

## Meeting Minutes for the Executive Committee – January 7, 2019

6:33 p.m.

In attendance: Rep. Howard, Rep. Comtois, Rep. Huot, Rep. Lang, Rep. Spanos, Rep. Sylvia

Absent: Rep. Aldrich

### Restorative Justice

Rep Howard – question on training line – Dept Head – 4 of them would like to go to paid training – White House reinstated the juvenile restorative justice that lapsed under Obama –

**Rep. Sylvia motion to reduce office supplies – by \$300 2<sup>nd</sup> Rep. Comtois – 3 to 3 vote – motion fails**

**Rep. Sylvia – Rep. Comtois – Rep Howard in favor – Rep. Spanos, Rep. Lang, Rep. Huot**

### Dept of Corrections 6:50 p.m.

Grants – some of the grants went from a county jurisdiction to state jurisdiction

Rep. Comtois regarding telephone revenue line– they got video presentation – 5 year contract we didn't have to pay – they would receive our phone revenue – if we hit a certain level we would see some revenue – 135 events/month they would see revenue from that – no cost to county – Video calls are monitored – also cut down on contraband coming into jail – phone system is not working properly – Under older system we had recognized an average of \$15k per year – switching to newer system was not about cost savings but about reduction in movement of inmates and less contraband coming into jail

2017-2018 CO's (correction officers) had 8 FT resign – evening shifts – working very hard long hours forced OT – Fridays & Saturdays

2 FT Nurses – One 32-hour PT – still open since last April 2018 –

\$425 per 8-hour shift for an LPN –

\$66,309 CO – FT \$82,616 – FT Nurse - What did we budget for hourly cost – approximately \$26 per hour

Rep Howard what would savings be if these positions were filled –

Jail population – 2017 avg - 86 2018 avg - 83 – 2019 avg - with bail reform in state should see avg daily population drop – jail population today is 77 – feels dept has been short staffed forever – currently only down 1 CO because last resignation just occurred

PT – pretrial coordinator \$41362 – PT programming assistant \$25768 – asking for another

2 FT – 2 PT in this budget –

CO'S –

Rep. Howard If you had an add 'l FT CO how much of the PT and OT would be reduced

2 FT and 1 PT nurse – eliminate PT and turn into FT position –

Contracted Nursing Services – is included in PT nurses – Contracted Services is not an employee of the county, but the others are

**Rep. Comtois reduce PT wages by \$50k – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sylvia – motion fails 3 to 3**

**Rep. Sylvia – Rep. Comtois – Rep Howard in favor – Rep. Spanos, Rep. Lang – Rep. Huot**

**Rep. Lang reduce PT wages by \$35k and OT wages by \$10k – 2<sup>nd</sup> Comtois –**

**Vote 4 to 2 motion passes**

**Rep. Spanos – Rep. Comtois – Rep Howard Rep Lang in favor – Rep. Sylvia – Rep. Huot against**

Program Services – New Horizons – decided not fill position until 2018 budget process was completed

2018 – 31 participants – gone through 3 phases – 5 have returned due to other crimes

2016 – 19 participants – 6 people have returned to county jail

2017 31 participants –

Believes program has been successful – starting to become main facet of jail in Belknap county – mgr. @ DD went through program has been clean and sober over 12 months Superintendent Gray says recidivism rates are lower – to-date no one has completed the program in full

CORE designed for 20 – must be sentenced through court - to go into program

Rep. Sylvia – superintendent – come back reoffending – no one has gone through the complete program Superintendent Gray there is no way to keep track of anyone reoffending if they are committed to another jail, state, county, etc.

Rep. Comtois – Where are the 31 participants at – Superintendent Gray – they are in the program – some sentencing did not give aftercare – w/out probation/supervision he cannot track the participants – how many are in aftercare – answer – 11 – Superintendent Gray cannot track 20 of them –

Rep. Spanos – is there anyway to qualify them to track recidivism – Super – said in 2015 recidivism rate was 70% for people sentenced with no program – Commissioner Devoy said they know that if they did not have core program recidivism rate would be 72% - he stated that it is true that they could be in someone else's jail or dead, but they are not coming back to us

Rep. Howard – what is the recidivism rate of inmates not going through the core program – Commissioner Devoy jumped into answer – only the bad apples that keep reoffending – Rep. Howard –

so from that comment only what is the recidivism rate of inmates not going through the program – Superintendent Gray is not saying that at all

Rep Huot – what was the contract price for 2018 if we did not receive free services – Superintendent thinks \$220K –

Rep. Howard – is that a set price – Superintendent Gray it goes up about 3% per year

Rep. Sylvia – so you don't know how many people are going to take the program – what would if were 15 or 40 will there be a rate increase? Superintendent Gray if it is 40 there will not be a rate increase, but if it is only 15, he would have to go back and renegotiate the contract

Rep. Comtois does Horizon appear anywhere else in the expense report? Superintended Gray yes, but they are different people and are not part of the Core program – we really do not know what the actual recidivism rate is at the county jail – Superintendent Gray agreed – but reiterated stats from above – Rep. Comtois – comparing 2015 rate to today is really comparing apples and oranges

Rep. Comtois requested real recidivism rate for years 2016-2018 not just the Core numbers

Rep. Huot – we don't care how much it is going to cost our people, we only care how many people are we going to get back – if they don't come back it will save us money

Rep Comtois – question about recidivism – in 2015 we did not have Core program and we had recidivism rate of 72%, but today when we ask what the rate is, they can only tell us the rate of those going through the Core program

Rep. Lang – 51 people have gone through program with an aggregate recidivism rate of 23% - we are reducing the rate of growth

Rep. Sylvia – we are cutting recidivism and adding staff and there is nothing more permanent than staff – Superintendent Gray referred to Sullivan County and said when CO's left, they did not fill those positions – He will do the same thing

Rep Comtois if our numbers are heading downward and bail reform is going into effect today, why are you hiring new staff? Rep Huot they are down 1, Rep Comtois this is an additional staff on top of what they already have – Rep. Lang looking at turnover this should help with consistency - Rep Comtois – it is my understanding that we were never even close to full staff until November of 2018

Rep Lang – IDN money will be used to offset Core program – Rep Howard will the IDN money going through Genesis – Superintendent Gray money will be coming in various ways

Rep. Huot – discussing parenting classes – under inmate programs –

**Rep Howard motion to reduce line item #56005 to 20k a reduction of \$28,500 2<sup>nd</sup> Rep. Spanos –**

**Vote 5 to 1 motion passes**

**Rep. Spanos – Rep. Comtois – Rep Howard - Rep Lang - Rep. Sylvia in favor — Rep. Huot against**

General operating supplies - # of intoxicated people – Rep. Howard – were any talks taken place regarding discussion last year

Need leadership training for senior CO's – a serious matter if we have any serious issues

Rep Howard -- questioned training line – Superintendent - Leadership academy in Texas – Jail conference around the country – next year it is in Louisville, KY - we do send some to police training – we take advantage of the free training – FBI leader course was in Gilford, NH last year –

Uniforms – had to outfit a lot of officer's

Motion to adjourn – Rep Spanos – 2<sup>nd</sup> Rep Comtois – unanimous – 9:11 pm