

**HIGHLIGHTS
COOK COUNTY CORRECTIONS BOARD MEETINGS
HELD DURING MARCH, 2007**

MEETING OF MARCH 9, 2007: Meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair Iola McGowan, Vice-Chair Munir Muhammad, Board Members Howard Brookins, Sr., and Esequiel Iracheta, Executive Director Salvador Godinez, Board Secretary Shirley Moore, Cook County Commissioner Robert Steele, Vera Bonds, Asst. to Comm. Steele, and Frances Sowa, LWV Observer.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Director's Report:

Inmate Count:

- The jail population ranged from 9,521 on March 6th, to 9,159 at 8 A.M. on March 9, 2007. Additionally, as of that date,
- 1,538 arrestees were subject to community supervision and Intervention (Day reporting, Electronic Monitoring and Pre-release) under the DCSI Unit.
- 15 inmates were in the hospital.
- 118 women were in the Women's Justice Service Residential program,
- 139 women were on furlough, and
- 9 pregnant inmates were housed elsewhere.
- 318 detainees (294 male and 24 female) had been shipped to IDOC during that week.

Unusual Occurrences:

- A detainee who had attacked another was maced to bring him under control.
- A detainee gave birth to a 2 lb.baby in her cell; both were hospitalized.
- A detainee informed jail officials of a planned escape. The jail was placed on alert, alleged plotters were separated in segregation.

Director Godinez stated that the pregnant inmate had kept her condition secret, and that her cell-mate alerted personnel to the birth.

Budget cut affects sick call schedule:

Due to budget cuts, the daily medical sick call has been reduced to 3 to 4 times a week. Between calls, the medical staff evaluates detainee requests for care to determine whether they need immediate care.

Newly Appointed Assistant Executive Director:

Director Godinez introduced Assistant Executive Director Romero, and also newly appointed Assistant Executive Director of Administration, Tom Kleiston. Mr. Kleiston

helps to develop policies, protocols and general orders, and works on maintaining national accreditation compliance.

Program Services:

Roshanda Carroll outlined the Program Services offered at the jail:

- (1) Social Services- Provided by a correctional rehabilitation worker and a staff of 39;
- (2) Law Library- One library in each division, staffed by a librarian who assists the detainees twice daily;
- (3) Detainee Disciplinary Hearing Board – Hears complaints against inmates Monday through Friday; consists of one corrections supervisor, a corrections officer and one civilian.
- (4) Volunteer Program- Offers religious and non-religious programs. It is hoped that these services will be expanded.

In answer to Mr. Brookins question, Ms. Carroll stated that Sheriff Dart has appointed Leonard Evans, Director of Community Outreach to communicate with all religious denominations.

Comments of Commissioner Steele:

Commissioner Steele complimented Director Godinez on the cleanliness and orderliness of the facility. He indicated that he is looking into the issue of getting more resources for the jail from the Federal government, and also working on creating a division within the county which would identify and apply for grants. His assistant is researching possible ways to expand the duties of the Corrections Board.

The Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

MEETING OF MARCH 23, 2007 : Meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m.

PRESENT: Chair I. McGowan, Vice-Chair Munir Muhammad, Board Members Esequiel Iracheta, Director Salvador Godinez, Board Secretary Shirley Moore, Board Legal Advisor Joseph Copolo, County Commissioner Robert Steele, Vera Bonds, Comm. Steele's Assistant, and LVW Observer F.Sowa

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Director's Report:

Inmate Count:

- The jail population count for the previous five day period ranged from 9,601 on March 19, to 9,383 as of 8 a.m. on March 23rd. As of that date,
- an additional 1,525 individuals were on community intervention and supervision, and

- 15 were hospitalized.
- 119 women were in the Women's Justice Service residential program,
- 151 women were on furlough and
- 9 pregnant detainees were housed elsewhere. During that week,
- 358 (317 males and 41 females) had been shipped to IDOC.
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The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

Unusual Occurrences:

- **Attempted Escape From Stroger Hospital:**
A convicted murderer, who was awaiting sentencing, had been transported to for treatment at the Stroger Hospital Dermatology Department. He produced a five inch nail, which he used to injure four people, before he was apprehended on the shuttle bus to which he had fled in leg shackles.

Director Godinez explained that, due to **budget cuts**, the jail no longer had a dermatologist on staff. He was investigating, however, why that particular individual could not wait for treatment until he had been remanded to the prison authorities.
- **Visitor Fights lead to restricted visiting:** Director Godinez reported that rival gang members who had visited their comrades met and clashed outside the jail, requiring the Chicago Police to respond. As a result of this incident, written permission from the Director is now required to visit these gang members.

Budget Cuts affect medical care: Commissioner Steele reported that, during his morning tour of the jail, he saw an inmate with a severely swollen jaw, apparently from an untreated abscessed tooth. Director Godinez stated that he is encouraging the documentation of all grievances of this kind, to support his requests for more medical care. He stated that the medical staff do not report to him, and that he can not issue orders to them.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Frances Sowa, LWV Observer