

OKLAHOMA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS MEETING MINUTES

Department of Corrections

Location: Oklahoma State Capitol, Room 419-C

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Date/Time: Thursday, January 26, 2006 – 1:00 p.m.

I. OPENING

Chairman Robert Rainey called the January 26, 2006 Board of Corrections Meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. He thanked attendees for taking time from their busy schedule to attend the meeting and asked the clerk to call the roll. Members present at roll call:

Ernest Godlove

Ted Logan

Mark Luttrull

David C. Henneke

Robert Rainey

Earnest Ware

Beverly Young

Calling of the roll reflected a quorum was present.

II. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 1, 2005 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Rainey sought a motion for approval of the December 1, 2005 Board Meeting Minutes. Mr. Godlove made the motion with a second by Mr. Logan. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, abstain.

III. OLD BUSINESS

None reported on agenda.

IV. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Director Justin Jones recognized and welcomed guests, saying “everyone here is a distinguished guest and I appreciate your investment in corrections as demonstrated by you being here today.” He commented on the installation of the video conferencing equipment for probation and parole hearings and thanked Debbie Mahaffey and Greg Williams for their efforts in making this possible. He congratulated Dick Davis for operational procedure changes in the meat processing plant which resulted in a savings in excess of \$.35 per pound on ground beef, and the expected cost savings to the agency of over \$500,000 annually. Spot buy purchases during the last quarter of 2005 saved the department approximately \$137,000 on frozen and canned products. He commended Debbie Mahaffey and Debbie Boyer for the development of a quality assurance business plan for the agency to look at the equality of the operation and to look at a better way of doing business. This will eventually be a board policy. Prison Fellowship with the assistance from Volunteer Services provided gifts to children of those incarcerated through the Angel Tree Project. On January 13, 2006, there was a fire in the kitchen at Hillside Community Corrections Center that resulted in over \$100,000 in damages. Efforts continue in implementation of HB1267. This is an intermediate sanction bill to allow Probation and Parole Officers to deal

with offenders in the community. Thanks to the efforts of staff lead by J'me Overstreet, the 2005 Annual Report has been produced and distributed. Fifteen employees have received \$1,500 in savings bonds (which cost the department \$750.00) for employment referrals to the agency through the *Connect and Collect* Employee Recruitment Referral Incentive Program. Meetings have been ongoing with Career Tech in a joint effort with Warden Sutter for a vocational program for offenders, and with the Oklahoma Sheriffs' Association for joint efforts with them.

V. BUDGET UPDATE

Jim Harris acting administrator of Finance and Accounting presented the budget update, calling attention to Page 5 of the analysis which shows a trended payroll surplus as of December 31, 2005 of \$8,956,268 less the revised staff ramp up plan and recruitment/retention and salary compression plan for a net trended payroll surplus of \$361,850. Contract beds indicate a deficit of \$21,255,550. The two primary contributors to this month's expenditure trend growth relate to growth in contract county jails and county jail back up bed dependency. Both of these expenditure categories increased. Outside medical costs continue to increase, and the annualized cost for this one expenditure category has grown over one million dollars since the August estimate. Those three items, payroll, contract beds and medical make up 80 % of the budget. Non payroll expenditures for operating costs not associated with contract beds and offender medical care comprise the other 20% of department costs. Other required operating cost adjustments include utilities and fuel. On January 10, the department was notified by the Oklahoma Capitol Improvement Authority (OCIA) that they were changing the due date for bond lease payments. The department makes monthly lease payments for bond debt services to OCIA of \$310,848.50 to support four different bond issues. Because of this change, the department will now be making 13 lease payments in FY2006. This unbudgeted expenditure is being identified as a new supplemental funding need. In December the department was notified of the results of a covered payroll audit by CompSource auditors for the purpose of validating workers compensation coverage and billed premium. Based on information provided by CompSource, the department will owe an additional \$310,770 for FY2005 coverage and incur FY 2006 premium obligations of \$162,078 above what is already in this year's budget work program. Total unbudgeted FY2006 additional premium obligations are estimated at \$462,848.

Based upon current expenditure trends and identified budget shortfalls, it now appears the department's current funding deficit is \$31,815,212.

Mr. Luttrull asked about the 13 month payment on the bonds. Mr. Harris explained that OCIA in the past has collected money in arrears for the bond schedule, but based upon an Attorney General's memorandum confirming their authority to adjust agency payment dates they accelerated not just this department but all departments to help meet their cash flow. These Bonds are identified in the trending report. A question was asked if they have a budgetary problem themselves the reason they asked for accelerated funding. Mr. Harris said he is not sure on that and can't comment.

Mr. Henneke asked what the official funding deficit was that came back from OSF. Mr. Harris said the initial budget had a known shortfall of \$23M in contract beds. That shortfall was known from the beginning, but because of staffing problems the agency went in with a shortfall in

contract beds. Mr. Henneke stated he knows this is not the first time we have had a supplemental request. Nine out of the past eleven years we have gone back to ask for a supplemental, and how many of those nine out of eleven years have we been funded? Most of our supplement requests have been because of non-funding to start the year. Budgeted staffing levels have continued to decline because of funding, and we cannot continue to set below average staffing levels. The agency has a deficit of \$21million in contract beds alone, and there is no way we can come up with \$31 million from what we have budgeted. Mr. Godlove asked at what point the agency runs out of money. Mr. Harris stated, somewhere around the first week of March, 2006. Question was then asked as to what is a comfortable level that we have to work with. Mr. Harris said last year we spent \$428M agency wide which equates to well over \$1million dollars a day. Sometime the first week of March, we will incur liabilities that we do not have the money to cover. The agency can be caught in a position to where they do not have cash and will certainly be in a position where we do not have a budget. Question was asked that while we are having the issues with budget shortfall are we still receiving inmates. Mr. Harris commented that is really a question and area outside the budget issue.

Director Jones advised Mr. Klingler will address that during the population update, but we are still receiving inmates and we are approaching the heavy reception time of the year.

Mr. Rainey asked Mr. Harris if he knew why DOC has had to request a supplemental nine out of the last eleven years, and why we continue to go through that process. Mr. Harris said that is hard to answer, but from a fiscal standpoint, DOC is probably one of the most difficult agencies. It is not because we are not good stewards of the resources, but population drives the cost and we have never been funded appropriately. The deficit is harder and harder to manage. We work with fewer staff, and recruitment is difficult due to the current pay scale.

Director Jones advised that according to an ACA ranking, Oklahoma Department of Corrections ranked 46th in being the cheapest in operating per diem wise. ODOC has a lower per diem rate today than a few years ago and we have fewer staff today than before. Employees are the heroes and all of this is to give the state of Oklahoma the best Department of Corrections in the nation, understanding we are the 46th cheapest and one of the highest incarceration states in the Union. Mr. Ware asked about the effects of not having adequate funding for staff, saying it seems this is the same kind of pattern we see in our local school. We have gone without adequate funding for so long that it will take a major amount of money to break even in our facilities. What effect does this have on our infrastructure? We have a very significant FY07 budget request, and a good majority of that is for infrastructure needs. The infrastructure has not been maintained and cared for in the manner that it needs to be. An adequately funded budget should address a lot of these needs. Mr. Logan asked if we have no funding in March, will furloughs be implemented. Director Jones said he would recommend to the Board that we never furlough again. Mr. Ware commented on the reports of serious incidents, escapes, and inadequate staff, and said he believes we are sitting on a potential time bomb. Mr. Henneke said we have some of the oldest facilities in the state, we have been given the facilities that were once old soldiers' homes, boys' homes and etc, and been told to take these and do the best we can and we have done that. The last major facility was built in 1979. It has been almost 30 years since we have had a major building constructed.

VI. POPULATION UPDATE

Deputy Director Ken Klingler stated ODOC deals with three categories of offenders; offenders in facilities, parolees/probationers and work centers. The ratio of inmates is: 89.8% are males, and 10.2% are females. Of those offenders, 60% are incarcerated for non-violent crimes, most of which are drug related. The average age of those we deal with on a daily basis is 37 years of age. The average age of probation client is 35 years of age and the average age for females is 40 years of age. In looking at the system as a whole our population is 58,339. A snapshot for the same time last year was 58,196 system total. Total incarceration is 23,276 beds filled. Current population within DOC facilities is 16,935 which is an increase of 235 from this same time last year. Private prison population compared to last year shows an increase of 25. County jail contract beds have increased by 42, and county jail backup is 1114. Halfway House population is at 1229; GPS increased by 85 people for a total of 193. There are currently 2294 beds for females and 2291 of those beds are filled.

Mr. Henneke asked how the next couple of months will impact us. Dockets are gearing up and historically, March, April and May are the biggest months for receptions. Mr. Klingler responded that from January 1 through 20 this year, we processed 148 males and 15 females for a total of 163 and this is the slow time. We have no relief so we will just stack up in the county jails. Question was asked as to how long that will last. Each of the 68 jails who hold inmates right now is different; Tulsa, Oklahoma and Comanche counties are the three largest contributors of inmates.

The question was asked about the bed situation if there were no more receptions. Mr. Klingler responded that our agency does not want to harm any of the people who depend on us, so what does it do to shut the doors at Lexington; those people still have to come in. It will cost the state to process people and the county jails are helping us. Is there anything right now that will help in the number of people coming into the system? Mr. Rainey said maybe one of the legislators could answer that question; from what he is seeing on TV it appears they are working to increase the length of stay. The average age of inmates is getting older each year, and as people get older they need more medical care. The majority of offenders are in on drug related crimes and they are not healthy people. That costs you and I as taxpayers to take care of these people. The inmate population is getting older and older and cost is going to be greater and greater. Taking more inmates in will stretch the infrastructure, so what is the way out?

Mr. Klingler said he is very proud to be an Oklahoman and has lived here all his life. Oklahomans have to come to a compromise not an agreement to believe that not all people who are arrested need to be incarcerated, but if we are going to incarcerate, then we have to fund it. If not, then at some point and time we are going to have to address that or the federal government will come back in to run it and we don't want that. If the state is going to keep incarcerating people, then they need to help staff. We are risking the lives of some of our employees by operating with the funding level we are now operating. Klingler said it is not prudent to have one officer watching 160 offenders. This is common and nothing new. We have a projected growth of 654 inmates and we do not have beds to accommodate those offenders. 70% of those coming in are non violent offenders. We need to compare risk to society to cost to society. Mr. Godlove commented if the federal court steps in and takes over; this is a failure on this Board's

part and he does not want to be turned over to a federal judge so he wants to make sure that does not happen.

Director Jones said there is a bill on presumptive probation, similar to the bill introduced by Senator Lerblance last year, but the likelihood of it passing is not very good. No analysis has been done but could look at those to come up with a good piece of information on that.

Mr. Godlove asked Director Jones to make a recommendation as to what Board Members could do or say to legislators to encourage them to get behind presumptive probation. Director said we will need to look at current programs, drug courts, community sentencing, and probation and parole to see if we are pulling from the same group of offenders. Mr. Henneke repeated we can not continue to short the department every year. Staff need to be dealing with the inmates, not having to spend time asking for funds. This is not a smart way of doing business for an agency with almost 5000 employees.

VII. REMARKS FROM LEGISLATORS

Representative John Nance from District 90 – Rep. Nance referenced his 28 years experience as a special agent and his work as a deputy sheriff with Sheriff John Whetsel. He was instrumental in the passage of a bill to shut down Meth labs in Oklahoma. He stated he is an advocate of drug courts and mental health courts. He stated if all we are doing is housing these people we incarcerate, then we are simply paying for their room and board and they come back out into society and start where they left off. He is of the opinion that drug courts could make a productive citizen for a minimal cost. Since he sits on the budget board, he mentioned a couple things that concern him about DOC. One is the cost of incarceration and the other is the number of medical staff. He spoke of a bill that relates to reusing the blister pack for drugs. If it is good enough for people in nursing homes it could be reused. As long as they are not contaminated they should be good to use for DOC. He spoke of looking at outsourcing as one area to look at in cutting down cost. Again, he reiterated the need to enhance the mental health courts and drug courts so we will have fewer people coming into the system.

Senator Constance Johnson – Senator Johnson said she is a new senator, but she has been on the senate staff for the last 24 years. She said her passion is about the children. She expressed concern for the employees as well as the inmates of her district. She is challenged to be an advocate for children of incarcerated parents and asked what will we do about the children and what will we do within the next 20 years for the rolls to go down so the children of incarcerated parents will not go to prison themselves? She spoke of attending an awards ceremony where Senator Monson was recognized and received the Kate Barnard Award, and what a timely presentation it was focusing on mentoring programs for children. She mentioned the Amachi program through the University of Oklahoma and asked people to think about the negative fiscal impact. Does it cost more to keep doing the same thing or can we do something on the front end that will make a difference?

Senator Cal Hobson – Senator Hobson said this Board, director and DOC employees are his favorite group of people. He has the pleasure of representing JHCC and LARC facilities that are in his district. His first public speech was at the dedication of the JHCC facility. He recalled

saying “We have a new modern facility designed to hold 500 inmates.” Today that facility holds three times that many. Why we are in the bind we are in, is frankly because this type conversation never happens. Everybody comes already knowing everything about the criminal justice system. Some believe out of sight out of mind. There was no real interest in DOC until the court budget was put in with DOC budget and they suddenly had more interest. Some play politics, truth is if we are ignoring the system we would not be the first in the nation in incarcerating women. He stated the employees are exceptional and are known for the exceptional job they do. He recalled the days of Federal court supervision, and when we got a one page letter saying spend that amount of money, and that is exactly where we are headed again if we don’t grow up. Legislators have got to hear. Employees are at risk of losing their lives. Staff has been murdered by inmates and the injuries are endless. What should we do? Need to replicate mental health courts. Most offenses are related back to mental and drug problems. We can divert thousands out of the system and put them into more effective programs. Hobson stated he has been to every prison and work center in Oklahoma. He said the Board is on the right track. They need to corner their legislators to push for fundamental changes in the system. We have money this year and ask that they spend it wisely.

Representative Gus Blackwell – Representative Blackwell is serving his second year as chair of corrections, and says it is a great honor to be chair of criminal justice. He has the privilege to choose not to hear any bill and they die, but any bill that Director Jones feels will help DOC, he will be glad to hear. He voted for GPS and he intends to try to increase that program. He said Senator Johnson points out a very significant fact about children who grow up as children of prisoners. We can look at multifaceted approaches and continue to look at drug courts, GPS, and diversion programs. We can attack recidivism and look at fully funding corrections. There is no easy way and there is no magic appropriation. We will work with Director Jones to help him with that.

Representative Mike Shelton – Representative Shelton expressed appreciation to Mr. Godlove for his comments and said there are alternatives and it is time to start looking at alternatives to incarceration. There are Drug courts and mental health courts that cost less and we know it works. Sixty percent of the people who are incarcerated are in for non-violent crimes. He thanked the board for coming to the capitol to let legislators know they are concerned as it is time to look at alternatives.

He briefly talked about the inmate phone system and the cost to the family.

Representative Richard Morrissette - Representative Morrissette says for the last 20 years he has had the opportunity to represent people in the courts who have been accused of violating laws. One of the problems is that at the district court level when we agree to a plea, we agree to a rehabilitation program in the system. As a result of that, sometimes offenders have to stay in the system longer by agreeing to a program than if they had not. He talked about the difficulty offenders have in getting jobs when they return to the community and the likelihood of returning to prison for minor charges that are filed after previous convictions. He said reintegration in mental health and drug court programs must be increased.

Senator Ron Justice – Senator Justice complimented DOC and those working for them in the

Union City area. He said the work release program is very impressive and they serve the area with workers who provide good service to the people in that area. He said most times people tend to look at the negative aspect but he wants people to realize we are doing many positive things and they need to look at how we can improve the situation. It is important to be informed.

VIII. BRIEF RECESS

Chairman Rainey broke for a ten minute recess to interact with legislators. The meeting was called back to order at 2:55 p.m.

IX. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION FOR EDWARD L. EVANS

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Rainey expressed appreciation to Edward L. Evans for his leadership as Interim Director for the Oklahoma Department of Corrections from July 21, 2005 to October 27, 2005 and read the following resolution from the Board.

***WHEREAS**, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections appointed Edward L. Evans as Interim Director of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections on July 21, 2005; and*

***WHEREAS**, Edward L. Evans with his professionalism, experience, knowledge, foresight and astute leadership abilities, outstandingly fulfilled the duties and responsibilities of the position of director during the period of July 21, 2005 through October 27, 2005; and*

***WHEREAS**, the Oklahoma Board of Corrections commends Edward L. Evans for successfully overseeing the operations of the agency in his role as interim director, effectively and efficiently managing its resources and taking care of its most valuable and greatest asset – the employees; and*

***WHEREAS**, it is with great respect and appreciation that the Board of Corrections pay special tribute to Edward L. Evans on this day for his dedication and commitment to the Department and its mission and for his willingness to assist and serve as interim director during critical budgetary and challenging times for the Department:*

***BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that the Oklahoma Board of Corrections does hereby acknowledge and recognize the significant contributions of Edward L. Evans as Interim Director and commends him highly for his outstanding service to the Oklahoma Board of Corrections, Department of Corrections and the state of Oklahoma. Job well done!*

Mr. Henneke made the motion for approval and Ms. Young seconded the motion. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

Mr. Evans commented that he enjoyed the privilege to serve as interim director and thanked the employees, who, without them it would not have been possible.

X. ALL OF US OR NONE

Executive Director Wayne Thompson of the Oklahoma Health Care Project/All of Us or None was recognized by Chairman Rainey. Mr. Thompson said the goal of (AOUN) is to end the legal discrimination that often stigmatizes ex-offenders. The public policy and practice undermines the motion of justice and reintegration to society. It often imposed lifetime barriers to employment, housing, education and contributes to the deterioration of the social cohesion of families and on a man or woman's ability to support their family. In the state of Oklahoma a felony offender regains his or her eligibility to participate in electoral politics on the date of expiration of a felony sentence. Since 1995, more than 171,000 citizens have been convicted of felonies in Oklahoma's state court system alone. The total number of citizens with felony convictions living in Oklahoma exceeds 450,000. Their main organizing focus is advocacy, coalition building and encouraging ex-offenders and their families to participate in the electoral political process. AOUN is committed to educating and empowering constituency to become advocates that aggressively pursue policies, laws, resources and outcomes that are consistent with the principles of restorative justice system that serves the best interest of all of the people of Oklahoma.

The question was asked as to how many states have voting rights for probation and parolees. Twelve states allow offenders to vote. The question was asked about what some of the other states and if it is similar to what Oklahoma is doing. Five states do not allow ex-offenders to vote at all and some states require executive action. Mr. Thompson commented that people on probation and parole should have a right to vote, and their view is that they will fight at the ballot box. Question was asked as to what the federal law says. Answer was that each state determines what the rules are.

Mr. Thompson commented on the Board of Corrections legislative agenda for 2006 that includes a number of proposals that are believed will be beneficial to their constituency, some examples; community sentencing statute clean up, which will allow more efficient operation; revising the statute on split sentence prohibition, which should reduce recidivism; private prison statute/corrective action plans, which should allow the Department of Corrections to improve its monitoring oversight function and the proposal to revise criteria that limits nighttime/weekend incarceration, which will allow greater offender utilization of the program.

The agenda for AUON in the upcoming legislative session will include support for SB 1832 (Child Support Arrears), SB 2030 (Limiting the Liability of Employers Hiring Felons), SB 1922 (Addressing the Excessive Fees Charged to Families of Incarcerated Persons for Telephone Calls), SB 1042 (Restoration of Voting Rights for Probationers and Parolees), SB 806 (Allowing Professional Licensure for Certain Professions) and the Oklahoma Restoration of Voting Rights Act.

XI. TULSA WOMEN AND CHILDREN CENTER

Program Director Regina Knell, Tulsa Women and Children Center, said TWCC is the only center of it's kind in the state. It is located in Tulsa and provides best practices for chemically dependent women. TWCC is a residential treatment facility, gender specific program and the

treatment philosophy must be tailored to the individual. The program has a 92% client satisfaction rate with a 72% completion rate. The program offers a safe and nurturing program for women and children while they are recovering.

Their mission statement is: *to provide best practice, cost effective clinical and medical treatment to chemically dependant women and their children in a therapeutic gender specific ethnically sensitive environment that stresses client dignity and respect at all times.*

She talked about the admission priorities; referral sources, aftercare and services provided with comprehensive collaboration with outside agencies and healthcare providers.

The Tulsa Women and Children's Center is designed to give clients a new life through four to six months of inpatient treatment, case management and subsequent aftercare. The core program focuses on gaining an understanding of oneself and building self esteem; creating healthy relationships, especially with one's children; developing a positive and healthy attitude towards female sexuality; and exploring one's spirituality.

XII. CENTER POINT

Program Manager J.B. Hall addressed the Board on behalf of Vice President of Center Point Patti Trail. Mr. Hall advised Center Point, a male facility, was initially founded by two recovering individuals in 1969 and was incorporated in 1971. Their mission is to provide a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program to offenders before re-entry into the community. Center Point received twelve (12) residents on September 6, 2005. Union City is the host facility. They currently have 140 inmates and 10 trustees with a projected population of 200. The average number of days left on an offender's sentence is 1200 to 1500 days. Residents are required to attend 42 hours of substance abuse treatment during their stay at Center Point. Mr. Hall gave a racial breakdown of the population.

XII. CONFIRMATION OF WARDENS AND APPROVAL OF REASSIGNMENTS

- Greg Province, Jackie Brannon Correctional Center

Associate Director Edward Evans recommended Gregory S. Province to the Board for approval of the position of warden at the Jackie Brannon Correctional Center in McAlester, Oklahoma. Effective December 1, 2005.

Mr. Henneke made the motion to approve this appointment with a second to the motion by Mr. Logan. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

Approval for reassignment of the following wardens was sought:

- Eric Franklin , Oklahoma State Reformatory
- Marty Sirmons, Oklahoma State Penitentiary

- Walter Dinwiddie, Dick Conner Correctional Center
- Mike Mullin, Jess Dunn Correctional Center/Dr. Eddie Warrior Correctional Center

Mr. Logan made a motion for approval and Ms. Young seconded the motion. Result of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes, Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

These changes occurred in January

XIV. APPROVAL OF CAPACITY CHANGE

- **Healdton Community Work Center**
- **Marshall County Community Work Center**
- **James Crabtree Correctional Center**

Deputy Director Ken Klingler was recognized for presentation of three (3) capacity changes. Healdton Community work Center has requested a six-month extension to the increased capacity change approved by the Board on September 2, 2005 to allow completion of the new Wilson Community work Center which should be completed in August 2006.

Ms. Young made the motion to approve with a second by Mr. Ware. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

Marshall County Community Work has requested a capacity increase from fifty-one (51) to fifty-eight (58). The fire marshal has approved the capacity change.

Motion made by Mr. Godlove and seconded by Ms. Young. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

James Crabtree Correctional Center has requested a capacity increase in the segregation housing unit from ten (10) to forty-two (42). This will include 21 two-man cells and one safe cell in the new unit. The state fire marshal has approved the occupancy rate.

Motion made by Ernest Godlove and seconded by Mark Luttrull. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; and Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

XV. APPROVAL OF DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Jim Harris acting Finance and Accounting administrator was recognized for presentation of the Declaration of Emergency for repairing the kitchen at Hillside Community Corrections Center. He called attention to Board Policy 010200, "Procedures and Policies for the Oklahoma Board of Corrections" Section F, Approval of Contracts and Budgets, paragraph 4 requires: the board to

approve all emergency expenditures of money that exceed the director's authority as allowed by law." As a result of a fire in the kitchen at Hillside Community Corrections Center on January 13, 2006 such a situation exists. Estimated cost of repairs is approximately \$500,000.

Mr. Luttrull asked about a cost analysis to determine whether it would be more beneficial to tear it down and start over. Director Jones advised they are consulting with an architect to see if this would be more feasible, but at this point he wants to declare an emergency to proceed. If it is determined it would be more beneficial he would come back to the board to vacate the vote. Mr. Godlove asked how long it would take to obtain the necessary documentation for the reconstruction of the present building. Director Jones advised with the emergency declaration it could be within 60 to 90 days up and running, but without the declaration, probably six months.

Mr. Rainey advised the Executive committee toured the kitchen and would recommend with confidence the approval of a motion. Mr. Henneke made a motion and Ms. Young seconded the motion. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

XVI. SEVEN-DAY WORK CYCLE

Chairman Rainey recognized J'me Overstreet, associate director of Administrative Services for presentation of the Seven-Day Work Cycle. Ms. Overstreet reports in viewing all possible options in the 28-day cycle, the recommendation came back to change to a seven day cycle, and that was implemented January 21, 2006. We are hopeful the changes will be positive and will simplify the time and leave reporting and relieve some of the concerns that came from the correctional officers in regard to comp time and overtime payment. Staff were made aware at least 20 days prior to implementation. The majority of people impacted by the overtime cycle have had a positive reaction. Some probation and parole officers have some questions but overall it will be a positive change.

Director Jones advised Oklahoma Public Employees Association (OPEA) was very instrumental in this change.

XVII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pardon and Parole Board Interface Committee – Beverly Young reported the committee met by telephone conference. She thanked Debbie Mahaffey and Greg Williams for implementing the video conferencing system which should be operational by the March Pardon and Parole Board meeting. She commented on the percentage of paroles approved by the governor's office which reflects 87% approved, although only 23.4% of the recommendations made by Probation and Parole are considered for parole.

Population Committee – Mark Luttrull reported the committee met via teleconference. Everything discussed in committee was discussed in open session today regarding the increase in receptions and the housing situation; briefly touched on building new prisons if allowed that option.

Executive Committee – Robert Rainey reported the minutes of the committee meeting have been circulated and there is nothing significant to report.

Budget Committee – David Henneke reported everything discussed in the committee meeting has been covered in the open meeting.

Legislative Committee – Earnest Ware reports the committee met and reviewed the initiatives. There is lots of work to do but feels they are doing a very good job of making sure legislators know the need for the funding level and how the agency has been neglected the past years. Some of the legislative surveys have been returned, but we need to encourage those legislators who have not, to fill out the survey to help us better understand their position.

Mr. Godlove asked if they have any marching orders as to what they should do as board members. Committee will give marching orders at next meeting.

XVIII. NEW BUSINESS

None

XIX. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The February BOC meeting location has been changed from John Lilley Correctional Center to the State Capitol Building in Room 432A.

XX. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Rainey sought a motion to adjourn. Mr. Henneke made the motion followed with a second to the motion by Mr. Logan. Results of roll call: Mr. Godlove, yes; Mr. Henneke, yes; Mr. Logan, yes; Mr. Luttrull, yes; Mr. Rainey, yes; Mr. Ware, yes; and Ms. Young, yes.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

I hereby certify that these minutes were duly approved by the Board on this 24th day of February, 2006 in which a quorum was present and voting.

Approved by:

Secretary of the Board

Date: February 24, 2006

Submitted by: _____
Minutes Clerk