

Tulare County Community Corrections Partnership

Minutes – June 3, 2024

Committee Name:	Community Corrections Partnership	Starting Time: 2:00 p.m.	Ending Time: 2:25 p.m.
Place:	Probation Headquarters – Administration Conference Room		
Executive Committee Present:	Kelly Vernon, Chief Probation Officer (Chair), Tulare County Probation Department; Erin Brooks, Public Defender, Tulare County Public Defender's Office; Stephanie Cameron, Court Executive Officer, Tulare County Superior Court, Jason Salazar, Chief of Police, City of Visalia; Tim Ward, District Attorney, Tulare County District Attorney's Office; Dr. Natalie Bolin, Mental Health Director, Tulare County Health and Human Services (proxy for Donna Ortiz, Director, Tulare County Health and Human Services)		
Executive Committee Absent:	Mike Boudreaux, Sheriff, Tulare County Sheriff's Office; Donna Ortiz, Director, Tulare County Health and Human Services		
Members Present:	None		
Members Absent:	Jason T. Britt, County Administrative Officer, Tulare County Administrative Office; Mary Escarsega-Fechner, Executive Director, C-SET, Inc; Tim Hire, Superintendent, Tulare County Office of Education; Sherry Pacillas, Director of Court Operations, Tulare County Superior Court; Ron Westphal, Assistant Public Defender, Tulare County Public Defender's Office; Mark Gist, Assistant Sheriff, Tulare County Sheriff's Office; Adam Peck, Director, Workforce Investment Board; Andy Swarthout, Captain, Visalia Police Department; Dan Underwood, Chief Deputy District Attorney		
County Staff Present:	Robert Hernandez, Senior Administrative Analyst, Tulare County Administrative Office; Karishma Fazalbhoy, Supervising Staff Services Analyst, Tulare County Probation Department		

Guests Present:	Araceli Olivares (GEO Reentry Services, LLC), Alejandro Jara (GEO Reentry Services, LLC)
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	Discussion	Person(s) Responsible
I. Call to Order	Chief Vernon called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.	Chief Vernon
II. Announcements	Chief Vernon requested the (2) guests: Araceli Olivares and Alejandro Jara to introduce themselves and speak about GEO services at Probation. Araceli from GEO mentioned that they are providing evidence based cognitive behavioral programming for Probation clients. Chief Vernon mentioned that GEO's services have been highly beneficial to the department and the department is looking to expand GEO's services to the Juvenile division in the next Fiscal Year. Chief Vernon also announced that this meeting was being recorded for the minutes.	Chief Vernon
III. New Business	 (a) Probation Updates: Chief Vernon mentioned that we do not have the final numbers on the budget from the State. We have an estimate of \$28,309,179. Regarding AB 2882, Chief Vernon stated that this Assembly Bill is currently making its way through the Legislature and would potentially change the CCP committee. It may potentially take Probation out as Chair, give additional membership to HHSA, and may require us to have 50% of the committee made up of community-based members. Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC) stands in opposition to this Assembly Bill. Per Chief Vernon, another important bill forthcoming is SB 1057 on the Juvenile side. (b) Discussion of Email Votes (2/12/24 Meeting Action Items): Chief Vernon mentioned that Public Defender (Erin Brooks) was opposed to the distribution of growth funding for FY 22/23 split, however the motion did carry at the last meeting. There were no other questions from the group on this item. 	Chief Vernon
IV. Action Items		Chief Vernon
a. Approve CCP Minutes (February 12, 2024)	Motion to approve: Jason Salazar. 2 nd : Stephanie Cameron. The action was unanimously approved.	
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	Discussion	Person(s) Responsible
b. Budget (Fiscal Year 24-25)	Chief Vernon reiterated that although we do not have final numbers yet on the budget, the estimate is \$28,309,179. Public Defender (Erin Brooks) asked that upon budget submission, is there a way to request certain \$'s for special projects? Chief Vernon mentioned that it can be brough back to the CCP for approval and if there is impact to the overall budget then that would require Board of Supervisors approval. Senior Administrative Analyst (Robert Hernandez) mentioned that last year this was done in December and there were AUD 308 budget adjustments completed for departments with special projects that were approved by CCP.	
c. Jail Medical Costs (Funding)	Chief Vernon mentioned that there is an ongoing issue to address the \$3 million gap in funding for jail medical costs. In the past \$1 million came from the top of the CCP allocation to the County and Probation (over the past 2 Fiscal Years) has covered the additional \$2 million. Chief Vernon recommended a different approach, as Probation cannot continue to cover that gap. Chief Vernon proposed the following: \$3 million to be taken off the top of the CCP allocation to the County and then split the remainder at 50/50 between Sheriff and Probation.	
	DA Ward asked if it is requirement for jail medical costs to be funded by the CCP funds. Per Chief Vernon, there is no requirement. Dr Natalie Bolin (proxy for Donna Ortiz, Tulare County HHS Director) explained that HHSA oversees the jail medical contract. The jail became a psychiatric hospital and in person psychiatry that was needed to stabilize the population added to the exponential costs of the contract. Dr. Bolin further mentioned that the new jail medical provider is Integrated Wellness Solutions who will be starting effective 7/1/24 and covering both the Health and Behavioral Health components.	
	Court Executive Officer (Stephanie Cameron) asked about the budget distribution-if the departments would still be getting the past amounts, with the exception of the \$3 million that maybe taken from the top of the CCP allocation. Chief Vernon confirmed that there will be no change to the other allocations.	
	Chief Vernon mentioned that as the CCP monies are not protected we need to start prioritizing future funding needs, as we maybe taking deeper cuts to the CCP dollar amount next year.	
	Motion to approve: Erin Brooks. 2 nd : Natalie Bolin.	
	The action was unanimously approved.	
	Chief Vernon asked if there were any public comments. There were no comments from the group.	

	Discussion	Person(s) Responsible
Next Meeting Date:	September 9, 2024 at 2 PM	Chief Vernon
Minutes Prepared By:	Karishma Fazalbhoy, Supervising Staff Services Analyst	
MINUTES READ / APPROVED BY: KELLY VERNON, CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER		