

FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: WCCW MICROSOFT TEAMS Date: 10/21/2024 Time: 1630

Teleconference details: 1-253-372-2181 Meeting ID: 298 616 213 091 Passcode: DhHRvf

MEETING ATTENDEES

<u>Charlotte Headley</u> <u>Jason Rice</u>

Department/facility co-chair Family co-chair

Melissa Johnson Dina Johnson

Facility/council secretary Family secretary, if applicable

Members present: Vicki York, Sonja Alley, Amber Clark, Andrew Clark, Andrea Baccetti, Dina Johnson, Kari Figueira, Greg Mansfield, Bridgett Haynes, Charlotte Headley, Gerald Holter, Linda Ineman, Janet Moriarty, Jason Rice, Paul Gillespie, Jeff Rio, Shane Swain, Darlene Teafatiller, Jo Wofford, Candace Baughman, Kaleena Jones

Non-council member attendees:

Tier Representatives: Tansy Mathis, Kierra Mansfield, Alicia Goemaat

AGENDA

Old business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Minutes	Minutes were approved	Minutes will be posted on the DOC website and living units by Melissa Johnson

New business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Officer Nominations Melissa Johnson	Jason Rice was nominated as Co-Chair, and Janet Moriarty as Co-Secretary. No opposition to either nomination Outcome: Jason Rice confirmed as Co-Chair and Janet Moriarty as Co-Secretary.	The new officers will start their term January 1, 2025
Tier Representatives Tansy Mathis Kierra Mansfield Alicial Goemaat	Tier Rep Wishlist and Additional Requests Discussion: Concerns about items not approved in the supplemental funding process, including requests for room upgrades, incentive programs, air fryers, and safety improvements. Outcome: Administration to review the Wishlist items to	Review the MSU Wishlist items for possible approvals and implementations. Continue monthly meetings specifically focused on MSU normalization improvements. CPM Alley will work with the Tier Reps to address key items. Research alternatives for Securus Technology outages,

identify feasible solutions, with a including backup particular focus on long-term communication options. improvement efforts for MSU. Representatives were encouraged to continue their **Securus Technology Outages** proactive involvement in **Discussion:** Concerns raised upcoming discussions and about the frequent Securus future sessions. Technology outages, impacting communication with families and legal representatives. **Outcome:** Administration agreed to investigate alternative solutions, including the potential of a backup landline for emergencies. **Discussion:** Tansy Mathis and other representatives shared concerns about inconsistent supervision in MSU and the need for a steady leadership presence. Outcome: CUS Swain confirmed as MSU supervisor, with support from the leadership team. The administration will work to stabilize MSU operations to provide a consistent environment. Discussion: • Additional funds of \$69,000 received for various facility projects and recreational enhancements, including updates to the Angel Network Library, recreational **IIBF Budget** Provide a copy of the budget equipment, and therapeutic Linda Ineman with the minutes. garden seating. • Projects funded include items such as an oversized chess set, PA system for events, sensory supplies, and incentives for units. New initiatives funded: large grill for cookouts, totable

grills, gazebo, therapeutic garden seating, and violence reduction.

 Concerns raised about spending on necessary supplies and program replacements. Questions were addressed about specific line items and use of funding for upcoming cultural events.

Outcome: Budget report shared; funds confirmed for specific projects with ongoing monitoring for remaining balances.

Discussion:

Superintendent Charlotte Headley provided updates on the Washington Way initiative; detailing programs focused on cultural changes within the facility. This included activity teams. These teams have been trained in California and Washington state to support high-risk individuals and address unique needs that reduce disruptions.

Contact staff programs. This launched in October with 10 staff and 12 incarcerated individuals, facilitating structured weekly session to foster mutual understanding and behavior

with staff and incarcerated individuals participating side-byside.

Change Agents cohort comprising 51 staff members Ongoing support for Washington Way initiatives, including further training for staff and collaboration with incarcerated individuals.

Washington Way & MSU **Improvements** Charlotte Headley

support. Behavioral programs – "7 Habits on the Inside" is being offered,

across various cohorts focused on training, wellness, events, proposals and communication. This program launches November 1st.

Environmental enhancements. Multiple improvements to the facility's physical environment, including gardens, a fountain, and outdoor seating, were highlighted as means to create a more normalized and therapeutic setting. and new training for staff to improve their interactions with incarcerated individuals.

Greg Mansfield and Janet Moriarty expressed concerns about the perceived inconsistency in MSU's management. Instances of restrictive practices were reported, contrasting with the Washington Way's principles.

Specific requests for MSU improvements, including normalization efforts such as comfortable seating, painted murals, and community gardening for fresh vegetables, were discussed.

Response: Superintendent acknowledged the need for consistent leadership in MSU and assured the group that steps were being taken to stabilize the unit's management under CUS Swain.

Discussion: Updates on collaborative programs, including cell-to-cell discussions, the Compassion Prison Project, and activity teams aimed at engaging both

Superintendent is committed to addressing the disparity between MSU and the broader facility, reinforcing that group punishment or restrictive practices are not in line with Washington Way values.

	staff and incarcerated individuals in positive, normalized activities. Outcome: Initiatives will continue to be rolled out with additional training and involvement across units.	
	Discussion: Positive feedback on recent events like the fall festival. Emphasis on creating a welcoming atmosphere for visitors.	
Visitor Experiences & Video Greeting Program Update Andrea Baccetti	Outcome: Administration acknowledged feedback and will continue to focus on enhancing the visitor experience.	
	Discussion: Plans to update the video greeting system due to outdated DVD technology. This program is aimed at fostering family connections by allowing incarcerated individuals to send recorded messages. Discussion clarified program details, and future modifications were discussed to make video greetings more accessible, possibly moving away from DVDs to digital formats.	LBA Linda Ineman and Andrea Baccetti will collaborate with the Family Services Unit to explore more accessible technology options that comply with facility security measures.
	Outcome: Family Services Unit to research and implement a new system accessible to families.	

Roundtable open discussion

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps

Next meeting location: Microsoft TEams Date: 12/16/24 Time: 1630

Comments: Meeting adjourned 1800 hrs.

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