

MINUTES
MINI-CASSIA JAIL COMMITTEE MEETING
Date: September 28, 2021
Time: 8:00 a.m.

- 1) **Call to order** by Minidoka Prosecutor Stevenson at 8:00 a.m.
- 2) **Roll call:** Minidoka County representatives present were: Prosecutor Stevenson and Sheriff Pinther. Cassia County representatives present were: Commissioner Searle, Under Sheriff Thompson. Others present were: Criminal Justice Center Director Renz, Adult Misdemeanor Probation Director Prewitt, Juvenile Detention Director Bodily, Cassia County Administrator McMurray, Cassia Deputy Clerk Wallace and Minidoka Deputy Clerk Ramsey.
- 3) **Approval of minutes.** Sheriff Pinther moved to accept the minutes of September 14, 2021, with a second voiced by Undersheriff Thompson. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS

Criminal Justice Center – Director Renz

1. **Personnel – action** -They filled the open position with Nathan Anderson, he will be starting November 5th. Director Renz anticipates a couple more looking for other employment for personal reasons, outside of law enforcement. He continued to accept applications and received one from Justin Merrill and will be testing him October 13th. Undersheriff Thompson moved to **hire Justin Merrill** if he passes the background test, with a second voiced by Sheriff Pinther. Motion carried
2. **Review Securus proposals for changes to contract – action** - Securus contacted Director Renz and they need to do an addendum to their contract. The FCC has put restrictions on how much someone incarcerated can be charged for phone calls. \$.21 is the most a jail our size can charge and currently our contract says \$.25. The new regulations will go into effect October 25th. Two of their options will cause lost revenue. Currently our commissions are at 65%, one option would be to drop it to 54% another option would be to keep it at 65% with a \$2,000 monthly commission deductible, another option would be to lose our commission on tablets and keep everything else at 65%, this would cause us to lose \$2,000.00 a month. Amendment #2, keep the commission at the same rate, but to add one year to the contract, which would make it expire September 30, 2024. It will also drop from the \$.25 to \$.21 cents to get in compliance with the FCC. So far this year we have received \$106,000 in commission with securus. Sheriff Pinther moved to **have Addendum #2 presented** to the Cassia County Commissioners for final approval, with a second voiced by Commissioner Searle. Motion carried.
3. **Review PST proposal to add additional smoke detectors and cameras to Jail – action** - The dryer fire a month ago caused us to learn that the smoke detector in the laundry room is not part of the facility alarm system. A quote was received for \$1,285 from PST to come in and install an industrial smoke alarms wired into our system, one in the hallway and one in the laundry room. Director Renz would like, while PST is there, to install a camera in the driveway going into the sally port so control can see to the West. Currently you can see the doors but that is all. The cost of the

additional camera and labor will be \$2,580. Director Renz proposed that the total for the camera and the smoke alarms come to \$3,900 which will come out of next year's budget. Commissioner Searle asked for them to check into any other problems while they are there. Commissioner Searle moved to **expend the funds for the alarms and camera**, with a second voiced by Undersheriff Thompson. Motion carried.

4. **Review update proposal to the jail's drug free workplace policy – action** - Director Renz proposed to restart the random drug testing policy on personnel, this will be done by Ms. Prewitt. Director Renz personal experience was that it wasn't done very well 15 years ago and it needs to have very strict procedures to protect all involved. Discussion followed on current drug testing policy, discrimination, other departments that currently test. Sheriff Pinther moved to **adopt this policy and start participating** in random drug testing, with a second voiced by Commissioner Searle. Motion carried.

Adult Misdemeanor Probation – Director Prewitt

1. **Personnel – action** – None at this time.

Juvenile Detention Center – Director Bodily

1. **Personnel – action** – Director Bodily is still looking for a nurse, has been posted for a couple weeks and had zero response. He will continue to look and hope that the current nurse will stay on until it is filled.

Executive Sessions as needed pursuant to Idaho Code § 74 206 (1) (a) or (b) – to discuss personnel matters, (c) – to acquire an interest in real property not owned by a public agency, (d) – to consider records exempt from public disclosure, (f) – to communicate with legal counsel regarding pending/imminently likely litigation, or (i) – to communicate with risk manager/insurer regarding pending/imminently likely claim

REPORTS OF ACTIVITY

2. Budget Matters - Clerk Page, Clerk Larsen,

Deputy Clerk Ramsey reported that JDC is at 99% of the year gone with 89% expended, there is \$198,221.32 cash on hand. She reported that Clerk Page is concerned about this low amount until January.

Deputy Clerk Wallace reported that misdemeanor probation is at 99% year gone, revenue is at 101% with 87% expended and \$190,298.09 cash on hand. Jail revenue is at 82.13% with 90% expended and \$513,716.25 cash on hand. Deputy Clerk Wallace asked that Dan meet with Heather to go over last-minute expenses.

1. **Juvenile Detention Center – Director Bodily** - Currently have 5 Juvenile in detention, 3 Minidoka and 2 Cassia. Things are going fairly well, healthy and fully staffed. He reported the payroll line is over budget because of payout on comp.
3. **Adult Misdemeanor Probation – Director Prewitt** – As of today there are 959 active probationers and 358 pretrial. Comparison from last month, we were at 852 active probations and 309 pretrial so in one month we gained 107 probationers. The new pretrial officer is training and doing a great job and they have one other employee out on leave. Budget is doing great with 101% revenue received,

87% spent, which will leave \$134,541.00 in the bank. Director Prewitt will be sending information to the commissioners so they know they found a problem with the magic program; it didn't give accurate reports with cases closing. They found the problem in 2002 and 2010, with roughly 1000 names that will be sent over for destruction and out of the office. Discussion on the high number of pretrial releases and the possibility of it growing more with the courts shut down until December.

4. **Criminal Justice Center – Director Renz** – Population is 116 with 43 Cassia, 34 Minidoka, 19 IDOC, 15 US Marshall, 2 Twin Falls and 3 others for 36 beds rented. Contacted Bannock to fill beds. IDOC is not ready to negotiate a contract because they do not need the beds right now. Getting ready to negotiate a contract with the US Marshals, they are currently paying \$55 a day and he would like to increase it to \$75 a day.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - ACTION ITEMS

Nothing to report.

Prosecutor Stevenson commended all the department heads for managing their budgets and staying within their range in a difficult year.

Sheriff Pinther, nothing to add.

Undersheriff Thompson. Hired a new patrol officer Shelby Carr who will start on the 4th of October.

Commissioner Searle, nothing to add.

Admin. McMurray, nothing to add.

Undersheriff Thompson moved **to adjourn the meeting**, with a second voiced by Sheriff Pinther.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 AM.

Next Meeting: October 12, 2021, 8:00 a.m. via zoom.