

**California Rehabilitation Oversight Board Minutes
December 3, 2007 Meeting**

The California Rehabilitation Oversight Board met in open session on December 3, 2007 in the Alumni Center at California State University, Sacramento, 6024 State University Drive South, Sacramento, California. The meeting began at 9:37 a.m.

Board members present: Matthew Cate, Inspector General; James Tilton, Secretary, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR); José Millan, Vice Chancellor, California Community Colleges (Designee for Chancellor, California Community Colleges); Renée Zito, Director, State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs; Stephen Mayberg, Director of Mental Health; Bruce Bikle, Professor, California State University, Sacramento (appointee by Chancellor of California State University); Susan Turner, Professor, University of California, Irvine (appointee by President of the University of California); Michael Carona, Sheriff, Orange County (appointee by Governor); Loren Buddress, Chief Probation Officer (appointee by Senate Committee on Rules); and, William Arroyo, Regional Medical Director, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (appointee by Speaker of the Assembly). Absent from the meeting was Debra Jones, Administrator, Adult Education Programs (Designee for Superintendent of Public Instruction).

Office of the Inspector General staff members participating: Barbara Sheldon (counsel) and Ann Bordenkircher (Board secretary).

Others participating: Carole Hood, Chief Deputy Secretary, Adult Programs (CDCR); Deborah Hysen, Chief Deputy Secretary, Facility Planning, Construction and Management (CDCR); Steven Chapman, Assistant Secretary, Office of Research (CDCR); Joseph Ossmann, Parole Administrator, Division of Adult Parole Operations (CDCR); Terri McDonald, Chief Deputy Warden, California Out-of-State Correctional Facility (CDCR); Thomas Hoffman, Director, Adult Parole Operations (CDCR); Frank Russell, Director, Division of Education, Vocation and Offender Programs (CDCR); Rick Winistorfer, Parole Administrator, Adult Parole Operations (CDCR); Jon DePue, COMPAS Project Manager, Division of Education, Vocation and Offender Programs (CDCR); Joseph Panora, Chief Information Officer (CDCR); Leisa Rackelmann, SOMS Project Director (CDCR); Del Sayles-Owen, Director, Division of Community Partnerships (CDCR); Clark Kelso, Chief Information Officer, State of California; and David Warren, Lobbyist, Taxpayers for Improving Public Safety.

Item 1. Call to Order

Chairman Cate called the meeting to order at 9:37 a.m.

Item 2. Introductions and establish quorum

A quorum was established with ten board members present.

Item 3. Review Agenda

The Chairman stated the primary reason for this meeting was to provide CDCR with an opportunity to give the Board its final update on its planning efforts, and actual progress made, so the Board could then begin drafting its January 15 report.

Item 4. Approval of Prior Minutes

Upon motion made and seconded, the Board approved the minutes of the November 7, 2007 Board meeting.

Item 5. Panel Discussions

Carole Hood, Chief Deputy Secretary, Adult Programs, started the panel discussion by stating that various CDCR representatives would speak on reducing overcrowding (both short-term and long-term strategies), infill beds (the original plan and the revised), reentry facility construction (securing designs and siting negotiations).

Deborah Hysen, Chief Deputy Secretary, Facility Planning, Construction and Management (CDCR) gave a PowerPoint overview of AB 900 infill bed construction program. The original infill plan was drafted prior to AB 900 with cost and schedule inefficiencies, based on an 18 to 24 month schedule. Ms. Hysen stated the Facility Strike Team looked at alternative construction methods for the construction of reentry facilities. The Team determined that revisions were needed to the original plan. The Strike Team, along with CDCR staff looked at housing inmates in facilities that were not being fully utilized, cost containment for proposed construction, and ways to accelerate construction. Building within secure perimeters poses access challenges. Ms. Hysen noted that while overcrowding is an important short-term challenge, finding the right housing mix and choice of selected sites are some long-term concerns. Where land may be available, there are environmental, wastewater and water service delivery systems concerns. The current plan is more cell capacity and more reception centers, with more programming space. There is a projected occupancy for the first site for December 2009, with three sites to follow in mid-2010. The new infill plan uses "smart beds" (full-programming) versus quick beds.

Terri McDonald, Chief Deputy Warden, California Out-of State Correctional Facility (CDCR) addressed out-of-state transfer of inmates. Over 2,000 inmates have been transferred to three facilities (West Tennessee Detention facility; Tallahatchie County Correctional Facility, Mississippi; Florence Correctional Facility, Arizona). A total of 7,752 out-of-state beds were recently negotiated. A fourth facility in Sayre, Oklahoma is anticipated to be activated in January 2008. A fifth facility is being constructed in Midway, Arizona. The goal is to transfer approximately 400 inmates per month out-of-state and to date, the Department is meeting this goal.

Thomas Hoffman, Director, Adult Parole Operations (CDCR) talked about parole reform, which has many components, including outreach and education. The Division of Adult Parole Operations (DAPO) supervises about 125,000 parolees in California. California is currently the only state with a requirement that everybody coming out of a state institution be put on formal parole supervision. DAPO is moving from a culture of mostly tracking and apprehending parolees to one of rehabilitation. Mr. Hoffman noted that DAPO has contracted with the Center for Effective Public Policy and anticipates a draft decision-making matrix for executive review in mid-January 2008. This matrix will outline structured responses for the whole range of revocations and violations committed by parolees. He stated that when an agent considers these matrix variables, better decisions will be made. A separate matrix effort is in development concerning discharge of parolees. A phase I rollout is expected for about 4,800 parolees in Orange and San Bernardino counties. Mr. Hoffman also indicated that they are working closely with the Board of Parole Hearings to improve ability to refer parolees to in-community based drug treatment programs.

Joseph Ossmann, Parole Administrator, Division of Adult Parole Operations (CDCR) spoke to the Board about the impact of *Valdivia v. Schwarzenegger*¹ on parolee programs. Mr. Ossmann stated that California has operated under the Preventing Parolee Failure Program since the early 1990s. That program was designed to address four major parolee needs: homelessness, unemployment, illiteracy and substance abuse treatment. These programs were expanded with the passage of Penal Code section 3068 (2000) and with budgetary appropriations. *Valdivia* obligated the Department to utilize intermediate sanctions in every step of the parole violation process when responding to parole violations. The April 4, 2007 *Valdivia* court order caused APO to take additional steps in the use of remedial sanctions for parolees. Parole agents have gone through additional training. The In-Custody Drug Treatment Program has been expanded. The Department will have at least 1,800 ICDTP beds in place by April 2008 (650 jail based; 1,150 community based; 80 for co-occurring mental health and substances abuse disorders). DAPO has established new day reporting centers in the state (Los Angeles, Riverside and San Joaquin counties) and facilitated inter-county placements into remedial sanctions programs. DAPO has 500 electronic in-home detention monitoring units available (over 300 are actively in use). Meetings are being conducted to insure that these programs are being filled and that the *Valdivia* requirements are being met. The Special Master in the *Valdivia* lawsuit recently commended the Department for its recent progress on remedial sanctions.

Frank Russell, Director, Division of Education, Vocation and Offender Programs (CDCR) addressed the Board concerning rehabilitation programming. He stated that assessments are a key part of delivering rehabilitation programs. COMPAS evaluations have been conducted on approximately 85,000 parolees and about 2,800 newly received inmates in reception centers who have 240 days or longer to do. The data will eventually drive a case management plan as well as be included as a part of the classification and assignment process.

Steven Chapman, Assistant Secretary, Office of Research (CDCR) spoke to the Board concerning the development of plans for a comprehensive system of criminal evaluation for the Department. The plan will be progressive as resources become available. The greatest challenge is collection of data. The Department is working on the risk needs assessment – a number of people are helping design the California risk model with an anticipated completion date of mid- to late January 2008.

Rick Winistorfer, Parole Administrator, Division of Adult Parole Operations (CDCR) described the COMPAS assessment in further detail. There are presently two classifications of parole staff administering the assessment. Staff is sent through a three-day training program on how to utilize the assessment, utilize the computer, and how to conduct a motivational interview when interacting with offenders to get as much positive information as possible.

Jon DePue, COMPAS Project Manager, Division of Education, Vocation and Offender Programs (CDCR) explained that teachers are utilized to conduct the COMPAS assessment at the reception centers. When the budget change proposals took effect in July 2006, two teachers were provided for each of the reception centers to do assessments in educational and vocational areas and use the information to form a plan. Therefore, when it came time to begin the COMPAS assessments, the staff available was the teacher. The Department has not determined if this will be the long-term classification to continue conducting the assessments.

Ms. Hood added that it is the intent to have one case management plan that would follow an inmate throughout the system. There is a fair amount of work to do to interconnect the data and determine appropriate hand-off points between different settings.

¹ *Valdivia v. Schwarzenegger*, Case No. CIV S-94-0671 LKK/GGH (E. D. Cal.).

Rick Winistorfer stated here that the responsibilities of the parole services associates will not only be the completion of the assessment, but also conducting the bridging between the inmate population and the parole agents on the street.

Clark Kelso, Chief Information Officer, State of California reminded the Board that CDCR has embarked on a major transformation of its entire organization into an integrated enterprise where management information, program components, population management, rehabilitation, and health care information is available when and where it is needed. The IT projects required to achieve this goal include basic statewide infrastructure, integrated business administration, population management, education, integrated criminal justice systems, and health care system. The state needs to modernize its network and computing infrastructure, its databases and case management systems. Investments are being made to bring CDCR's IT unit into the 21st century. Mr. Kelso stated that they are moving beyond planning into implementation with infrastructure build out. Meetings are taking place with Department of Justice, the courts, sheriffs, police, probation and others in law enforcement to decide upon a governance structure and have appropriate input to the design of the systems.

Joseph Panora, Chief Information Officer (CDCR) stated that over the next three to five years, there will be approximately \$800 million invested in information technology projects at CDCR. Some projects are already in blueprint. They are in the process of finishing connectivity to all of the institutions, including juvenile justice, for the business project which is going on line (Phase I) in June. There will be improvements to the network redesign support, the data that will be moving up and back between institutions, and over to the data center.

Leisa Rackelmann, SOMS Project Director (CDCR) talked about the strategic offender management systems (SOMS) project. The SOMS project is going to move CDCR into essentially a paperless system. There will be a central offender database, which creates a unique offender ID that is maintained for a person's lifetime. There will be access to all information about that inmate – what programs they were in, whether they were successful, issues, gang affiliations, etc. There will be the availability to interface with the COMPAS project. SOMS is a six-year, \$413 million project.

Del Sayles-Owen, Director, Division of Community Partnerships (CDCR) reported to the Board on community partnerships. The primary effort is with community based organization and intergovernmental grants. There are two grant programs, one targeting community based organization, the other one targeting local governments. The goal of the grants is to stimulate collaboration at the local level and bring people together that do not normally come together around reentry for parolees. There are 20 grantees. Twelve of the grants are going to intergovernmental agencies. The program grants are 30-month, while the planning grants are only six months. CDCR applied for and received a Prisoner Reentry Initiative (PRI) grant, where community based organizations go to the institution about 240 days prior to release and start the post release planning process with the offender.

Various panel members answered Board members' questions on proposed changes to the incentive system, CDCR's legislative package relating to issues of population management, building capacity, and spending budget allocations.

Item 6. Future board meeting schedule

The Board agreed on dates for three future meetings: January 7, 2008 (Sacramento), March 11, 2008 (Southern California – location to be determined), and May 20, 2008 (Sacramento).

Item 7. Future agenda items

Future agenda items were discussed during various presentations at today's meeting, all of which will assist C-ROB with writing its mandatory reports.

Item 8. Public comment

David Warren, Lobbyist, Taxpayers for Improving Public Safety, requested that sufficient copies be provided at the meetings to allow the public to follow along with presentations. He commented that most of the discussions he has heard are three, four years down the line and has concerns about the present time because there could be a large number of inmates released who are completely unprepared to be on the outside and will re-offend and cause community problems. Mr. Warren would like to see some consistency in the definition of violent felon, which has been known to change every legislative session, making planning difficult.

Mr. Warren also stated his concern that no one reported on money to expand classroom programming in existing facilities.

Item 12. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

Ann Bordenkuecher
Board Secretary

January 7, 2008 (unanimous)
Dated

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