

**LARIMER COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

September 16th, 2025 – 2307 Midpoint Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80525

Powderhorn Room



Members Present: Sid Simonson, Cyndi Dodds, Cedric Clark, Patti West, Emily Humphrey, Tom Hulse, Commissioner John Kefalas, Lorenda Volker, Ed Seegrist, Jeff Swoboda, Kristine Miller, Stephanie Tolen, Jessie Harney, Staci Shaffer, Melissa Divido, Heather O' Hayre, Greg Otte, Steve Pietrafeso, Chris Hefty

Staff Present: Alexis Ongley, Misty Perry, Jacob Hupp, Jason Helms, Alex Danielson, Erin Caldwell, Tori Martinez

Absent: Judge Susan Blanco, Ashley Morriss, Gordon McLaughlin, David Koons

Notes: Erin Caldwell

Meeting was called to order at 12:07pm by Steve Pietrafeso

- **Critical Incident**

- On Saturday, September 6th, a Republic sanitation worker discovered a weapon in the trash area of the men's building. The investigation has been turned over to LCSO. There are no threats to the safety of staff or clients.

- **Board Led Program Audit**

- We are seeking Board Member participation for our upcoming audit. Patti West and Steve Pietrafeso volunteered. Let Erin know if you are interested in participating in the audit.
- The audit will take place on October 14th, 1:30-4:30pm
- During the KPI audit cycle, the board is required by DCJ to audit the program on standards that are not covered by other audits.
- The board selected the following standards for the upcoming audit:
 - **SD-071: Staff Training**
 - **Offender Medical Emergencies**
- Board members will interview 5-7 employees using the auditing tool provided to us by DCJ.
- They will also review policies and files as part of the audit.
- At the completion of the audit, Ingrid will prepare the findings report for the board's review before submitting it to DCJ.

- **Secretary Election**

- We have begun taking nominations for 2026 Board Secretary. The vote will take place at the November meeting. The elected member will start their term in January.
- Once elected secretary, they would move through to vice chair and then chair on a yearly rotation.
 - The Secretary would not be required to take notes or keep records.
 - As a member of the Executive Board, they would be required to attend an additional Executive Board member once a month and help in creating our meeting agendas.
 - In addition, critical incidents are immediately reported to the Executive Board via email.
 - Melissa shared that being Board Secretary is a great way to learn about the board

and dive deeper into the bigger picture of what happens at LCCC.

- **DCJ Community Corrections Conference**

- This year the conference is being held on October 21st and 22nd at the Delta Hotel in Thornton.
 - The 21st is also our next Advisory Board meeting.
- A few of you have reached out about attending. If you have not contacted Erin, but wish to attend, please see her after the meeting or email her by the end of business today to ensure we receive early bird registration pricing which ends today. You may choose to attend one or both days of the conference.
- In the past, our staff have put on trainings on Domestic Violence supervision, Gender Responsive Programming, and training on how to best supervise clients experiencing mental health challenges.
- The conference offers a variety of training topics given by partnering agencies from all over the state.
 - Jake went through the agenda on what to expect at the conference this year and detailed the class offerings.

- **Budget Updates**

- We are still on track on our 2025 budget projections.
 - By keeping our average daily population (ADP) up, we have been able to maintain our budget.
 - Jake added that today our ADP was 350 clients.
- The 2026 budget is complete.
- Emily added that the Community Corrections budget is looking great and our goal within the next 5 years is to be able to eliminate the money we take from the Commissioners each year. The amount is beginning to decrease.

- **Staff Updates**

- Erin gave an update on the Conrad Ball Award Ceremony stating that there are 150 people scheduled to attend.
 - She also shared that the training topic for next month's meeting has changed from Sex Offender Treatment Provider training to Restorative Justice Practices, which will be taught by Alex Danielson.
 - Alex added that the training will include a mock circle and will incorporate clients. Please attend if you are able.
- Erin will also be sending out a survey soon about training topics for 2026. Please begin to think about what you would like to learn about in the next calendar year.
 - Alexis reminded everyone that as a Type 3 Board, each member is required to complete 4 hours of training each year. There are two more trainings sessions this year.
 - Conferences also count toward training hours (DCJ Conference, CACCB meetings)
 - If you have relevant training that you have completed outside of offered training sessions, please send all details to Erin to have these hours included in your totals.
- Alex shared that there was victim input from a case that was screened yesterday and the victim reached out to her sharing her appreciation for the Board's perspective and discussion around the case.

- Misty shared that we were awarded Behavioral Health Services (BHS) grant funds for a new IOP program which will aim to improve our continuum of care for our in house clients and eventually Probation and Parole clients in the community.
 - It's for an IOP, we are hiring for it now
 - We are currently in the process of hiring a team lead and therapist for the pilot program
 - Initially, we will offer services to our current residential and non-residential clients, before broadening our scope to include Probation and Parole
 - Initially we will bill Medicaid and will be supplemented with Correctional Treatment Funds (CTF). In the long term, we hope to be self-sustaining.
- Jake updated about a drug trend we have been experiencing. What we initially thought was spice was actually 'Wasp Dope'. Clients are spraying spice/paper/cigarettes with RAID wasp spray.
 - These clients are presenting like zombies, many with seizure-like symptoms and delirium.
 - It can be mixed with fentanyl and heroin among other illicit substances.
- Alexis reported that the DOC vacancy rate remains below 3%.
 - Every few weeks we are getting notified by the office of Community Corrections to send them our vacancy rates.
 - Our DOC waitlist is lengthy at the moment, but we are filling beds as they open.
 - Most of our vacancy is in the women's program based on referral numbers.
 - Alex added that DOC beds are currently scheduled through October.
 - We've also added staff support to help Evaluations tackle the backlog of DOC screens.
 - Melissa adds that DOC revocations from Community Corrections are slowing.
 - After revocation, the Parole Board is suggesting that the client be rereferred for COP bed.
 - Rachel Pepper has been hired as a Parole Case Manager. She is eager to get into the community and get to know staff and clients in Community Corrections programs. She just completed her training, so the official transition is pending.
 - Melissa will be her supervisor. Please let Melissa know of any ideas we have to improve the relationship between the DOC Case Managers and Community Corrections.
 - She will work out of the Longmont office.
 - Melissa will send out the new DOC chain of command contact sheet when it's finalized.

Meeting Adjourned at 12:39pm by Alexis Ongley.

Next meeting will be October 21st, 2025, at 200 W. Oak.