

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE COCHISE COUNTY JAIL DISTRICT PUBLIC OUTREACH COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD ON
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2022**

A meeting of the Cochise County Jail District Public Outreach Committee was held on Friday, September 23, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Sheriff's Office Conference Room, 205 N. Judd Drive, Bisbee, Arizona.

Present: James Conlogue, Chair; Frank Antenori, Committee Member; David DiPeso, Committee Member; Tony Isom, Committee Member; Jon Kosmider, Committee Member; Jennifer Lakosil, Committee Member; Katie Miller, Committee Member; Eric Petermann, Committee Member; John Pintek, Committee Member; Paul Sheats, Committee Member

Absent: Danya Acosta, Vice-Chair; Kay Gojkovich, Committee Member

Staff Present: Richard G. Karwaczka, County Administrator
Sharon Gilman, Deputy County Administrator

Attendees: Kenneth Bradshaw, Commander
Ariel Monge, Lieutenant
Josh Arnold, National Institute for Jail Operations
Rex Bartlett, HighGround, Inc.

Chair Conlogue called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS OPEN FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

THE ORDER OR DELETION OF ANY ITEM ON THIS AGENDA IS SUBJECT TO MODIFICATION AT THE MEETING

NOTE: Beginning at 8:00 a.m., Committee Members toured the Jail facility in groups of five or fewer.

1. Presentation by Commander Kenneth Bradshaw, and discussion: Jail Facilities Briefing.

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(9), the Committee may vote to go into Executive Session for discussions with designated representatives of the public body in order to discuss security plans, procedures, assessments, measures or systems relating to, or having an impact on, the security or safety of buildings, facilities, operations, critical infrastructure information and information technology maintained by the public body.

Commander Bradshaw, Lieutenant Monge, and Lieutenant Heisner-Cardona responded to questions and comments raised by Committee Members as a result of their tours of the Jail. Questions asked, comments made, and answers are listed below. The Committee discussed certain items in detail.

- What is the rate of recidivism? Staff will gather and provide information to the Committee.

- Does the Jail have suicide vests? Smocks are used for cases of self-harm; the next step is a restraint chair to prevent self-harm.
- Are people in jail for minor crimes, like littering? Commander Bradshaw provided a detailed response regarding whether crimes are a nuisance or recurring issues due to mental health. Mental health is a real problem in rural areas; he discussed the process for court-ordered treatment. A judge determines the sentence length.
- The law library is used to check for gang tattoos. Space is an issue and staff uses every possible space that can be used.
- What is the suicide rate and how does it compare to others? The County is slightly lower than the 50 percentile of the national average. Over a three-year period of time, there were 199 saves versus three successful suicides that resulted in lawsuits.
- How long are people retained? The average length of stay is nine days; the average can be skewed by various factors such as length of trial.
- Are charges filed for damage to Jail facilities? Charges are rarely filed for destruction of County property and are not usually worth the cost of further detention.
- Is classroom space a requirement for non-high school graduates? It must be offered for anyone under the age of 23; a dedicated classroom is required.
- Epoxy gels versus tile flooring. Flooring will be incorporated into a new facility.
- Security concerns for the yard. Security concerns will be addressed in a new facility.
- Cost and potential use of ankle bracelets. The County is exploring the potential use of ankle bracelets; if moved forward, it could reduce the population by 10% - 15%.

2. Presentation by Mr. Josh Arnold, Director of Operations, National Institute for Jail Operations (NIJO), and discussion: National Standards for Jail Facilities.

Mr. Arnold presented this item. He reviewed his professional background. Nationally, Jails account for 70% of a County's total liability. At the Sheriff's request, a complete assessment was completed in March, 2021.

Major maintenance issues found during the assessment include leaks, corroded pipes, and corrosion in electrical conduit areas. Modern correctional facility design can fix issues caused by 24/7 operation and housing of inmates. Modern facilities are designed for the load and to decrease liability. There is improper housing for mental health; the County has no area to put the acutely mentally ill. Mental health concerns are a liability that must be addressed. Despite the County's efforts, certain technology is antiquated and needs to be addressed for safety reasons. A lack of administrative space is problematic due to separation from individuals and work that needs to be supervised.

Mr. Arnold discussed the Concept of Deliberative Indifference and reasons the County must take corrective measures when problems are known. As a result of a 1980 court case, Pima County was ordered to build a new jail; 52 different mandates were issued from the case. In response to the Committee, Mr. Arnold stated that the Pima County Jail was funded via voter-approved bonds; court mandates are actions required to be taken.

Mr. Arnold continued the presentation. The small size of the Jail is another concern for various reasons including potential Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) violations; no administrative segregation for dangerous inmates; and, no place for effective isolation, resulting in dangerous individuals being placed in general

population. There is no dormitory-style housing; dormitory-style housing is beneficial for various reasons, including it being more cost-effective, less labor-intensive, and able to reduce suicides. In response to the Committee, he detailed Pima County's dormitory-style housing setup and staffing.

Mr. Arnold continued to discuss concerns with the facility size. There is a lack of kitchen and refrigerator space, resulting in additional costs due to being unable to buy in bulk. There is a lack of overall storage space for officers and medical staff. In response to the Committee, Commander Bradshaw stated that Santa Cruz County's Jail is comparable in population and is fairly new. Committee Members Antenori and Sheats requested an opportunity to view the Santa Cruz County Jail or another comparable facility. There was additional interest from Committee Members in seeing either the Santa Cruz County Jail or another comparable facility.

Mr. Arnold continued, reviewing radio dead spots and blind spots/lack of lines of sight, noting the danger of both. In response to the Committee, he stated that he does not have a generic layout, or a best practices design, of a Jail. The Committee discussed communicating detailed information to the public regarding the needs. Mr. Karwaczka stated that the Committee's scope is to recommend to the Board of Supervisors whether or not to establish a Jail District, and may recommend whether to build a new facility or rehabilitate the current facility. In response to the Committee, Mr. Arnold stated that, due to the fact of the Committee's existence and review of the matter, he does not believe the County is guilty of deliberate indifference.

3. *Future Agenda Items - members of the Jail District Public Outreach Committee may request that an item be added to a future Committee meeting agenda. The Committee may reach consensus to add requested items to Future Meeting Agendas.*

Mr. Karwaczka stated that on October 7, the Committee will review a summary of financials and survey results. October 21 is open for a potential meeting.

Committee Member Sheats noted that he is unable to attend on October 7, 2022, and stated his preference for a meeting on October 21 in order to have the time to review all of the information. Chair Conlogue noted that it is likely the Committee will meet on October 21.

Next Committee Meeting Date: October 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Chair Conlogue adjourned the meeting at 11:34 a.m.

APPROVED:

Judge James Conlogue (Ret.), Chair

ATTEST:

Tim Mattix, Clerk of the Board