

LIVINGSTON COUNTY COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ADVISORY BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: July 8th, 2025, at 12:00pm

Jury Assembly Room B, 204 S. Highlander Way, Howell, MI 48843

Members Present: Sheriff M. Murphy, Judge M. McGivney, Judge D. Bain, Prosecutor C. Henry, Probation Supervisor M. Boyden, MI Works D. Awrey, Public Defender K. Groenhout, Business Community C. Griffin, Media K. Rogulski, and Clergy C. Skiles

Members Absent: Judge Cavanaugh, Commissioner D. Domas, CMH C. Conklin, and Unadilla Police Chief D. Russell

Others Present: Lieutenant. R. Asquith, Specialty Courts & Programs Administrator S. Applegate, Community Corrections Coordinator K. DeLamielleure, Inmate Services Jail Educator H. Vontom, and Jail Chaplain Gary Childers

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 12:02pm by Sheriff Murphy

2. ROLL CALL

Introductions of all members, non-members, and public

3. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS (if applicable)

None.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda.

Moved by: Henry

Seconded by: Bain

MOTION CARRIED (10-0)

5. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Approval of 4.15.2025 & 4.25.2025

Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Griffin

Seconded by: Bain

MOTION CARRIED (10-0)

6. REPORT OF CHAIRPERSON

-Sheriff Murphy reported that they have been working with an IT security group which has provided the jail with laptops and H. Vontom has implemented a program for basic

computer skills for inmates. Once they graduate, inmates also get to leave with the laptop.

7. REPORT OF COORDINATOR

-None.

REPORT OF ADMINISTRATOR

-S. Applegate discussed the Q3 report which included being on track to meet the number of projected new enrollments which was stated in the FY25 grant application. The CO1- Thinking Matters has met the projected number of enrollments at 100% utilization. The I22- Substance Use Assessments are very close to surpassing the expected number of enrollments at 67%. The G18- Outpatient Substance Use Group Therapy (Key II) received two new referrals this quarter which resulted in an 80% utilization rate. The G18- TREM has stayed steady with a utilization rate of 29%. The ZOO-Individual Therapy Services utilization rate is very close to expected at 70%. Although we did not receive as many referrals as expected in Q3 with the I22-Substance Abuse Use Assessments, we are tracking very closely regarding the expected overall utilization rate and we assume to see additional referrals in Q4. Many referrals are now being properly channeled and funded through Access which in turn has lowered the need to utilize grant funds. The G18- TREM is trending a little low and we continue to work with the Agents to get more participants for this group. Overall, the programming is tracking higher than expected in the third quarter.

-S. Applegate added that more referrals for TREM and the female Thinking Matters class in the jail would help to boost our utilization rates.

-S. Applegate reported that because our spending was low, we were able to return \$20,000 to MDOC so they can give it to other counties in need.

-C. Griffin asked if the return in funds would affect next year and S. Applegate & Sheriff Murphy conferred that it would not. In fact, we have been able to give back the last few years since we have been able to minimize cost and it may be that the programming just does not cost as much for us after making changes and tracking utilization properly.

-C. Henry asked if there were specific counties that the monies went to and S. Applegate stated that information is not known.

-Judge McGivney asked if the funding for SAMHSA has been affected by the Government cuts and S. Applegate said no, thankfully.

-S. Applegate brought up pretrial services and is something that is being looked at for future use. She reported that although we cannot use community corrections funding to pay for people to attend the national conference to learn more about how it works. S. Applegate is looking into other avenues of funding to support being able to attend.

-S. Applegate concluded with discussion about the FY26 Grant application. She stated that the application was online for the first time and it made it much easier than in the past to complete the application. She confirmed that it was submitted and we should know by our next meeting in September what the status is.

8. MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

Motion to excuse absent board members

Moved by: Bain

Seconded by: Henry

MOTION CARRIED (10-0)

9. BOARD MEMBERS' UPDATES

-Judge McGivney brought up an article on WHMI that reported Michigan's 21% recidivism rate which is the lowest one Michigan has ever had on record.

-Sheriff Murphy discussed from a cynical standpoint that the report might be limited unless it was being measured the exact same every time. However, from a positive perspective, our local inmate numbers are back to where they used to be in 1996 which shows how effective our programming actually is. Things like GPS tracking, delayed sentencing, and educational programs are showing to be very beneficial.

-C. Henry reported that she has seen firsthand the people that are involved in the drug courts and and/or frequent flyers in the criminal justice system that are having so much success. She stated they are graduating and we don't see them again. Things like the Jail Chaplain and GED programming have been amazing.

-M. Boyden reported that the culture is really changing. Agents are willing to work with offenders opposed to the "old school mentality." Agents really are putting in the time and trying to help offenders get connected with services to help aid in rehabilitation.

-H. Vontom reported that the parenting program has been a success. There were 17 people in the class in the spring and currently 8 individuals in week four. There were 10 grads in the last year with 116 overall. She shared that the last graduate cried when they found out they passed so it has been really impactful. She discussed North Star Literacy which is the program they are using for basic computer skills on the new laptops for the inmates. She said that 40 people have shown interest and there are currently 12 in session. To pass, they have to have 85% in a given area and only one person has passed the internet section so that shows how behind a lot of inmates are in their computer skills. Once they pass the first 3 sections, then they get to choose what else they would like to learn like Microsoft Word, Excel, social media, etc.

-C. Griffin asked if they could prepare them with computer job skills to obtain a job.

-Sheriff Murphy responded that the IT security group is willing to provide career services to inmates in the future, but for right now, inmates just need a general foundation in how computers work since they are technologically lagging.

-D. Awrey mentioned that this program really is helping inmates to eventually find a job by providing them with the basic skills of how to use them.

-C. Skiles reported that the parenting class is also available to the public and they are using the Love & Logic Curriculum.

10. NEXT MEETING

September 23rd, 2025, at 12:00pm

11. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

None

12. ADJOURN

Chairperson Sheriff Murphy adjourned the meeting.

Moved by: Rogulski

Seconded by: Bain

MOTION CARRIED (10-0)

Recording Secretary: K. DeLamielleure