

**ALLEN COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS  
ADVISORY BOARD  
MINUTES  
May 26, 2006  
Noon**

**PRESENT:** Judge Stephen Sims, Allen Superior Court, Juvenile Jurisdiction  
Nelson Peters, Allen County Commissioner  
Karen Richards, Allen County Prosecutor  
Joe Brita, Superintendent, Juvenile Justice Center  
Elisha Harris, Allen County Jail Ministry  
Judge John Surbeck, Allen Superior Court, Criminal Division  
Judge Thomas Felts, Allen Circuit Court  
Beth Beams, Center for Non-Violence  
Ruth Anne Sprunger, Mental Health Association  
Ella Green, proxy for Michelle Savieo, Department of Child  
Services/Family Resources  
Eric Zimmerman, Chief, Adult Probation  
Paul Wilson, CEO, Park Center  
David Sprague, President, Old Fort Specialties  
Graham Richard, Mayor of Fort Wayne

**ABSENT:** Judge Frances Gull, Allen Superior Court, Criminal Division  
Michael Cunegin, Allen County Council  
Charles Leonard, Attorney at Law  
Mark Keen, Chancellor, Ivy Tech Community College  
James Herman, Allen County Sheriff  
Thomas Ryan, Circuit Court Hearing Officer  
Marla Irving, Allen County Commissioner

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Steve Keever, Parole  
David Lombard, PhD  
Teresa Hatton, NAMI

**ROLL CALL AND QUORUM**

Chair Judge John Surbeck, called the meeting to order. Sheila Hudson called the roll and it was determined there was a quorum.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting made by Karen Richards, seconded by Ruth Anne Sprunger. Carried unanimously.

**CHAIRS REPORT:**

Chair John Surbeck announced that the Indiana Department of Correction approved the annual grants as submitted by Allen County Community Corrections.

Chair Surbeck then provided a brief overview of the Community Supervision approach as detailed in the state grant request. He stated that the Advisory Board is not just an oversight board, but one that should be proactive in the community as a whole. Karen Richards requested that a copy of the Indiana statute that defines a community plan be handed out at the next meeting.

Chair Surbeck then discussed the idea of combining Parole / Probation / Community Corrections that has been brought forward from the state level. He suggested that a representative of Parole might be considered for representation on the Advisory Board. He expressed that the Board might be expanded by one position to include Parole.

**Steve Sims made a motion that the Advisory Board be expanded by one position specifically designed to include Parole and that Steve Keever be considered as the first person to fill this slot. Seconded by Joe Brita.**

Discussion by Karen Richard to fill an existing opening, as all positions without statutory intents are mostly Commissioner appointments, and not amend the by-laws to expand number of Board members. Motion is withdrawn and tabled for next meeting for further investigation.

Chair Surbeck stated that the issues of amending by-laws and expanding membership would be looked into, along with attendance records for possible member replacements. He extended an invitation to Steve Keever to continue to attend meetings until issue is finalized.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT:**

### **1. Financial Collections**

Director Sheila Hudson briefly stated that while no offenders are revoked from the program for only non-payment of fees, many fail to comply with financial obligations. Offenders are offered temporary assistance with fees, reduction of fee assessment, and the chance to work off fees on the community service crew. She described a proposal from a local attorney, Jack Roebel, to act as a collection agent for Community Corrections. His fee is 30% of collected amounts, he does not hold a paid position. This issue was deferred to the next meeting to afford more research and to have Mr Roebel attend the meeting in person to address questions and concerns. The County Attorney will also look over the agreement.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There is an opportunity to apply for a mental health grant, proposing a collaboration of judges, law enforcement, mental health officials, prisons, jails, NAMI, etc. A task force has been meeting and the grant is being prepared, as it must be submitted in the next week. A copy of the proposed sequential intercept model for Allen County which is the focus of the grant, was handed out. The grant award is \$250,000 over a 30 month period. No further action is required from the Board at this time.

Judge Surbeck announced that Eric Zimmerman has been awarded the very prestigious Order of Augustus by the Criminal Justice Center for his outstanding work in the criminal justice system.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None heard.

Motion to adjourn by Joe Brita, seconded by Paul Wilson. Carried unanimously.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED.**

The next meeting will be **July 27, 2006 at noon.**

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Wilson,  
Board Secretary