

Napa County Community Corrections Partnership Council
Regular Meeting – February 2, 2012
Minutes

Call to Order by Chair Mary Butler at 2:05 pm

In attendance: Ron Abernethy, Mark Boessenecker, Mary Butler, Terry Davis, Britt Ferguson, Elizabeth Habkirk, Jamie Johnson, Gary Lieberstein, David Lovell, Mark Luce, Rich Melton, Connie Moreno-Peraza, Barbara Nemko, Lee Philipson, Steve Potter, Jaye Vanderhurst, and Bret Prebula for Lenard Vare.

Absent: Susan Altman, Brian Banducci, Rick Feldstein, DJ Johnson, Doug Koford, Amanda Owens, and Randy Snowden.

Public Comments: None.

Approval of Minutes: January 5, 2012, Regular Meeting – M/S J. Johnson/Lieberstein, unanimously approved.

Status of Realignment: Per Mary Butler, split sentenced offenders are checking in with Probation Dept. and those with supervision time (six, so far) are being tracked. The Department is also trying to keep track of those without supervision time however, this may be best tracked by Court. No offenders from prison scheduled to arrive in February; however, a group is expected in March. Two have not reported, for whom warrants are out. We have recently learned that time does toll while offender is missing; for example, if given three years' supervision time, they will still have three years' supervision time once they are located. The clients are mostly compliant, and many say they preferred Parole to Probation, because they were less closely watched. Drug and alcohol offenses were the primary reason these people were incarcerated. Per Gary Lieberstein, California District Attorneys recently had their state conference. Realignment was a major topic, with restitution being the largest discussion. Other counties have experienced long sentences for county jails; for example, one county had a 29-year sentence. The consensus is that counties cannot handle that, and a sentence cap might be needed. There has been a Court decision that counties have the same ADA requirements as state does when housing state inmates. There are many unintended consequences yet to be worked out. Per Liz Habkirk, the Auditor is asking departments to submit invoices with anything spent so far for Realignment. There is \$36,000 in the account to share. Per Judge Boessenecker, Court is seeing more dispositions asking for split sentences. Failures to Appear do not seem to be any greater for this group than other offenders.

Corrections Work Alternative Program (CWAP): Per Bret Prebula, presenting for Lenard Vare, there are two goals for this program – to reduce jail's Average Daily Population (ADP) and to provide service to the community. The current program is active Monday through Friday only. This proposal would add a Wednesday to Sunday alternative. Anticipated programs could be trash clean up on city/county roads, graffiti removal, car wash for local law enforcement vehicles, or work programs at local non-profits or schools on weekends only. One Corrections Officer would be needed with additional training, with an anticipated program start date of July or August. Discussion ensued regarding bilingual and gender issues, and the requirement that the Work Program jobs not compete with the private sector. Britt Ferguson noted that Napa County's Administration supports the concept, and is willing to assume liability and workers' comp in order to enable partnerships with local non-profits.

Update on jail population: David Lovell provided a report showing the weekly rise and fall of the population. Last month, the sentenced population increased, including the usual remands from the holidays. The pre-trial population is under control.

Ad Hoc Committee Reports:

- Corrections/Sanctions Committee – Britt Ferguson presented a report from the Alternative Sanctions Subcommittee, who arranged for a Mark Carey Associates report on research showing what works using actual research-based information. Copies of the report were distributed. The subcommittee identified six alternatives to potentially reduce the use of pre-trial jail beds and eight programs that could reduce the use of jail beds for sentenced offenders. Alternatives for Pre-Trial include reviewing the bail schedule to ensure the amounts set are appropriate, expanding the Pre-Trial Release Program to seven days, introducing a Deferred Entry of Judgment program for those with suspended driver's licenses and also expanding it to certain misdemeanors, having an on-call probation officer in partnership with the Sheriff's Dept., expanding the number of detox beds in programs outside of jail such as McAlister Institute, and providing pre-trial release case management services. Alternatives for sentenced offenders have been identified as using the violations sanctions grid by the Probation Department (copy provided), expected to be implemented by June 2012, expanding the use of home detention and electronic monitoring, expanding the Corrections Work Alternative Program, discussed earlier in this meeting, increasing the number of residential treatment substance abuse beds at the McAlister Institute, expanding mental health services in jail, expanding mental health Court programs beyond the current five participants, and providing a residential facility option. Most of these proposals are still in the discussion stage, and will be brought to this meeting again in the future.

Future Agenda Items: No suggestions. Reminder to committee members to let Mary Butler know if you have something you'd like to present or discuss at the next meeting and it will be placed on the Agenda.

Next meeting: Possible postponement of the Thursday, March 1, 2012, meeting to Thursday, April 5, 2012, due to the absence in March of Mary Butler and Gary Lieberstein. Meeting to begin at 2:00 pm in the Probation Conference Room.

Adjourn: 3:35 pm