



FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: Virtual Teams Meeting Date: May 22, 2021 Time: 10:00 a.m. -12:10 p.m.

Teleconference details: Virtual Teams Meeting

Meeting Attendees

Department/facility co-chair: Captain Ina McNeese Family co-chair: Joanne Todd

Facility/council secretary: Kathleen Bechler Family secretary, Josephine Johnson

Members present: Joanne Todd; Josephine Johnson; Diane Durall; Diana Knesek; Diane Pasta; Dana Malaha; Ron O'Neil; Laynara Ferriera; Lynn Barker; Karen Cain; Michele Aceto; Rob Tarver.

Non-council member attendees: Byron Coates; Jeremy Barclay; Kaela Chong; Elke Jackson; John Padilla; Page Perkinson; Monica Ritter; Gheorge Turcin; Jack Warner; Areig Awad; Teri Cohn; Ina McNeese.

Agenda

Old business

Topic	Discussion/Key Points (questions)	Next Steps (responses)
Captain McNeese – COVID Updates	Updates on COVID numbers, phases & cohorting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - MCC has no confirmed cases -1 Incarcerated Individual (I/I) on isolation and 2 tiers on quarantine from MSU, all had second test yesterday and hoping with those results, they will be off isolation & quarantine soon. -to date 553 I/I & violators have tested positive -155 staff confirmed cases (increase of 3 since meeting on 5/7/21) - 3 facilities on limited outbreak status - AHCC, CRCC & Mission Creek (limited outbreak is 2 or more confirmed cases within 14 days in same unit or 1 staff and 1 I/I) Even though WA State is in Phase 3, DOC is still basically in Phase 1, cohorting, mask enforcement, and social distancing will continue despite the communities moving forward.
Captain McNeese -Update on Lightning Strike	Update related to the lightning Strike	<p>Trivia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Average home outlet has 120 Volts at 15 Amps • MCC lightning strike was ±300 million Volts at about 30,000 Amps <p>Results/Aftermath:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Struck the pole at the SOU entrance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Blew fuses on first two poles and destroyed fuse holders ○ Power was out on SOU side of hill (part of WSR) • We got 6 staff in to respond - they were on site until 23:00

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PUD arrived on site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PUD says we blew transformers going to effluent bldg. ○ PUD replaced 200 amp fuses with 140 amp (all they had) ○ Need to have utility contractor replace fuse holders and fuses ○ Transformer to effluent building needs to be replaced ○ We will need to down power briefly to do this work • Critical systems were down <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SOU Core infirmary equipment burned - fire department was called ○ Door control, cameras, viewing stations, WSR shift went down, now restored ○ Minor control was down for a while ○ WSR A, B, C, Booths down – now restored ○ SOU Elevators were down – reset and restored ○ Inmate phones are down – partially restored ○ JPay down – no status ○ IT building went down we worked with HQ, Chop came in - servers had to be reset ○ Sewer pond pumps were down - alarms were going off - restored ○ Sewer pump transducer (depth gauge) burned up – replaced and needs calibration ○ All 8 exhaust fans on SOU Core roof - motors were burned up – in process • Emergency generators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ WSR generators fired ○ SOU generators did not fire - voltage regulator was damaged – need to replace ○ SOU Transfer switch was damaged – need to repair ○ SOU Expansion generator fuel pump was damaged did not work – need repair <p>Captain McNeese explained the 2 types of kiosk machines. - 1 is for jpay (email, visits, D/L music, games & movies) 1 is DOC in house electronic messaging system.</p>
Captain McNeese	Cable TV Update	<p>We now have all the parts equipment and cabling we need and have started on the cable TV upgrade. On a side note, Comcast was on site this week to adjust their head end equipment.</p> <p>We've had two techs working on the cable TV this week. They have started in the IT building and as they progress they will be working out across the hill.</p> <p>This is our priority work, but the techs also have to cover door control, and security video which means they will be pulled off as needed.</p> <p>MCC techs began by installing racks and mounting the</p>

		<p>new equipment. In the IT building they are installing and calibrating:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiber receiving / amplifying equipment • A broadband fiber transmitter • Various meters and optical analyzers • Specialty cabling, patch cords <p>From there they will go out to each institution to install fiber to copper/digital to analog converters, signal encoders and amplifiers.</p> <p>All of this has to be calibrated to insure it is not damping (lessening) signal strength in the other institutions. So techs have to calibrate amplifiers between the various institutions as they go.</p> <p>The techs found that digital channel 80 (the movie channel) was bleeding back into the other channels causing problems. They have removed channel 80 for the time being. The plan is to reintroduce it when the system is optimized.</p> <p>Residents should already be seeing improved reception as some new equipment is on line and some basic tuning has occurred. This will continue.</p> <p>Question came up about possible use of digital antennas. We do not believe they will work in the prison setting due to the steel reinforced cement walls dampening reception.</p>
<p>Elke Jackson (Health Care Manager) & Dr Awad (Medical Director)</p>	<p>Vaccine Updates & Medical questions from family members</p>	<p>MCC is continuing to do vaccine clinics. HCM Jackson did not have a total number of vaccines to date.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -TRU clinic this past week -MSU & WSR will be next few weeks. <p>(Captain McNeese noted WSR will administer 203 on Tuesday next week)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -we are administering more vaccines as more are interested in getting the vaccines. -Vaccines can be given 4-6 weeks after the 1st dose. - No new updates expired doses that were given at TRU. Confirmed with Moderna, no further communication needed and no re-vaccination needed. -More memos being sent to the population with updated information from the CDC. -Medical uses only paper kites for documentation, no kiosk messages due to the inability to print out messages.
<p>Family Services George Turcin</p>	<p>Updates</p>	<p>Sheryl Jackson, SLJackson@doc.wa.gov has been hired as the new Family Service Manager, her profile is not updated yet. They have a meeting next week on the plan of what to work on as a unit. Work continues for lodging assistance, policies and the family guide.</p>

		Will bring finals to the LFC when they are completed. Also, continue to address concerns that are reported.
Community Partnership Kaela Chong	Updates	-Mail a Hug Program has been completed and should all be mailed out by the end of next week. 300 pairs of hands were cut out to be sent with the pictures and cards. TRU Unit A/B were mailed last week, TRU Unit C/D will be mailed this week -Girl Scouts Beyond Bars at WSR are trying to recruit more men to get involved. They have made new flyers with testimonies from other participants -The plan for the next event will be in June and is an Official Significant Person (parent, grandparent, or someone who has impacted their life). The plan is to do something similar to Mail A Hug. Then take a break in July, and by then will have the new budget for the fiscal year.
Joanne Todd (Family Co-Chair)	Wants to have a welcoming committee	Would like to start having meetings possibly in June, every other month. Feels the COVID & LFC meetings are greatly beneficial however these meetings would be separate from our formal policy driven quarterly meetings and COVID Informational bi-weekly meeting and are meant to come together as a team to discuss issues and joint agendas including the establishment of a welcoming committee for new families, not be over emotional, but to bring up issues we would like to see worked on separate from what DOC sees & works on. To also work on and present suggestions to DOC, and to bring families together. (more info to come when Joanne works out the logistics)

New business

Topic	Discussion/Key Points (questions)	Next Steps (responses)
COVID Conference calls	When is the next COVID call?	We are having COVID conference calls bi-weekly, so the next call will be Friday, June 4th.
Captain McNeese SFC and LFC Conduct	Discussion related to SFC & LFC conduct of members	-Not everyone always agrees with what each other says during the meetings. - members object to what another person states, and shares with their LO and therefore I/I will approach another member's LO who may take offense -with tension high, asking LFC members to not talk about other LFC members to their LO, as this could make a dangerous situation. -Using the BCC in email list due to bullying happening (haven't heard of any at MCC), so asking to be kind to each other -tier reps asking for family names to be taken off the LFC notes that are posted so there is no pressure from others if their family member is listed as a council member.
Statewide Family Council (State Rep Felix D'Allesandro not at meeting)	Update	-Tom Fithian oversees the Jpay/secuUs contract. -Family members upset about negotiating not wanting to transfer emails & photos past 2017 -suggestion made that the contract should be short term so they can prove they will work

<p>Other LFC who were at the meeting gave input</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bring other vendors back for negotiations not only with SecurUs -info is unclear about vendors and it's not 100% that the new contract will be with SecurUs, other vendors seemed to be bad, or worse. -contract details need to ask for accountability -Anna Ivonoff is doing a good job representing the families -Deputy Director Jeneva Cotton mentioned the advantages of the virtual SFC & LFC meetings have been and discussed not taking them away but making the virtual meetings in addition to the in-person meetings. -Other family members feel families should have been involved with the new hires for DOC -How do we encourage others to join the LFC first as families who are not on LFC want to give input at SFC. -Encourage family members to go up the system instead of going straight to SFC. Captain McNeese stated all are invited to the LFC as long as they have a loved one incarcerated at MCC, there is no policy written about giving input even if not on the council. Captain McNeese also gets emails & calls from family members not on the council. -Statewide meetings are public meetings vs MCC LFC meetings are for families who have loved ones at MCC.
<p>Family Member Concerns & Questions</p>	<p>Jpay Kiosk machine issues</p>	<p>Kiosk machines #10 & 19 at TRU are black and not working. Captain McNeese to follow up with issues after the meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Jpay video visits have improved lately with the new system -there was an issue with the system not giving the 2 free video visits for this week. It has been fixed and you should be getting them
	<p>Mail Room Concerns</p>	<p>A family member reported it's been 6 months since sending complaints to the mailroom, Captain & Superintendents with no response. Mail & pictures rejected with no explanation, her loved one (LO) grievance was denied also. (Captain McNeese will follow up with privately regarding issue)</p> <p>Another family member asked if there is a stain on the paper can it be photo-copied and the copy be given to the I/I instead of the letter just being denied.</p> <p>McNeese will check with CPM Miller about security for mail with stains if, possible to copy and give that to the I/I instead of just denying the letter. This has been a discussion point at Headquarters.</p>
	<p>In - person Visits</p>	<p>Info from Captain McNeese:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -3 weeks into in person visiting -Kristi Webb schedules the visits in the order she receives them and schedules them through Thursday, and the visit list is given to the CPM's offices for call outs over the weekend. -There were not many scheduled the first few dates although some have scheduled through August.

		<p>-There have been about a dozen who hve cancelled their visits, but there are very few problems. The confusion regarding IMU visitors has been fixed</p> <p>Families:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visitors were surprised that there were only 1 or 2 visitors at a time in the visiting room. -The speaker boxes make it hard to hear each other while visiting, fear is as the increase of visitors in room will be more noise and make it harder to hear -visitation seems to be under scribed with only 1 visit a month, if this continues can we schedule more than 1 a month? Response: would have to get approval from HQ's. - Family member asked if 2 areas could be set up for visiting; vaccinated and unvaccinated. Response is DOC has no plan to separate as of now, but will forward the question to HQ's
I/I Salaries	Is is possible for my loved ones to get their full check? Hours worked were reduced due to mandatory cohorts.	McNeese stated at the beginning of the COVID pandemic, I/I were given their full pay checks but at this time there is nothing set in place to have the full checks again. She will check into and see if it's an option or not.
Cohorting & Movements	Is there any projection of cohorting stopping?	<p>There is no projected date as of right now MCC has a quality assurance team that follows the guidelines from HQ & DOH. HQ's team goes into the facilities to monitor.</p> <p>The few times cohorts are broken up would be due to medical, vision or dental appointments.</p>
Virtual Meetings	Will we go back to in person meetings or stay virtual?	<p>Captain McNeese said with virtual meetings business can be done without leaving your desk, and from the budget standpoint of not paying for everyone to travel to meetings, like the Statewide Captain meetings there are benefits to the virtual meetings.</p> <p>With that Cpt McNeese is looking forward to having the LFC in person in the future.</p> <p>Family members comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -the value of in person meetings are more personable -agree, do not do away with in-person meetings, but with virtual makes it open to more people since not everyone is able to attend in-person meetings
Legislation	Update:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Many are disappointed that 3 bills that were focused on justice reform did not pass this year. They are not dead, but assured they will resurface again in the next session. Though it will be a short session instead of a long one as this year was. -Bill 1044 did pass and will provide post secondary education -Encourages others to be in the process to testify whether you are con/pro, be involved as it's not always family vs DOC -LFC members may participate in Legislative Sessions but do not represent the formal LFC.
EFV Trailers	Are there still I/I still housed in the EFV trailers?	Response: yes, there are 5 individuals from MSU still housed in the trailers, but we are tracking their vaccine dates and hope to move them back to the camp within a few weeks.

		Then staff will go through the trailers and do inventory and make a list of anything that is broken which needs repaired and restocked, along with deep cleaning happening so the trailers will be ready when the time comes to have EFV's again.
OCO Call	Update.	There was a conversation happening in the chat on the OCO call related to the mailroom issues across the state. Along with discussion about the jpay list of words to be flagged which is working to be standardized across all 16 facilities instead of each having their own list.

Roundtable open discussion:

Next meeting location: Virutal Teams Meeting Date: July 24, 2021 Time: 10 am to 12pm

Comments: _____

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