

Citizen's Advisory Committee Meeting
April 7, 2016
7:00 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Andrew Kozal. Roll call was taken with a quorum being present.
- II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: Mr. Kozal presented the minutes from the November 5, 2015 meeting. Paul Arruda made a motion to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Karen Maassel. The motion carried unanimously.
- III. CCNO POPULATION STATISTICS/OPERATIONAL UPDATE: Dir. Dennis distributed the population statistics. The average daily population in March was 576. Defiance, Lucas and Williams counties over utilized their beds during March. Post release control (PRC) offenders have averaged 20 per day in March. PRC offenders are those who are under pre conditional release from the Department of Corrections and they violated the terms of their pre conditional release. CCNO now has a grant to hold them at CCNO rather than transferring them back to prison. Mr. Arruda questioned if the PRC offenders are included in the average daily population report. Dir. Dennis responded that they were in addition to the member jurisdictional count. The average daily population including the PRC violators was 595 in March.

Regarding electronic monitoring, the first two months of 2016 the average number of offenders has been 100. During March that number increased to 120 a day. The municipal court judges in Lucas County are using CCNO's electronic monitoring program for both pretrial and sentenced people. Using electronic monitoring for pretrial defendants is relatively new to the courts. By utilizing GPS tracking it keeps the pretrial defendants accountable and increases the number of defendants who appear for their court appearances. Johnetta McCollough questioned how CCNO monitors people in Toledo. Dir. Dennis responded that CCNO has an office in the Hamilton Building in Toledo. Staff work evenings and weekends to do hookups from this office. A question was asked whether if a person who was sentenced in the Fulton County Eastern District Court in Swanton would be monitored from CCNO or Toledo. Dir. Dennis responded the majority are monitored from CCNO for Fulton County.

Work release numbers are significantly down. Lucas County operates a work release program also.

IV. CURRENT ISSUES:

In the two previous Board meetings the pay-for-stay program was discussed due to the article that was written by the ACLU. No action was taken regarding the program. The collections will continue to be monitored. One of the myths of the program is that indigent people are being gouged. The reality is that indigent people are not assessed pay-for-stay charges. Most of the offenders that come

to CCNO are indigent and the courts have declared them indigent. It was questioned when CCNO determines the offender is indigent. Dir. Dennis responded that CCNO does not do that, the courts do. It was questioned whether CCNO tries to pursue them. Dir. Dennis responded no. Mr. Kozal questioned whether pay-for-stay charges affect a person's credit. Dir. Dennis responded that it does not because nothing is placed on credit reports, no one is taken to court for collections and no liens are placed.

Dir. Dennis stated that due to the program success of housing PRC violators at CCNO he is investigating submitting a grant application to house more PRC violators at CCNO for the next grant period. Dir. Dennis stated that the number may increase by 15 to 20 but not exceed 40. Dir. Dennis has discussed the possibility of adding bunk beds at CCNO with the Bureau of Adult Detention to ensure it can be done while remaining in compliance with the Ohio Jail Standards. Possible locations for the bunk beds are against the back wall of the five minimum dorms in the main facility taking the number of beds from 60 to 64. In addition, Dir. Dennis is reviewing the possibility of double celling 16 cells in C Unit. C unit is biggest unit in regards to dayroom space and square footage per inmate. C unit is a minimum security unit and does not have locking cell doors.

The medication assisted treatment (MAT) program for four county inmates has begun at CCNO. This program was made possible by a \$150,000 grant that was awarded to the Four County ADAMHS Board. Inmates from Lucas County have had a MAT program in their county. Thirty-six inmates have been processed for the MAT program, but over half were not eligible due to lab work (liver tests), two were released early by their judge, two were sent to prison and some have said no to the program due to the program requirements. One person has received a Vivitrol shot prior to their release. The program is just finishing up its first month. There is an average of 38 people a month who detox while incarcerated. There was a record high of 51 in December and March for opiates alone. The average for detoxing from alcohol or Benzodiazepines is 27. Ms. McCollough questioned what the average age is of those going through withdrawal. Dir. Dennis responded that he does not have that information, but in his estimate based on those housed in medical for withdrawal symptoms 20's or 30's. It was questioned whether there is a protocol for people who will receive the Vivitrol shot. Dir. Dennis responded that there is a decision making matrix that is followed to determine eligibility. Dir. Dennis said that the Recovery Services case manager gets a daily report of who is detoxing and she goes to each unit to talk to them to give them instructions to help them through withdrawal symptoms and to discuss treatment options with them. People who do not qualify for the MAT program do have other program options available to them. It was questioned how many of them return to drug use upon their release. Dir. Dennis responded that he did not know.

Dir. Dennis reported that the annual jail inspection was held on January 19 and 20. CCNO received 100 percent compliance.

Dir. Dennis spoke at the Opiate Conference hosted by the Ohio Attorney General on January 21. Dir. Dennis stated that Sheriff Tharp also did a presentation on his program. Dir. Dennis stated that there are four or five "like" DART programs going on around the state.

On March 9th, nine Correction Officers began employment at CCNO. Seven remain after two decided corrections was not a career for them.

A new program from Bridges Out of Poverty, in conjunction with the Toledo Municipal Court, has started called "Getting Ahead while Getting Out". This program is doing some new things and Dir. Dennis stated he is excited to see its impact. The participants meet a couple of times a week. The first class will graduate in June.

The City of Toledo filed a lawsuit against the Corrections Commission of Northwest Ohio, the individual Boards of Commissioners from Defiance, Fulton, Henry, Lucas and Williams counties and the Lucas County Sheriff. The underlying issue of this lawsuit is Toledo's assertion that they are not responsible for inmates who have been charged under the Ohio Revised Code. The Commission contends that the Operating Agreement binding the entities together as the Corrections Commission of Northwest Ohio holds each entity responsible for the inmates they sentence to CCNO. The parties are currently in the discovery phase and the Judge is to have a decision made before July 1 when the next quarterly payment is due from the City of Toledo. Ms. McCollough questioned whether a visiting judge had been called for this case. Dir. Dennis responded that a visiting judge has been assigned from southeast Ohio. It was questioned when the Operating Agreement comes up for renewal. Dir. Dennis responded that the Operating Agreement does not come up for renewal; it is an ongoing agreement until the Commission wishes to make changes to it. The current Operating Agreement calls for a member that wishes to withdraw from the Commission to give three years notice which Lucas County did in 2015. It was questioned when the City of Toledo gave their notice to withdraw. Dir. Dennis responded that they have given no notice to withdraw. It was discussed in a Toledo City Council committee, but no notice to withdraw has been given to CCNO. A question was asked whether Lucas County can withdraw their notice. Dir. Dennis responded that they can withdraw their notice. Mr. Kozal stated that other cities have changed to writing violations under Ohio Revised Code and questioned whether there have been other legal decisions made. Dir. Dennis stated that there are county commissioners across the state that are watching this case to see whether it is rule that municipalities have to pay for those inmates sentenced by municipal courts.

- V. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN: Dir. Dennis stated that a new Vice Chairman was needed due to Bill Sanford no longer being on this Board. Dir. Dennis noted that Mr. Kozal is also leaving the Board so a new Chairman is needed. A motion was made to nominate Tim Coll for Chairman and Sheldon Goodrum for Vice Chairman. Karen Maassel made a motion to close the nominations. The motion was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Dir. Dennis stated that the next meeting is scheduled in May. Dir. Dennis noted that the Board normally meetings a couple of times a year and questioned whether the Board still wants to meet in May or meet next in September for the facility inspection. It was decided to cancel the May meeting.

There being nothing further, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.