

Community Corrections Partnership (CCP)

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. Chief Probation Officer, Wayne Barley, called the regular meeting of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) to order at 9:01 a.m., on May 20, 2020. Due to the social distancing recommendations set forth by the Governor due to the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting was conducted via a phone-in conference.
- b. Introduction of membership. Quorum present.

List of CCP Executive Committee Members Present

Wayne Barley – Chief Probation Officer, Butte County Probation Department
Kory Honea – Sheriff, Butte County Sheriff's Office
Mike Ramsey – District Attorney, Butte County District Attorney's Office
Ron Reed – Attorney, Butte County Public Defender
Richard Holst – Deputy Court Executive Officer and Liaison for Judge Keithley, Butte County Superior Court (logged on after roll call)
Scott Kennelly – Director, Butte County Department of Behavioral Health
Andy Pickett on behalf of Shari McCracken – Chief Administrative Officer, Butte County Administrative Office
Shelby Boston – Director, Department of Employment & Social Services

List of CCP Executive Committee Members Not Present

Michael O'Brien – Chief of Police, Chico
Mary von Rotz Sakuma – Superintendent, Butte County Office of Education
Erna Friedeberg – Director, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services

Additional CCP Members Present

Don Taylor – Department of Employment and Social Services
Lt. Robert Hadley and Captain Daryl Hovey – Butte County Sheriff's Office
Trevor Hatley – California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, Division of Adult Parole
Nikki Balboa – Department of Veterans Affairs
Dwayne Martin and David Mallory – Butte County Probation Department
Cathleen Ouimet and Ana Vicuna – Butte County Behavioral Health

- c. Review of previous committee minutes from January 15, 2020, and March 18, 2020. Ron Reed motioned to approve and Mike Ramsey seconded the motion. All approved and the minutes were accepted.

II. SUB-GROUP COMMITTEE REPORTS/UPDATES

- a. Department updates/progress/concerns

1. **BUTTE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

- i. Lieutenant Robert Hadley gave a brief update on the ACS population.
- ii. Sheriff Kory Honea noted the Butte County Jail has been successful in its efforts to implement COVID-19 prevention, mitigation, and management measures at the facility. As the County re-opens, there is a prospect of illness inside the facility; however, the jail is well positioned to manage that. There may be state-level budget impacts to the department, as well as impacts to the jail in light of proposed prison closures. The jail construction project is desperately needed, but remains in question. BCSO is currently putting construction out to bid, but there is an anticipated gap in available funding. The County will be unable to fill that gap. At this time, BCSO is looking into other funding opportunities; however, no sources have been identified at this time.

2. **BUTTE COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT**

- i. Assistant Chief Probation Officer Dwayne Martin gave a brief report on his department's statistics for Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) and Mandatory Supervision (MS). A handout was provided to the members via email prior to the meeting.
- ii. Deputy Probation Officer David Mallory gave a brief report on his department's statistics for the Male Community Reentry Program (MCRP). A handout was provided to the members via email prior to the meeting. He noted CDCR plans to release additional inmates, which should increase the MCRP population.
- iii. Chief Wayne Barley noted the department has taken steps to mitigate and prevent COVID-19 within the Juvenile Hall facility. He shares the previously noted concern of new illnesses resulting as the County re-opens and testing increases. The department has expanded community services and conducted 225 wellness checks with limited teams. Many staff members are currently working remotely. Given the COVID-19 limitations set forth by the Butte County Superior Court, there are currently fewer filings by the Probation Department; however, filings are anticipated to increase in July and August.
- iv. Chief Wayne Barley further noted the May revise addresses the potential closure of the intake process at Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) to incoming youth as of January 1, 2021. Youth sentenced as of that date would be housed locally or in regional "hubs." Butte County currently has ten youth housed at DJJ, and those youth would remain at the facility. Attrition would eventually lead to the closure of the DJJ. This proposal was not discussed locally or with Chief Probation Officers of California prior to the May revise, and there is a short time to adjust to, and plan for, the changes and regulations.
 1. Ron Reed (Public Defender) noted there is an opportunity with the option to become a regional "hub" to leverage state funding, prevent layoffs, and use the funding in a more efficient manner than DJJ housing.
 2. Wayne Barley (Probation) indicated he does not disagree with Mr. Reed's assessment, but noted the Juvenile Hall facility and programming are not intended for long-term housing. "Hubs" are intended for programming for sex offenders and the mentally ill, which raises concerns. Mr. Reed will continue to be part of this conversation in the future.

3. Ron Reed noted DJJ is has become very effective at rehabilitation as evidenced by recent releases, and Butte County can also be effective given the proven successes of TAY and Camp Condor.

3. **BUTTE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

- i. Director Scott Kennelly reported on his department's statistics. Handouts were provided to the members present. There are currently data collection issues and discrepancies that should be corrected by the next meeting.
- ii. COVID-19 had a significant impact on the department. The department is currently providing hybrid telephonic services.
- iii. The department anticipates budget challenges, including significant state and federal funding reductions.

4. **BUTTE COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**

- i. District Attorney Mike Ramsey indicated he is proud of Butte County and its law enforcement partners for preventing a large release of inmates from the jail in light of COVID-19. He noted such releases would likely result in released inmates having no place to go, increased recidivism, and a greater risk of arrestees bringing COVID-19 into the facility.
- ii. Jury trials have been continued to July 13, 2020; however, it is not yet clear how jury trials will be handled. If jurors were called into the Court to serve, social distancing would be difficult to accomplish. In addition, it would be difficult to conduct jury selection if potential jurors are wearing masks.
- iii. Most staff members are working remotely, but they are gradually returning to the office.
- iv. Domestic violence has increased substantially since the COVID-19 restrictions.

5. **DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL SERVICES**

- i. Director Shelby Boston provided an AB109 update. She noted Day Reporting Center (DRC) staff members have been working remotely, so no services were provided at the DRC. A handout was provided to the members via email prior to the meeting.
- ii. There has been a sharp increase in applications for Medi-Cal, Cal Fresh, and Cal WORKs, which is typical for an economic downturn. Staff members are working diligently to process those applications.
- iii. The department is currently awaiting the result of budget negotiations, and it will likely be heavily impacted by the economic downturn. Shelby Boston is looking for areas to implement reductions.
- iv. To support the COVID-19 response, DESS is operating several programs, including food delivery and Project Room Key. Project Room Key provides shelter for individuals who are homeless and at high risk of contracting, or being exposed to, COVID-19. The program has been successful and busy.

- v. Housing and Homeless Administrator Don Taylor provided statistics regarding Project Home Key. There are approximately 147 individuals currently housed in hotels under the program.

6. **DIVISION OF ADULT PAROLE**

- i. Parole Agent III/Unit Supervisor Trevor Hatley provided an update of the agency's COVID-19 response. Agents contacted most parolees via telephone through May 13, 2020. Sex offenders were required to report to the office to be equipped with GPS ankle monitors. Agents are currently conducting home checks; however, they are not entering residences. Resources have been focused on new prison releases who have not had face-to-face contact or who have not been reached via telephone. The agency has been very mindful of parole holds and has minimized who goes to jail. Parolees must pose a threat to public safety or be subject to a statutory requirement to be kept in custody.
- ii. CDCR also anticipates budget impacts.
- iii. Ron Reed asked if the Parole office is currently open, as well as the current office hours. Trevor Hatley confirmed the agency is open, with normal business days and hours; however, staff is limiting lobby traffic to emergencies only and business is conducted in the lobby. Staff don PPE and go outside to equip sex offenders with GPS ankle monitors. No paperwork is exchanged with parolees to reduce the likelihood of contaminating the building. Parolees are given their conditions prior to release from CDCR.

b. Sub-groups/committees requested to provide brief updates

- 1. Public Defender Ron Reed led a discussion addressing homelessness and custody alternative programs. He noted homelessness is a serious problem in the community. In addition, it is public perception that there is no room at the jail and we are unable to deal with individuals who commit low-level crimes. He believes we are in a position to enact policy changes that address homelessness amongst the population we serve. Approximately 150 individuals on PRCS or Parole are homeless. Technical violations are handled with custodial time, but no programming or rehabilitation. There is no improvement in an individual's circumstances upon their release from custody. In this way, individuals are worse off when they leave the facility than when they entered. Nationally, the current best practice is to focus on housing first. Ron Reed would like to see the County prioritize housing and handle technical violations with alternatives other than custodial time. He would like to see a sub-committee problem-solve to formulate alternatives to current procedures, re-define and re-affirm goals, and change focus. He believes a more effective program with alternatives to custodial time would provide cost savings. A handout was provided to the members via email prior to the meeting.
 - i. Wayne Barley (Probation) noted a sub-committee was formed in January 2020 to address this topic. Dwayne Martin (Probation) was on the committee and Don Taylor (DESS) would be a relevant member. Wayne Barley would like to see non-executive committee members address this matter and report back to the group. He hopes CCP is still committed to having these discussions, and he affirmed the Probation Department's commitment.
 - ii. Dwayne Martin (Probation) conducted internal reviews regarding recidivism. A meeting was set to discuss these items, but it was canceled due to the COVID-19 response. He is committed to success with this population sub-group.

- iii. Trevor Hatley (Parole) supports, and will participate in, this committee.
 - iv. Captain Daryl Hovey will contact Lieutenant Meyer and have him send out an email affirming his commitment to the committee.
 - v. Ron Reed suggested the sub-committee meet via telephone or Zoom. He proposed the sub-committee formulate suggested goals, areas of concern, and problems for consideration and submit them back to CCP. He anticipates changes could be implemented quickly. He suggested that the sub-committee be required to meet within thirty days, and that the CCP meet monthly for the next couple of months thereafter.
 - vi. Don Taylor (DESS) indicated he is committed to addressing this topic, as is the housing and homelessness team.
 - vii. Wayne Barley suggested the group keep the existing CCP meeting scheduled for July 15, 2020, due to time constraints, with the understanding the sub-committee will report back to the group at that time.
 - viii. Ron Reed suggested the group appoint a head of the sub-committee to organize meetings and develop an agenda. He nominated Don Taylor.
 - ix. Wayne Barley suggested the sub-committee meet and appoint a chair.
 - x. Ron Reed agreed and requested distribution of a list of sub-committee members and their contact information via email.
- c. Announcements of any Legislative and/or funding updates/budget/training opportunities
- 1. Deputy Administrative Officer Andy Pickett explained CCP funding is complex and driven mostly by sales tax, which is currently experiencing a decrease. Funding for CCP is being refined, but there is likely a significant reduction in funding. Anticipated revenues were \$9.1 million, but now appear to be \$7.1 million, a reduction of \$2 million.
 - i. Due to prudent decisions in the past, CCP has both a \$2 million reserve fund and one-time funds that have not yet been used. The use of these funds is determined, in part, by the type of economic downturn. Reserve funds can be used all at once or spread out systematically over time to step down services.
 - ii. Andy Pickett described several different types of economic downturns, both short term and long term. At this time, we cannot predict the nature of this unprecedented economic downturn.
 - iii. Andy Pickett explained there are multiple budgetary options moving forward. These strategies include: maintaining the status quo with no reductions using the current reserves, and re-evaluating the budget once there is a better sense of the nature of the downturn; spreading out reserves over a longer term with some reductions; a hybrid, in which the status quo is maintained and the CCP members take advantage of informal opportunities to create savings; using one-time funds for operations, with the understanding the funding is not ongoing; or maintaining the status quo and using one-time funds later to make gradual reductions.

- iv. Andy Pickett acknowledged there was no action requested on the agenda for this item at this time.
- v. Wayne Barley (Probation) also acknowledged there was no action requested for this item. He suggested CCP continue with the current budget and informally look for opportunities to create efficiencies. If CCP is not meeting the targets, this item can be added to a future agenda.
- vi. Andy Pickett concurred and recommended CCP re-assess the budget in the middle of the fiscal year.
- vii. Mike Ramsey (District Attorney) concurred with Andy Pickett's recommendation.
- viii. Wayne Barley (Probation) re-iterated the next CCP meeting is on July 15, 2020, at 9:00 a.m.; however, it can be re-scheduled to an earlier date, with proper notice, if needed, to address the budget.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. No public comment.

IV. ADJOURNMENT OF THE CCP MEETING – 9:53 a.m.

V. CALL TO ORDER OF THE TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH (TAY) STEERING COMMITTEE – 9:54 a.m.

- a. Chief Wayne Barley (Probation) explained the reductions in Court operations caused by the COVID-19 response halted the custodial component of the TAY program. The department anticipates more youth will be involved in the program once the Court resumes normal operations.
 - 1. Dwayne Martin (Probation) provided a brief summary of current statistics for the TAY program. A handout was provided to the members via email prior to the meeting.
 - 2. Mike Ramsey (District Attorney) asked if there are currently any TAY youth housed at the Juvenile Hall.
 - i. Wayne Barley (Probation) noted the last TAY youth was released from the Juvenile Hall last week, and no youth are incoming at this time. Juvenile Hall staff members have been reassigned to other areas of the facility.
 - 3. Mike Ramsey (District Attorney) inquired as to the status of the Elevate Justice legislation pertaining to eighteen to nineteen year olds.
 - i. Wayne Barley (Probation) noted the legislature is only handling emergency legislation at this time, and Elevate Justice is on hold for this legislative year; however, there will be additional opportunities given the added component of the proposed closure of DJJ.

VI. ADJOURNMENT OF THE TAY STEERING COMMITTEE – 09:56 a.m.

Minutes submitted by S. Miller of Butte County Probation