

Marion County Community Advisory Committee

10/16/2012 Minutes -

Members Present:

Doug VandeGriend

Gary Rychard

Glen Rader

Cari Fiske-Sessums

Steve Staten

Vanessa Nordyke

Levi Herrera

MCSO Representatives Present:

Undersheriff Clausen

Sara Zavala

- 1) Glen opened the meeting at 6:36 and asked the group to take a few minutes to introduce themselves. Each person shared where they are from and why they are here to participate in the Committee.
- 2) There was no quorum, so the review and vote on the minutes has been postponed.
- 2) Ride Along Feedback -

JAIL:

Gary - Commended the jail staff on the cleanliness of the facility. The Work Center was the first site that he visited; there appears to be many offenders, but not much activity going on. He then went to intake where it was pretty slow. Then he visited the women's unit, where he commented that there was a lot of lock down time. As a direct supervision facility, one of the ways that he feels we can best classify the inmate is by utilizing direct facility. From there he went to the D Unit. The first thing he noticed was that it was completely full. The capacity spilled over from D4 into D3. He commented that the deputies appeared to be high caliber. The staff were respectful, courteous and handled themselves very well.

Doug - Spent quite a bit of time talking to staff there; the facility is great. When he asked about how many offenders make Jail "part of their life." Doug thought that for some people, this Jail is too nice. He believes this is a broad concern, but how do we deal with some of these people who choose to make Jail their "safety net." He said that some intake staff were treating the inmates like "old friends."

Steve - Thanked Commander Lorange for her assistance. For the tour, he said that staff are courteous to inmates. The Work Center seemed really full, but not out of control. Overall he was very impressed. Great experience. He was surprised how few staff there was in relation to the number of inmates.

Undersheriff Clausen explained that because of budget cuts, we have lockdown at 1800 hrs. There is no sub control after that time. Undersheriff Clausen also explained that all of our programs occur during the daytime hours.

There was continued discussion on the amount of lockdown time. The group is concerned about the lockdown hours and the lack of class time. US Clausen also explained that this Jail is a short term, pre-trial release facility, with an average length of stay of 14 days. He also thanked the group for their feedback on the cleanliness of the facility. Doug asked if the facility and infrastructure work that we have inmates do is maxed out. US Clausen said that inmate work is

used in as many ways as possible. It helps with building skills and work ethic. Vanessa asked about the medical services and how that affects the budget. US Clausen responded; we only provide emergency dental services; medical services are costly, with a large portion of that being for psychotropic medications for inmates dealing with mental illness. The group agreed that mental illness in the facility is a major issue. US Clausen said that we are exploring ways to deal with these types of people outside of the criminal justice system. Mental Health Court, COURT Team, Veterans Court. Vanessa commented on the development of Veterans Court in Marion County; there was an intense training, which some local staff attended.

PAROLE & PROBATION:

Cari went on a ride along with Dep. Tim Trabosh. She was impressed with how he interacted with people. Cari shared a story about a PO home visit where a young child reacted negatively to the presence of the PO (telling the "cop" to get out); Tim tried to give the child a sticker to help change that perspective. There was another visit where a client ended up being arrested. Cari said that some of the biggest troubles can be with a PO - not at the Jail or with the arresting officer. It's when they are held accountable when the client is trying to make changes in their life. Cari was excited to see how great a job the POs do. There isn't "instant judgment" with the POs. Each house was so extremely different; there are ups and downs. US Clausen added that it's a delicate balance between officer safety and compassion.

ENFORCEMENT:

Glen - Rode with Dep. Ron Cereghino. Glen said he was very impressed with the changes in technology for deputies. There was some concern over the amount of things the deputies do while driving. The one thing that Glen was disturbed about was that on the screen there was all these 911 calls and there is no time for the deputy to have some discretionary time or prevention. It is just dedicated response time. Glen hopes that we can get to a point where deputies can have more discretionary time. He commented on the high level of professionalism of Dep. Cereghino; he never talked down to anyone. He did exactly what the Sheriff expects when interacting with mentally ill. He also commented that the deputies' email addresses are nowhere to be found; the only one listed on the website is for the Commander. US Clausen also commented that we do have a commendation/complain process that generates an email directly to a generic inbox that is checked by Sara. Glen further commented on meeting Chris and Chris (Baldrige and Cypert). These guys do "knock and talks"; these are generated by drug activity complaints, and Chris and Chris visit the locations to talk to the people. Gary asked US Clausen to speak about the Reserve Program, which years ago helped to assist deputies. US Clausen responded that there is an amount of liability that goes with solo Reserves; they would require the same level of training as a regular deputy, so many aren't able to put in that much time and money to become solo.

Vanessa - Felt that the Deputy had plenty of discretionary time and they drove around quite a bit. There was time for questions and she asked if deputies have performance evaluations and if so, how do they measure those. She thinks that it would be difficult to measure. There could be concern about people "going off track."

Doug wondered if having an email address on a particular patrol vehicle would be a good way to capture feedback on that particular deputy. He thinks he would be much more inclined to send an email. Doug thinks the commendation / complaint form should be on the business cards. US Clausen thanked Vanessa for her comments, and he explained that upper level supervisors have quarterly evaluation meetings. He also went on to share about the change in staff - not just the "I have a badge, so do what I say."

Doug asked about the current financial climate. He asked if this is a new normal for us. US

Clausen said this is our normal and we have to adjust to it. The group commented on the number of positive interactions with deputies; they thanked the leadership of this office.

4) Glen asked if there were any events; Levi said that there is a PSA playing in theaters that is great; Vanessa said the Veterans Docket ceremony is 10/26 at 0930 at the Marion County Courthouse. The Reentry Breakfast is tomorrow at 0730.

US Clausen said that on 12/8 from 9-1130, we will be hosting the annual Shop with a Cop. It's a great event. US Clausen also shared that the City of Aurora has requested a law enforcement services contract from the Sheriff's Office. He is also working on a dispatch consolidation process; if anyone is interested, we are seeking a citizen member. Doug said ESSNA has new leadership; Doug wants to see graffiti issues resolved. Gary suggested this group visit the Willamette Valley 911 Dispatch Center, and possibly meet somewhere downtown for the January meeting.

Glen requested a motion to adjourn; Gary motioned; US Clausen seconded.