



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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FILED
Superior Court of California
County of Butte
SEP 08 2020
By Kimberly Piener, Clerk Deputy

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August 25, 2020

The Honorable Michael R. Deems
Butte County Superior Court
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965

RE: Board of Supervisors' Response to the 2019-2020 Butte County Grand Jury Final Report

Honorable Judge Deems:

The Butte County Board of Supervisors would like to thank the members of the 2019-2020 Grand Jury for the many hours spent in researching, investigating, and making recommendations for improvements in government operations that benefit the citizens and taxpayers of Butte County.

In accordance with Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the Board submits the following agency response to the findings and recommendations of the 2019-2020 Grand Jury Final Report pertaining to matters under its control.

Appointed department heads were requested to submit responses to the Chief Administrative Officer for attachment to the overall agency response included herein. You will find the various departmental responses located in Attachment A of this agency response. The Board of Supervisors' response is organized by major heading in the same order as listed in the 2019-2020 Grand Jury Report.

Steve Lambert, Chairman
Butte County Board of Supervisors

2019-2020 Butte County Grand Jury Final Report
Butte County Correctional Facilities

FINDINGS

- F1. The BCJ was constructed in 1963, and in 1994 the second facility was built. The age of these two buildings contributes to the need for a new jail facility.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F2. The daily BCJ inmate population fluctuates between 570-590 inmates, with a maximum jail capacity of 614 creating potential areas of concern for both inmates and staff.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F3. Overcrowding could potentially lead to the spread of disease and viruses.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F4. AB 109, Prop 47 and Prop 57 have negatively impacted the jail population and the Probation Departments.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F5. The grievance process is difficult to maneuver and subject to interpretation.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F6. The medical examination table is an infection control hazard.

Response: The respondent neither agrees nor disagrees with the finding, as the Board of Supervisors does not have the medical expertise to determine infection control hazards.

- F7. The computer lab, located in the Day Reporting Center, is outdated.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F8. Juvenile Hall is professionally managed and adequately staffed.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F9. BCJ inmate programs are a positive model for the State of California.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F10. BCJ inmate programs are clearly a benefit for Butte County.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. Butte County Sheriff's Office should continue the pursuit of a new jail facility with the process that is currently in progress.

Response: This recommendation has been implemented. The Sheriff's Office along with the rest of the project team continues to explore options for the new jail facility.

- R2. Butte County Sheriff's Office should simplify the inmate grievance procedure. For example, create a flow chart showing the responsibilities of the inmate and a separate flow chart for the Correctional Officers by January 3, 2021.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The Sheriff's Office is revising the grievance procedure which includes flow charts for staff and inmates.

- R3. Butte County Sheriff's Office, or responsible party, needs to replace the existing examination table per Professional Service Contract by October 1, 2020 (before the start of flu season).

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. A new examination table has already been purchased and installed.

- R4. Butte County Sheriff's Office should upgrade the outdated Computer Lab and workstations by January 3, 2021.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. Upgraded computers, screens and chairs have been purchased and installed in the computer lab.

Butte County Public Works FINDINGS

- F1. Public Works operates on a BOS countywide mandate of a 10% reduction in work force, which hampers its ability to complete jobs in a timely manner.

Response: The respondent disagrees with this finding. There has been no countywide mandate of a 10% reduction in the workforce.

- F2. BOS' county employee compensation policies are fiscally conservative to the point of discouraging potential qualified applicants.

Response: The respondent partially agrees with this finding. Compensation is always set commensurate with available funding. The County always seeks to attract qualified applicants. There are many factors that individuals consider in applying for jobs, such as nature of the work, quality of life, work life balance, job environment, as well as compensation.

- F3. All Butte County roads should have a current PCI rating to provide a complete picture of necessary road maintenance or repair.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F4. The BCC link is difficult to locate on the Butte County website.

Response: The respondent disagrees with this finding. The "report road maintenance issues" link is available directly from the "How Do I..." section from the main Butte County homepage.

F5. Public Works needs a BCC tutorial for its employees and the public.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

F6. BCC is not being utilized to its maximum potential because complaint logs are not consistently updated upon completion of the jobs.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

F7. Public Works staff would benefit from training on the BCC program from the perspective of a public user.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

F8. BCC is not utilized to its maximum potential because the priority feature is often bypassed by the nine staff members using the program and priority levels are not consistently assigned.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

F9. BCC software requires continuing customization.

Response: The respondent partially agrees with this finding. The continuing customization is related to programing for internal programs to better communicate with each other.

F10. A full-time dedicated employee is needed to develop and implement all necessary training.

Response: The respondent disagrees with this finding. The training can be accomplished with existing staff.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1. BOS work with stakeholders to reconsider and revise the pay scale, benefits, hiring guidelines, etc. in order to attract quality applicants and retain employees by the time the next contract negotiations begin.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The County's Human Resources Department continually evaluates pay, benefits, and hiring guidelines to attract quality applicants and retain employees.

R2. Public Works define and develop a policy for consistent use of the BCC priority level feature for all Public Works staff who have access to enter or change the priority data by January 3, 2021.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by January 3, 2021. The Department of Public Works will develop a policy for consistent use of the BCC priority level feature.

R3. Public Works ISAP place a link to BCC in a prominent place on Butte County's homepage by October 31, 2020.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The link to BCC is already accessible from the County's Home page under the "How do I..." section.

- R4. Public Works ISAP add a feature to BCC that allows employees to view complaints from the general public's perspective by October 31, 2020.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The recommended feature already exists.

- R5. Public Works create a BCC tutorial and introduce it to Public Works employees through training and to the public through Public Service Announcements by March 31, 2021.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented but will be by March 31, 2021. Public Works will create a BCC tutorial and train its employees on its use.

- R6. Public Works management work with ISAP to simplify BCC to maximize its use for Public Works employees by March 31, 2021.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. Customization of the BCC program can only be done by original programmers and would be a complicated and costly effort.

- R7. Public Works hire or train a full-time employee to develop and implement a training program for its employees by September 1, 2021.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The training can be done with existing staff.

The Status of Government in Butte County: The Face of our Past, Current and Future

FINDINGS

- F1. Butte County is doing a good job identifying, overcoming and solving current and future problems facing this county.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F2. All agencies within Butte County will benefit by using the same radio communication system for seamless transmission during emergencies.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F3. The November election was a successful test of the new process and equipment. F4. Voter turnout for the March 2020 Primary was highly successful.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F4. Voter turnout for the March 2020 Primary was highly successful.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

- F5. Long lines and extended voting time on Election Day caused frustration for voters and poll workers in Chico.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- R1. Chico Police Department radio system needs to be compatible with the Butte County 700 Megahertz radio communications system. Testing to be completed by January 1, 2021.

Response: The recommendation is directed at the Chico Police Department. The Board of Supervisors cannot respond on behalf of another agency.

- R2. Butte County Elections should complete the redesign of the layout for Voter Assistance Centers to accommodate larger numbers of voters by October 15, 2020.

Response: The recommendation is directed at the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters. The Board of Supervisors cannot respond on behalf of another elected official.

- R3. Butte County Elections should collaborate with CSUC to send out student voting information via text or email by October 1, 2020.

Response: The recommendation is directed at the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters. The Board of Supervisors cannot respond on behalf of another elected official.

ATTACHMENT A



KORY L. HONEA
SHERIFF - CORONER

July 7, 2020

Honorable Michael R. Deems, Judge of the Superior Court
c/o Court Administration
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965

RE: BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S RESPONSE TO 2019-2020 GRAND JURY REPORT

Dear Judge Deems:

On behalf of the Butte County Sheriff's Office (BCSO), I would like to thank the members of the Grand Jury for their many hours of dedicated service to the citizens of Butte County. The Grand Jury function is critical to ensuring the efficient operation of local government and I appreciate their efforts in regards to the Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Butte County. I would also like to thank them for acknowledging the dedicated and compassionate care provided by my staff to the inmates in our charge. In accordance with Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, please accept this response to the findings and recommendations of the 2019-2020 Grand Jury.

Grand Jury Findings:

The Sheriff's Office was asked by the Grand Jury to respond to Findings 1-7. The following responses are provided pursuant to that request:

F1: The BCJ was constructed in 1963, and in 1994 the second facility was built. The age of these two buildings contributes to the need for a new jail facility.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F2: The daily BCJ inmate population fluctuates between 570-590 inmates, with a maximum jail capacity of 614 creating potential areas of concern for both inmates and staff.

The respondent agrees with this finding.

F3: Overcrowding could potentially lead to the spread of disease and viruses.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F4: AB 109, Prop 47 and Prop 57 have negatively impacted the jail population and the Probation Departments.

The respondents agree with the finding.

F5: The grievance process is difficult to maneuver and subject to interpretation.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F6: The medical examination table is an infection control hazard.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

F7: The computer lab, located in the Day Reporting Center, is outdated.

The respondent agrees with the finding.

Grand Jury Recommendations:

The Sheriff's Office was asked by the Grand Jury to respond to Recommendations 1-4. The following responses are provided pursuant to that request:

R1: Butte County Sheriff's Office should continue the pursuit of a new jail facility with the process that is currently in progress.

This recommendation has been implemented, the Butte County Sheriff's Office is exploring the expansion options based on current funding with a new design team.

R2: Butte County Sheriff's Office should simplify the inmate grievance procedure. For example, create a flow chart showing the responsibilities of the inmate and separate flow chart for the Correctional Officers by January 3, 2021.

This recommendation has been implemented, the Butte County Sheriff's Office is currently revising the grievance procedure to include the use of flow charts for both inmates and staff.

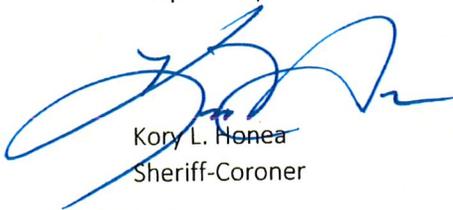
R3: Butte County Sheriff's Office, or responsible party, needs to replace the existing examination table per *Professional Service Contract* by October 1, 2020 (before the start of the flu season).

This recommendation has been implemented, we have purchased and installed a new examination table.

R4: Butte County Sheriff's Office should upgrade the outdated Computer Lab and workstations by January 3, 2021.

This recommendation has been implemented, we have purchased and installed upgraded computers, screens and chairs in the computer lab.

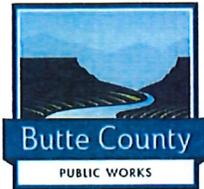
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kory L. Honea', is written over the typed name and title.

Kory L. Honea
Sheriff-Coroner

cc: Butte County Board of Supervisors
CAO

AUG 11 2020



Department of Public Works

Dennis Schmidt, Director
Radley Ott, Assistant Director
Dan Newton, Assistant Director

7 County Center Drive
Oroville, California 95965

T: 530.538.7681
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www.buttecounty.net/publicworks

August 11, 2020

Honorable Michael R. Deems
Judge of the Superior Court
c/o Court Administration
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street, Oroville, CA 95965

RE: Response to the 2019-2020 Butte County Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Deems:

In accordance with Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the Butte County Director of Public Works submits the following response to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury's Final Report for FY 2019-2020 pertaining to the Department of Public Works.

On behalf of the Department of Public Works, I express my sincere appreciation to the grand jurors for their professionalism and commitment of many hours of efforts to better understand the intricacies of the County roadway maintenance system.

Public Works Findings:

F1. Public Works operates on a BOS countywide mandate of a 10% reduction in work force, which hampers its ability to complete jobs in a timely manner.

Response: Response: The respondent disagrees with this finding. There has been no countywide mandate of a 10% reduction in the workforce.

F2. BOS' county employee compensation policies are fiscally conservative to the point of discouraging potential qualified applicants.

Response: The respondent partially agrees with this finding. The County always seeks to attract qualified applicants. There are many factors that individuals consider in applying for jobs, such as nature of the work, quality of life, work life balance, job environment, as well as compensation.

F3. All Butte County roads should have a current PCI rating to provide a complete picture of necessary road maintenance or repair.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding, and the Department has a two year plan for completion of the roadway PCI surveys.

F4. The BCC Link is difficult to locate on the Butte County website.

Response: The respondent disagrees with this finding. The "report road maintenance issues" link is available directly from the "How Do I..." section from the main Butte County homepage.

F5. Public Works needs a BCC (Butte County Connect) tutorial for its employees and the public.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding. A training tutorial will be prepared by March 31, 2021 for use by employees and members of the public.

F6. BCC is not being utilized to its maximum potential because complaint logs are not consistently updated upon completion of the jobs.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding. Additional staff training will be provided for all staff members that have the potential to be assigned projects in BCC.

F7. Public Works staff would benefit from training on the BCC program from the perspective of a public user.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding. This will be incorporated into the training tutorial (see F5 above).

F8. BCC is not utilized to its maximum potential because the priority feature is often bypassed by the nine staff members using the program and priority levels are not consistently assigned.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding. This will be addressed in the training tutorial (see F5 above).

F9. The BCC software requires continuing customization.

Response: The respondent partially agrees with this finding. The continuing customization is related to programing for internal programs to better communicate with each other.

Public Works Recommendations:

R2. Public Works define and develop a policy for consistent use of the BCC priority level feature for all Public Works staff who have access to enter or change the priority data by January 3, 2021.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by January 3, 2021.

R3. Public Works ISAP place a link to BCC in a prominent place on Butte County's homepage by October 31, 2020.

Response: The recommendation will not implemented because it is not warranted. The link to BCC is already accessible from the County's Home page under the "How do I..." section.

R4. Public Works ISAP add a feature to BCC that allows employees to view complaints from the general public's perspective by October 31, 2020.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The recommended feature already exists.

R5. Public Works create a BCC tutorial and introduce it to Public Works employees through training and to the public through Public Service Announcements by March 31, 2021.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented by March 31, 2021.

R6: Public Works management work with ISAP to simplify BCC to maximize its use for Public Works employees by March 31, 2021.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not reasonable. Customization of the BCC program can only be done by original programmers and would be a complicated and costly effort.

R7: Public Works hire or train a full-time employee to develop and implement a training program for its employees by September 21, 2021.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted. The training can be done with existing staff.

Sincerely,



Dennis Schmidt
Director of Public Works

Cc: Board of Supervisors
Shari McCracken, Chief Administrative Officer



Public Health Administration

Danette York, M.P.H., Director

202 Mira Loma Drive
Oroville, California 95965

T: 530.552.4000
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August 11, 2020

Honorable Michael R. Deems, Judge of the Superior Court
c/o Court Administration
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965

RE: Butte County Department of Public Health's Response to 2019-2020 Grand Jury Report

Dear Judge Deems:

On behalf of the Butte County Department of Public Health (BCDPH), I would like to thank the members of the Grand Jury for the service they provide to Butte County and our residents. I appreciated the time I spent with them to explain interactions BCDPH has with mosquito districts in the county. Please accept this response to the findings and recommendations of the 2019-2020 Grand Jury.

BCDPH was asked to respond to findings F5 and F6 as well as recommendations R1 and R2. The following responses are provided:

FINDINGS

F5: BCDPH Mosquito and vector public information and outreach needs to be expanded.

The respondent partially disagrees with the finding. BCDPH already provides extensive public information and outreach during the mosquito season. The respondent agrees BCDPH can expand public outreach on different types of diseases carried by mosquitoes rather than focusing most information on West Nile Virus (WNV).

F6: BCDPH website is not user friendly on the topic of mosquitoes

The respondent agrees with the finding.

RECOMMENDATIONS

R1: Butte County Department of Public Health should add the term Mosquitoes to its search engine and to its drop-down menu on the BCDPH website by January 1, 2021.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The respondent will partially implement this recommendation by January 2021. Mosquitoes are not the only vector that carry diseases.



Public Health Administration

Danette York, M.P.H., Director

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Oroville, California 95965

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The respondent will add information regarding vector-borne diseases, which will include mosquitoes, to the drop down menu on the BCDPH website.

R2: Butte County Department of Public Health should increase access to public information regarding mosquito disease prevention by creating a link on their website home page and through increased public service announcements by January 1, 2021.

The recommendation has not yet been implemented. The respondent will partially implement this recommendation by January 1, 2021. A link for additional information on vector-borne diseases and prevention will be added to the website under a pull down menu, but it will not be added directly on the BCDPH home page. Each year, during mosquito season, outreach is already performed in the following manner: press releases issued several times during the season, early messaging regarding West Nile Virus (WNV) recommending horse owners get the annual WNV vaccination, confirmation of first human WNV infection, information related to any WNV deaths, TV, newspaper and radio interviews, social media content regarding protection from mosquitoes and disease prevention and a WNV informational webpage at <http://www.buttecounty.net/publichealth/Programs/Communicable-Disease/West-Nile-Virus>. BCDPH will add information regarding other diseases mosquitoes carry to this informational webpage.

Respectfully,

Danette D. York, MPH
Public Health Director

cc: Butte County Chief Administrative Officer



Candace J. Grubbs | County Clerk-Recorder

Hall of Records | Clerk-Recorder Division

155 Nelson Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965-3411

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July 31, 2020

Honorable Clare Keithley, Presiding Judge
Superior Court of California, County of Butte
One Court Street
Oroville, CA 95965

Re: Response to 2019-2020 Grand Jury Final Report

Dear Judge Keithley,

In accordance with Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.5, the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters submits the following response to the findings and recommendations of the Grand Jury's Final Report for FY 2019-20 pertaining to the department.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Grand Jurors for their commitment of time and effort to understand the administration of elections. I also commend the members of the Grand Jury that served as election observers for the 2020 March Presidential Primary.

Butte County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters

Grand Jury Findings:

F5. Long lines and extended voting time on Election Day caused frustration for voters and poll workers in Chico.

Response: The respondent agrees with the finding.

Grand Jury Recommendations:

R2. Butte County Elections should complete the redesign of the layout for Voter Assistance Centers to accommodate larger numbers of voters by October 15, 2020.

Response: The recommendation will be implemented. All Voter Assistance Centers locations will be reviewed and the voter's path of travel redesigned to distance voters for one another due to COVID-19 recommendations. The department has acquired larger facilities to accommodate separate lines depending on the voters needs with additional equipment.

R3. Butte County Elections should collaborate with CSUC to send out student voting information via text or email by October 1, 2020.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

The recommendation is in discussion stages with CSUC, at the time of this response.

Sincerely,



Candace J. Grubbs
County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters

Cc: Board of Supervisors
Shari McCracken,, Chief Administrative Officer