



Corrections Commission of Northwest Ohio

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IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday, June 24, 2020

STRYKER – State budget cuts resulting from COVID-19 are impacting beds at the local jail. Officials announced during this morning’s meeting that the grant program supporting the jail’s PRC (Post Release Control) inmates has been eliminated, creating a \$2.2 million revenue loss over the two year cycle. The state had already been under-utilizing those beds making the jail’s 2020 budget short approximately \$200,000. Despite the immediate funding loss, Dennis Sullivan, CCNO Executive Director, was confident the jail could “make it work.”

“We understand the situation and appreciate what Chris Galli, Chief of the Bureau of Community Sanctions, and the state have done for CCNO. They were there when we needed them and we’ve established a positive relationship over the past few years,” said Sullivan.

The coronavirus and its impact was a common theme in many of the day’s topics. Jail officials had applied for the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding Grant to recoup the cost of PPE and cleaning/sanitation supplies and were awarded \$43,300. In addition, Mr. Sullivan told board members that jail staff is providing each county with bed days so they can apply for reimbursement for inmates that could not be taken to prison during the outbreak. He also let the members know that the facility is working on procedures to test inmates for COVID-19 if they are getting booked into the jail and have had a known exposure or are coming from a different facility that has current cases.

Lucas County Commissioner Pete Gerken talked with the board about dropping beds for next year as his county has taken a financial hit from the virus. He stated that conversations had already been held with the jail’s Executive Director and the Financial Overview Committee and that a plan is in place for a one-year MOU to allow for the drop.

CCNO leadership is taking a proactive approach regarding uses of force in the facility and making policy reforms in response to events occurring across the nation. Mr. Sullivan commented that he had already met with command staff and supervisors on the reforms and that all security staff would be starting training next week.

April's Employee of the Month was MacKenzie Corpus from Henry County. Corpus recognized that a new book-in inmate was acting strangely and notified medical. Soon after, the inmate became unresponsive. Medical staff was already present due to Corpus's action and were able to administer narcan. All security staff at CCNO were noticed as May's Employee(s) of the Month for their effort in curbing COVID-19 in the jail. "It's difficult to have to wear respirators, face shields, surgical gowns and still provide supervision and security of the units. It's not an easy job. Plus they've had to carry out an intensive sanitation schedule," stated Sullivan, "They've done an excellent job and deserve to be recognized."

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