility specific reports. The facility can receive a summary of programmatic activities within the facility in "real time." It lists all the active programs and number of participants in each. The "total participants" counts all participants in all programs. The "total unique participants" only counts an offender once, regardless of the number of programs they are active in.

The Programs Unit also wanted to provide reports for the user that would assist them in accurate tracking of attendance and they built in a few "discrepancy" reports, as well. For example, a "discharged" report is displayed reflecting offenders who have left the facility via discharge, parole, transfer, etc. The user is prompted to identify the termination date and update the records accordingly. Once the record is updated, it is removed from the discrepancy report.

Some programs are intended to be completed within a specified time frame such as cognitive behavioral and treatment programs. The Programs Unit built criteria around specified programs that alert users when an attendee has been in the program too long. In addition, completing a participant too early in some types of programs can be detrimental to the intended outcome. They provided an additional report that adheres to specific criteria for "early completion." If a participant completes too early in these programs, their name would appear in the "Early Completions" report.

Mrs. Warren stated they then developed "query" reports for users giving them the ability to query their own data by entering specified time frames and selecting certain programs to retrieve specific data. In all areas of the application, the user has the ability to export their data to excel for their own reporting purposes.

The feedback from users about the database has been extremely positive. They have provided great suggestions for enhancement and the unit has been able to accommodate most of them. Mrs. Warren stated that Oklahoma tends to set the standard nationally in correction best practices. Therefore, the Board should not be surprised to learn that Oklahoma DOC is the **ONLY** Correctional Agency nation-wide utilizing a real-time, web-based application for program attendance tracking.

13. Community Sentencing Update

**Sharon Neumann, Deputy Director
Community Sentencing and Offender
Information Services**

Ms. Neumann provided a brochure that summarized FY 2010 activities for Community Sentencing. She stated that with the economy being “tough,” she was grateful to Director Jones for portioning a small amount of the budget so that Community Sentencing can continue. Community Sentencing’s budget was significantly cut from \$4.6 million in FY 2010 to \$2.6 million in FY 2011.

Ms. Neumann stated there are two things about Community Sentencing that make it unique. Oklahoma has a proliferation of optional diversion programs, such as drug court, mental health court, veterans’ court, etc. However, the key word is “optional”; none of the programs are mandatory. Ms. Neumann reminded former Senator Ged Wright of efforts in 1997 to create structured sentencing that would have required certain non-violent, substance abuse-related offenders into diversion programs. When that legislation was ultimately repealed a few years later, only Community Sentencing survived but without a direct “feed” or a population, so a tremendous marketing effort began.

One thing that makes Community Sentencing unique is that it involves the community. Counties opt in or out, choosing to participate in Community Sentencing. If they choose to participate, they have the option of joining another county to have a multi-county system. At the end of FY 2010, there were 53 counties participating and although there are still that many participating, they are not the same counties from FY 2010.

Another unique aspect of Community Sentencing is a board that is statutory; the Community Sentencing Planning Council includes a Chief Judge, the Sheriff, the County Commissioner, citizen members, etc. Community Sentencing also has treatment money. If an offender comes into Community Sentencing, the state dollars that filter into Community Sentencing must be used to provide treatment for the offender. This is not true of some of the other diversion programs.

Ms. Neumann stated that Community Sentencing had been active statewide for 11 years and the statistics have not changed significantly during that time. From the start and continuing on into 2011, approximately ⅓ of the offenders are Caucasian men who come into the program for substance abuse-related offenses. There is a higher representation of Native American and African American offenders in the program than are in the general population. Costs for this program in FY 2010 were less than \$4 a day per offender or approximately \$1,300 a year. The offenders pay an administrative fee and those fees can then be used by the councils to further support the program. In comparison, drug courts market their programs at \$15 a day per offender. Approximately 20% of the offenders fail to complete the program; however, of the offenders who successfully complete Community Sentencing, 88% are still in the community three years later.

In response to a query as to why counties would opt out, Ms. Neumann stated that a successful council requires the support of the presiding judge and a prosecutor who is willing to participate in the program. Lack of support from either of these entities will not allow the program to grow.

14. Committee Reports

Committee Chairs

- **Budget – Chair Robert Rainey, Members Ged Wright and David Henneke**
None.

▪ **Female Offender – Chair Linda Neal, Members Matthew McBee and Ted Logan**

Ms. Neal invited Dr. Laura Pitman, Female Offender Operations, to highlight and discuss the committee's recent meeting topics. Dr. Pitman provided information on three main areas:

- In March 2011, MBCC participated in the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Validation Project for improving safety in women's facilities. The survey was commissioned by the National Institute of Corrections and was conducted by Dr. James B. Wells, President and Chief Research Consultant, and Dr. Barbara Owen, Professor for the Department of Criminology, California State University. Dr. Wells and Dr. Owen commended MBCC staff and leadership for their "professionalism and dedication" and their facilitation of the survey. Dr. Wells also stated "MBCC has raised the bar and now Dr. Owen and I gauge our survey's success in our PREA research. Of the 316 inmates that were housed in Units C2D and were available, we successfully surveyed 296 inmates, or 94%."
- In March 2011, Mr. Leo Brown, Coordinator of Religious and Volunteer Services, and Dr. Pitman met with Cheri Fuller, who volunteers at female offender facilities, to discuss implementing The Messages Project with female offenders. Carolyn LeCroy, former offender and founder of The Messages Project, was recognized as a 2008 CNN "Hero" for her establishment of the project which allows incarcerated parents to maintain, or in many cases re-build, the connection with their children and families through video recordings. The parent is recorded reading books or poems to their children, after which a DVD is created and sent to the children and the caregiver families along with the book or poem that was read in the video. The program will be piloted at Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center (EWCC) on May 4, 2011, and Jess Dunn Correctional Center (JDCC) on May 5, 2011. Ms. LeCroy will be coming to Oklahoma to train the volunteers that will be implementing this program. More information on the program can be found at www.themessagesproject.org.
- Last year during legislative session, Speaker of the House Kris Steele, helped to pass HB 298, which provided for pilot diversion and reentry programs for nonviolent offenders who had care-giving responsibilities for minor children. Almost 18 months ago, the George Kaiser Family Foundation (GKFF) began Women in Recovery (WIR), a diversion program, in Tulsa County. After HB 298 passed, a work group started in Oklahoma County in August 2010 to consider modeling a diversion program similar to WIR. Tulsa County WIR is completely funded by GKFF, while Oklahoma County joined with the In As Much Foundation and approximately 30 community organizations to obtain funding. The Oklahoma County work group will soon see the fruition of their efforts when their first candidate is chosen to participate in the diversion program. Dr. Pitman stated they have received amazing support from the Oklahoma County District Attorney's and Public Defender's offices. In As Much Foundation has committed \$350,000 towards this project with DOC matching the funding with \$100,000 as required by the bill. The Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services are also contributing \$100,000 in services to the women who will be participating in the program. District Attorney (DA) David Prater requested the program first focus on women who are pregnant, then those with children under the age of 5 years, and then women with school age children.

Ms. Neal stated that she has asked Dr. Pitman to keep the BOC members advised of the diversion program's status as she believes this can be a great model for other counties to follow. Unlike Tulsa County, many smaller counties may not have complete funding from one source; Oklahoma County has demonstrated that many entities can be brought together in collaboration to support a diversion program. She expressed her appreciation of Dr. Pitman's efforts with the different

projects.

- **Public Policy – Chair Ged Wright, Members David Henneke and Earnest Ware**
None.
- **Population/Private Prisons – Chair Earnest Ware, Members David Henneke and Robert Rainey**
None
- **Public Affairs/State Boards Interface – Chair David Henneke, Members Matthew McBee and Linda Neal**
None
- **Executive – Chair Ted Logan, Members Matthew McBee and Earnest Ware**
None.

15. **New Business (“Any matter not known about or which could not have been reasonably foreseen prior to the time of posting.” 25 O.S. § 311)** **Ted Logan, Chair**
None.
16. **Announcements** **Ted Logan, Chair**
None.
17. **Adjournment** **Ted Logan, Chair**
Chairman Logan sought a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Moved by Mr. Wright and seconded by Mr. Rainey. Results of roll call: Mr. Henneke – absent; Mr. Logan – yes; Mr. McBee – yes; Ms. Neal – yes; Mr. Rainey – yes; Mr. Ware – absent; Mr. Wright – yes.

Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

I hereby certify that these minutes were duly approved by the Board on the 16th day of June, 2011, in which a quorum was present and voting.

Approved by:

Linda Neal, Secretary of the Board

June 16, 2011

Date

Submitted by:

Kimberley Owen, Minutes Clerk