

El Paso County Community Corrections Board  
MINUTES  
July 14, 2021

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Board members: Pat Kelly, Corinne Melusky, Mark Allison, Judge Chad Miller, Janice Hellman, Eric Carnell, Martha McKinney, Brian Makofske, Lori Griffith, Billie Ratliff, Gilbert Suazo, Kirsten Swenson, and Ryan Graham

Excused absences: Dr. Judy McCollum and Judge Ann Rotolo

Unexcused absences: None

Staff present: Angel Medina, Daniel Huddleston, Tiffany Weaver, Diane Frost, Christine Burns, Mary Ritchie

Guests present: Scot Smith, Mark Wester and Dr. Alexis Harper

**1. Pat Kelly, Board Chair called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.**

**2. Attendance:** Chair Kelly called roll. No future excused absences were requested by Board members.

**3. Case Review-VRA Statements:** Registered victims in Diversion client cases (Jeremiah Current, Omar Roman-Martinez, Amanda Rivera-Frank, and Jason Smith) addressed the board.

**4. Case Review – Discussion and Balloting:** Chair Kelly called for case discussion with no cases called.

**5. Approval of the Minutes:**

Gil Suazo moved to approve the meeting minutes for June 9, 2021, and the electronic meeting minutes for June 2, 16, 23 and 30, 2021. Janice Hellman seconded the motion. The motion passed by roll call vote.

**6. Program Reports:**

**a. Community Alternatives of El Paso County (CAE)**

Scot Smith reported for CAE. Mr. Smith reported additional unauthorized absence information as a follow up to last month's questions from the Board; that most unauthorized absences were male Diversion clients which he characterized as a challenging population; and that the average LSI score for this population was 26 which lies within the medium to high-risk category. Mr. Smith reported that CAE collected client restitution of approximately \$7500 and that restitution was a key factor for clients to make amends and lifestyle changes. Mr. Smith reported that the current average census was 175 with 220 total beds available; that CAE had 13 successful and 13 unsuccessful terminations, of which 10 were unauthorized absences and 3 were house technical violations. He stated that no clients were transferred to the intensive residential treatment program and that CAE had an 81% employment rate, which was up from the 76.2% reported the previous month.

**b. ComCor, Inc. (CCI)**

Mark Wester reported for CCI. Mr. Wester reported that CCI had a 79% employment rate; that the average client census was 271; and that they had 24 unauthorized absences. He stated that CCI was working with the county and members of the board, including Dr. Harper, on their

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data, trends, and areas to improve. Mr. Wester reported that CCI has improved the camera system internally and externally at all facilities, and plans to improve security, client responsiveness, living conditions and to enhance treatment services and therapeutic engagement. He stated CCI has developed a finance literacy class, added a vocational lab and plans to hire a specialized case manager to improve client support.

Martha McKinney thanked Mr. Wester for providing specific information on how they are trying to reduce the unauthorized absence rate.

## 7. Monthly Reports:

### **SFY21 Financial Report:**

- a. Angel Medina reported the expected expenditure for the period of July 2020 through June 30, 2021 was 100% of the contract; that CAE was at 68.57% representing a 31.43% under expenditure; and that CCI was at 99.97% spent representing a .03% under expenditure. Christine Burns provided a brief overview of the contracting and allocation process from the Division of Criminal Justice to the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and El Paso County and the flowthrough contract language to the providers. Mrs. Burns stated that any expenditure by a provider above the contracted amount was expended fully at the risk of the provider and that the Division of Criminal Justice may or may not cover any jurisdictional overage expense.

### **SFY21 Unauthorized Absence Report:**

- b. Angel Medina reported that for at the end of June 2021, the unauthorized absence rate for Diversion clients was 37.6% and 27% for Transition Clients, with 32 for the month of June. The successful completion rate for Diversion Clients was 29.1% and 43.9% for Transitional Clients.
- c. **Staff Report:** Angel Medina introduced Mr. Daniel Huddleston as the new El Paso County (EPC) Community Corrections Specialist. Mr. Huddleston brings nine years of Community Corrections work experience. Angel Medina reported that on July 12, Community Corrections collaborated with EPC Public Health, Nomi Health Mobile Missions and CAE and hosted a COVID19 Vaccine Clinic. He stated that 20 clients were vaccinated; that newly vaccinated and previously vaccinated clients enjoyed a shaved ice treat from Kona Ice; and that the event was well received by all involved. Mr. Medina stated that a Mobile COVID19 Vaccine Clinic was scheduled for Monday, July 19, 2021 from 4-6pm at ComCor, Inc (CCI).

## 8. Old Business:

- a. **SFY22 Allocation Update:** Christine Burns stated that the State Fiscal Year 2022 Allocation letter was approved by the Board of County Commissioners on July 6, 2021 and that the provider contracts had been issued, signed by the providers and have been scheduled to be heard on consent at the July 15, 2021 El Paso County Board of County Commissioners meeting.
- b. **Community Corrections Data and Outcomes Update:** Angel Medina provided the Board with an overview of the June 17, 2021 Data and Outcomes meeting. Mr. Medina stated that items discussed included a Review of the mission and vision of the Community Corrections Board (CCB), a review of client placement decision-making, an assessment of the data currently collected by the Division of Criminal Justice, El Paso County Community

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Corrections and local providers, and the impact of legislative change and COVID19 on the unauthorized absence rate. He stated that the meeting concluded with discussion to form a sub-committee of CCB members and providers to further collaborate, assess and work toward improving public safety, current and future outcome measures, client services and programming, and data collection. Mr. Medina stated that a debrief meeting was held with both CAE and CCI to discuss data needs and future performance measures and that an additional meeting on this matter would be scheduled.

- c. Christine Burns thanked Dr. Alexis Harper for her knowledge, expertise and support of the data and outcomes project for community corrections; that Dr. Harper has been instrumental in helping the process, providing context for successful outcomes compared to what should be defined as unsuccessful (new charges, absconds and technical violations) and her assistance with reshaping the presentation of data. Commissioner Carrie Geitner requested that Kenny Hodges be invited to the next data and outcomes meeting.

9. **New Business:**

- a. **Intensive Supervision Program - Inmate:** Parole Manager Mark Allison provided an overview of placement procedures for ISP and ISP-I Offenders. Mr. Allison discussed the two types of ISP offenders, the first being an offender moving from a regular residential community treatment program onto ISP supervision, and the second being a direct referral from the Department of Corrections onto ISP supervision. Mr. Allison provided examples and an opportunity for Board members to ask questions.
- b. **Office of Community Corrections Training:** Angel Medina reported that under contract with the Division of Criminal Justice, Office of Community Corrections (OCC) all community corrections boards are to provide formal education and training to board members. He stated that OCC staff have created two five minute informational videos, aimed at educating community corrections board members, on the Complaint Process and an Overview of the OCC Measurement Processes. He stated that the videos are available on the DCJ website under the heading "Recorded Videos" along with other resources and online training opportunities, including a video on the Progression Matrix. Mr. Medina encouraged Board members to take advantage of these training opportunities.
- c. **Office of Community Corrections Performance Based Contracting Project:** Christine Burns informed the Board that the Office of Community Corrections (OCC) contracted with Government Performance Solutions, Inc. to engage stakeholders across the state to aid in the performance-based contracting (PBC) process that is expected to be implemented with the SFY23 Allocation. Mrs. Burns stated that the OCC has worked on PBC for several years starting with a revision to the Community Corrections Standards, developing new program evaluation and audit tools, obtaining baseline performance measurements through PACE, and contracting with the Urban Institute to make recommendations on PBC. Mrs. Burns stated that the OCC was tasked with reporting back to the legislature in January 2022 on PBC and that the 4<sup>th</sup> Judicial District has volunteered to participate in a series of workshops to help shape risk informed outcomes and metric details for the PBC roll-out.

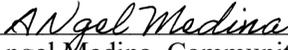
10. **Case Review – Ballot Results:** Results of the ballot were read.

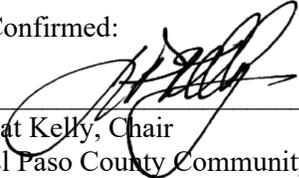
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11. **Board / Staff Comments** – Board Chair Kelly asked for any comments. No comments were offered by the Board or Staff.
12. **Adjournment:** Board Chair Kelly asked for a motion to adjourn. A motion was provided, and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 1:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Angel Medina, Community Corrections Program Manager

Confirmed:  
  
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Pat Kelly, Chair  
El Paso County Community Corrections Board