

OKLAHOMA BOARD OF CORRECTIONS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

July 27, 2022

1. Call to Order

Chairman Hastings Siegfried called the meeting of the Oklahoma Board of Corrections (BOC) to order at 1:00 p.m., on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, at Eddie Warrior Correctional Center (EWCC), 601 North Oak Street, Taft, OK 74463.

The meeting was preceded by advance notice of the date, time, and place, filed with the Oklahoma Secretary of State on Wednesday, October 28, 2021. An announcement was also given at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance by posting notice of the date, time, place, and agenda of the meeting at 12:09 p.m., on Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at the principal office of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC), located at 3400 North Martin Luther King Avenue in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma and at EWCC, 601 North Oak Street, Taft, OK 74463.

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Siegfried led the meeting attendees in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

B. Roll Call

Chairman Siegfried asked the clerk to call roll:

Randy Chandler	Present	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Present	Calvin Prince	Present
Erick Harris	Absent – Arrived at 1:20 PM	T. Hastings Siegfried	Present
Lynn Haueter	Present	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Present		

The roll reflected a quorum.

2. Approval of Board of Corrections Meeting Minutes

Chairman Siegfried requested approval of the meeting minutes as presented to members in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

A. May 25, 2022

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Prince seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Absent	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Abstain	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Abstain		

The motion failed and a second motion was made at 1:29 PM by Mr. Siegfried to approve the minutes from May 25, 2022.

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the second motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Prince

seconded the second motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Abstain	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Meeting minutes for May 25, 2022, were approved by majority vote.

There was no further discussion.

3. Chairman's Welcome

Chairman Siegfried welcomed everyone and thanked the facility for hosting the BOC meeting.

There was no further discussion.

4. Facility Warden Welcome

Warden Greg Breslin welcomed everyone and provided the following overview:

Eddie Warrior Correctional Center sits on the original Haloche Indian Mission School. In 1909 it became the Deaf, Blind, and Orphan Institute, and in the many years after, helping children under several different names. In 1986, it was transferred to the Department of Corrections and later opened for female inmates in January of 1989. The facility is named after Dr. Eddie Warrior, a former superintendent of Muskogee County and Taft School systems. The facility currently houses 760 inmates and could accommodate over 900 inmates. Education, CareerTech, and Substance Abuse treatment are a priority. The facility has specialized treatment units dealing with extreme drug problems with the Regimented Treatment Program and Helping Women Recover, which is a trauma-based program. The staff at the facility are committed to providing a safe and healthy environment while focusing on treatment and reentry. EWCC staff works daily to provide inmates with the skills needed to be successful and productive upon release. Warden Breslin indicated he was honored the board chose to have the meeting at his facility and thanked them for coming.

There was no further discussion.

5. Director's Comments

Director Crow welcomed everyone and provided the following updates:

A. Emergency Purchases

I. Gas Leak

On June 10, 2022, at Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (LARC), a gas line corroded. The gas line was west of the facility between the generator and electrical substation. Staff could see groundwater bubbling up from the ground due to the escaping gas. The affected area protruded under the fence towards the dining facility.

Facility staff took steps to keep inmates away from the back of the dining area. We believed the gas line to be approximately 6 inches of steel piping. For safety

precautions, staff turned off the generator until it was deemed safe. An emergency declaration was approved to proceed. The final cost was \$230,253.44.

II. Sewer Line Rupture

On June 16, 2022, at Lexington Assessment and Reception Center (LARC), a 12-foot-deep sewer line ruptured, and sewage came from the ground between two maintenance holes west of the facility running north and west along the fence line.

The facility notified DEQ of the unpermitted discharge. A 6-inch trash pump with a 600-foot lay-flat discharge hose and 30-foot suction hose to run bypass from one maintenance hole to the other was required to provide flow to prevent sewage from backing up into the facility. The repair required shoring and dewatering per OSHA standards. The final cost was \$106,087.62.

III. Tower Rescue Services

On July 24, 2022, at Mack Alford Correctional Center (MACC), a 62-year-old male inmate accessed an unauthorized area. The inmate climbed a cell phone tower almost all the way to the top that was nearby and refused to come down.

The agency was able to find a tower rescue service. The agency was quoted \$50,000.00 fee to extract the inmate. Director Crow stated he approved the extraction, and the inmate was returned without incident. Director Crow indicated this situation was extremely serious. The inmate was on the top of the tower from 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 24, 2022, until 12:00 PM on Monday, July 25, 2022, with temperatures in the 110-degree range.

B. Community Correction Centers American Correctional Association (ACA) Accreditation

Director Crow indicated he was proud to announce that all community correction centers passed their ACA audits with perfect scores. That is 100% in compliance with all ACA standards. Director Crow indicated the ACA standards are the baseline for facilities standards and this is something that does not come easy.

A lot of planning, preparation, and hard work goes into an ACA audit. Director Crow indicated he wanted to congratulate all staff involved in this process and thank them for their hard work and dedication as they continue to achieve the highest standards of excellence.

Director Crow also wanted to recognize the Auditing and Compliance Unit for providing staff with the tools needed to prepare for these audits.

Director Crow asked for everyone to please join him in recognizing this important achievement and the agency's ongoing success in reestablishing its ACA accreditation.

C. Correctional Officer Applications Since April 1st

The pay increase for correctional officers continues to bring in more applicants. As news of the pay increase continues to spread among potential applications, both in Oklahoma and in surrounding states, the agency is expecting applicant numbers to rise.

In April, the agency announced a 30-percent pay increase for correctional officers.

Between the date of the announcement and the end of that month, the agency saw a rise in applications of 116 percent. Director Crow indicated the agency has not seen this high in the number of applicants before.

With the rise in applications, the agency added 13 correctional officers in April and 58 in May. June's numbers are still being calculated, but a net increase is expected once again. Director Crow indicated he was very excited to be able to report this increase in applicants.

By bringing correctional officers' starting pay to regionally competitive levels, Director Crow is confident the agency can attract quality candidates and increase officer staffing.

D. Appointment of Jason Sparks as Chief Administrator of Oklahoma Correctional Industries

Director Crow indicated he was proud to formally introduce Jason Sparks as the Chief Administrator for Oklahoma Correctional Industries.

Mr. Sparks joined the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in 2019 as Resident Agent-in-Charge with the Office of the Inspector General. In March 2020, he was promoted to Deputy Inspector General.

Mr. Sparks began his law enforcement career with the Moore Police Department where he retired after 20 years at the rank of Master Sergeant. Also, during this time, Mr. Sparks successfully owned and operated a family business.

Mr. Sparks graduated from Central Christian College in McPherson, Kansas, with a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice.

In addition to the experience that comes with a successful law enforcement career, he brings experience as a business owner to his new role as OCI's Chief Administrator, giving him the ideal skill set to lead this important component of inmate rehabilitation.

Director Crow asked everyone to please join him in welcoming Mr. Sparks to this new role and wishing him continued success leading OCI.

There was no further discussion.

6. Warden Appointment

A. OSR Interim Warden William "Chris" Rankins

Chief Administrator of Division of Institutions Jason Bryant welcomed everyone and provided the biography of Interim Warden William "Chris" Rankins and requested approval for his appointment. A copy of the biography was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

Board members provided their support and words of encouragement.

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the motion to approve the appointment of William "Chris" Rankins to the warden at OSR. Mr. Prince seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
----------------	---------	---------------	--------

Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Absent	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

The warden appointment of William “Chris” Rankins as OSR warden was approved by majority vote.

B. NOCCC Interim Warden Derrick Yazel

Chief Administrator of Community Corrections James Rudek welcomed everyone and provided the biography of Interim Warden Derrick Yazel and requested approval for his appointment. A copy of the biography was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

Board members provided their support and words of encouragement.

1:20 PM Erick Harris arrived.

Motion: Mr. Prince made the motion to approve the appointment of Derrick Yazel to the warden at NOCCC. Mr. Siegfried seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

The warden appointment of Derrick Yazel as NOCCC warden was approved by majority vote.

There was no further discussion.

7. Inmate/Offender Population Update

Administrator of Classification and Population Travis Gray provided an overview of the inmate/offender population as of June 30, 2022. A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for July 25, 2022.

There was no further discussion.

8. Agency Budget Update

Chief Administrator of Business Services Antwonette Kimble welcomed everyone and provided the following overview:

A. FY2022 BOC Budget Reports

Chief Administrator Kimble provided an overview of the FY2022 BOC Budget. A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

B. FY2023 Budget Work Program

Chief Administrator Kimble provided an overview of the FY2023 Budget Work Program. A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the motion to approve FY2023 Budget Work Program. Mr. Chandler seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Abstain	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Approval of the FY2023 Budget Work Program was approved by majority vote.

C. FY2024 Capital Outlay Request

Chief Administrator Kimble provided an overview of the FY2024 Capital Outlay Request. A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022. Chief Administrator Kimble requested approval of the board for the FY2024 Capital Outlay Request.

Motion: Mr. Chandler made the motion to approve FY2024 Capital Outlay Request. Mr. Siegfried seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Abstain	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Approval of the FY2024 Capital Outlay Request was approved by majority vote.

There was no further discussion.

9. Legislative Update:

Chief Administrator of Government Relations Justin Wolf provided an overview of the legislative summary report. A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

There was no further discussion.

10. Approval of Board of Corrections Policy:

Chief Administrator of Auditing and Compliance Shelly Bear provided an overview and requested approval of the following policies:

- A. P-020100 "Management of Oklahoma Department of Corrections Information"**
- B. P-060100 "Classification and Case Management of Inmates/Offenders"**
- C. P-090100 "Provisions of Programs"**
- D. P-170100 "Community Sentencing"**

A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for July 27, 2022.

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the motion to approve all policies. Mr. Harris seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Abstain	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Approval of all above-listed policies were approved by majority vote.

11. Approval of Delegation Authority to the Director to Declare Emergencies Pursuant to 61 OS §130 (B):

The governing body of a public agency may, upon approval of two-thirds (2/3) majority of all of the members of the governing body, delegate to the chief administrative officer of a public agency the authority to declare an emergency whereby the provisions of the Public Competitive Bidding Act of 1974 with reference to notice and bids shall not apply to contracts less than Seventy-five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000.00) in amount; provided, such authority of the Department of Transportation and the Oklahoma Turnpike Authority shall not extend to any contract exceeding Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) in amount and such authority of the Department of Corrections shall not extend to any contract exceeding Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) in amount for situations in which the emergency impacts the conditions of confinement, health and safety of correctional officers and inmates in the custody of the Department of Corrections.

General Counsel Kari Hawkins reported the state statute allows the Board of Corrections to delegate authority to the Director to declare emergencies and allow purchases not to exceed \$250,000 for delineated purposes of health and safety of correctional officers and inmates. General Counsel Kari Hawkins requested approval from the board to delegate authority to the Director to declare emergencies.

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the motion to approve all policies. Dr. LaFortune seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Abstain	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Approval of the delegation of authority to the Director to declare emergencies pursuant to 61 OS §130 (B) was approved by majority vote.

12. Unit Spotlight:

A. ReMerge Program

Probation and Parole Officer Dusty Tate welcomed everyone and provided an overview of the ReMerge Program. A copy of the overview was included in the BOC packet for

July 27, 2022.

13. Committee Reports – Standing Committees:

A. Executive

Chairman Hastings Siegfried

Members Calvin Prince and Dr. Kathryn LaFortune

Members in this committee discussed the proposed agenda for the board meeting, the board of corrections policies, interviews for OSR interim warden William Rankins and NOCCC interim warden Derrick Yazel, election of officers, and the annual approval delegation authority to the Director to declare emergencies.

There was no further discussion.

B. Population/ Security/ Private Prisons

Chairman Calvin Prince

Members Hastings Siegfried and Lynn Haueter

Members in this committee discussed the population update, the OIG statistics update, and a private prison update.

There was no further discussion.

C. Public Policy/ Affairs/ Criminal Justice

Chairwoman Betty Gesell

Members Stephan Moore, Dr. Kathryn LaFortune, and Darryl Woodard

Members in this committee discussed reentry for communication and housing eligibility, reform task force, programming update, medical parole and the nutrition pilot program.

There was no further discussion.

D. Audit and Finance

Chairman Randy Chandler

Members Hastings Siegfried, Lynn Haueter, and Erick Harris

Members in this meeting discussed the BOC budget report and the FY2024 Capital Outlay Request.

There was no further discussion.

E. FY22 Focus Committee

Chairman Hastings Siegfried

Members Calvin Prince and Randy Chandler

No meeting was held.

There was no further discussion.

14. New Business

There was no new business.

15. Election of Officers

Special Operations Project Manager Tasha Parker took the lead of the meeting and

requested nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair, and Secretary.

- A. Chair**
- B. Vice-Chair**
- C. Secretary**

Motion: Dr. LaFortune nominated Mr. Siegfried as Chair, Mr. Prince as Vice-Chair, and Mr. Chandler as the Secretary. Mr. Harris made a motion to cease nominations and elect individuals stated by Dr. LaFortune. Ms. Gesell seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

The election of Mr. Siegfried as Chair, Mr. Prince as Vice-Chair, and Mr. Chandler as Secretary was approved by a majority vote. Chairman Siegfried took the lead in the meeting.

There was no further discussion.

16. Approval to Enter into Executive Session

- A. Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4), discussion regarding Smith, v. Allbaugh, CIV-19-470-G (U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma)**
- B. Pursuant to 25 O.S. § 307(B)(4), discussion regarding Coddington, v. Crow, Case No. 22-6100 (Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals)**
- C. Office of Inspector General Update on Control of Contraband in State Correctional Facilities**

Motion: Mr. Harris made the motion to approve entering Executive Session. Mr. Siegfried seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Entering Executive Session was approved by a majority vote at 2:55 p.m.

17. Approval to Return from Executive Session

Motion: Mr. Siegfried made the motion to approve returning from the executive session. Dr. LaFortune seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve

Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

Returning from Executive Session was approved by majority vote at 3:53 p.m.

3:00 PM Erick Harris exited the meeting room.

3:28 PM Erick Harris returned to the meeting room.

18. Adjournment

Motion: Mr. Haueter made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Prince seconded the motion.

Randy Chandler	Approve	Stephan Moore	Absent
Betty Gesell	Approve	Calvin Prince	Approve
Erick Harris	Approve	T. Hastings Siegfried	Approve
Lynn Haueter	Approve	Daryl Woodard	Absent
Dr. Kathryn LaFortune	Approve		

There being no further business to discuss, adjournment of the meeting was approved by majority vote at 3:53 p.m.

Submitted to the Board of Corrections By:

Signature on file

 Tasha Parker, Minutes Clerk

 Date

I hereby certify that these minutes were duly approved by the Board of Corrections on September 28, 2022, in which a quorum was present and voting.

X Signature on file

Randy Chandler, Secretary Board
 of Corrections