

that the movement went as scheduled and clients were all accounted for upon departure from their respective facilities as well as upon arrival at the Littlefield facility.

Between now and December, 18 more clients are scheduled to arrive in Littlefield; however, we do not always know exactly what our numbers are as they are subject to last minute changes. TDCJ has agreed that, instead of releasing these clients out of Huntsville, they will be released from Amarillo, which is much closer to Littlefield. This will save the state a significant amount of time and money.

Ms. Jack inquired about those civilly committed clients who are also on Parole. Ms. McLane stated that she had worked with the Parole Division Director and they decided that, in order to avoid duplication of effort, these clients will be handled by TCCO with progress reports to Parole personnel.

TCCO staffing changes were discussed, to include the hiring of an experienced Operations Monitor, Angela Kersh. Additionally, Tiffany Maybank promoted to Civil Commitment Manager to supervise the Case Managers statewide and one Austin Case Manager volunteered to transfer to Littlefield. One new Case Manager started at Littlefield on September 1, with two others scheduled to start by October 1, 2015. Training will be conducted the first week of October for these Littlefield Case Managers.

Ms. McLane discussed the quick timeline for procurement of the contract for the Littlefield facility, stating the RFP was released June 19, 2015, with proposals due back by July 17, 2015. TCCO staff reviewed the proposals and the board authorized Ms. McLane to sign the contract, which was done on July 31, 2015. The fact that all this happened with the facility opened and clients moving in on September 1, 2015, is a major accomplishment. During the process, the 6 to 7 key Central Office TCCO players, put in their regular time during the last three months, plus they worked an additional 5 months of work hours.

Throughout the transition, TCCO has also been working on procurement for necessary services such as polygraph examiners, clinical examiners, drivers and treatment providers for clients living independently who will still need these and other services.

There were two absconder incidents. One of them was apprehended and one was found dead of an apparent suicide.

Due to the movement of clients to Littlefield, TCCO no longer has the same need for Case Managers in Dallas-Fort Worth, El Paso, and Houston; therefore, a reduction in force was initiated. Ms. McLane stated that she would like to thank the Case Managers who stuck with agency throughout this process.

Budget Director's report regarding: FY 2015 Budget/Expenditures; FY 2016 Internal Operating Budget; and cost of implementation of SB 746

Budget Director, David Flores, discussed the Fiscal Year 2015 Budget. The budget amount was \$7,112,294.00 and the amount remaining at this point is \$1,721,81.82. There are several end of the year purchases that still needed to be paid for out of those 1.7 million dollars. Any transition expenses incurred during Fiscal Year 2015 as part of getting the program and clients moved to Littlefield, such as security and transportation, will also be paid for out of this budget. By the time all these things are paid for, he anticipates that there will be between \$1.1 and \$1.2 million left in the budget. Ms. Jack wanted to clarify that TCCO is within budget and Mr. Flores stated that TCCO is well within budget. TCCO saved money and left some positions vacant as the anticipation was increased costs due to the changes to the program and the transition of clients to the new facility. There are currently 10 vacant positions, and there will be a transition period where staffing will fluctuate to meet the needs of the program as it develops.

Mr. Flores reviewed the grant budget and stated that \$29,714 of the \$177,920 grant budget was spent in FY 2015; spending had not occurred as quickly as anticipated. Now that the program has transitioned and is developing, the expectation is that the budget will be spent more quickly as more training and consultation will be required. TCCO is doing things like going to other states to look at their programs and having representatives of other states come here to provide consultation. Janet Latham, the Grant Specialist, has

made a trip to Wisconsin and people involved in the running of the program in Wisconsin have come here as consultants. The consultants from Wisconsin came here for only the reimbursement of their travel costs, which saved a lot of money. Mr. Flores stated that TCCO intends to submit a request to the Governor's Office to extend the timeframe of the grant until the end of Fiscal Year 2016 because none of the work could really begin until after the legislative session and because, with the use of Ms. Latham's expertise, there was less need than anticipated to utilize outside consultants, allowing us to do much more for less money.

Board Member Robert Dominguez asked Mr. Flores if he believed that the grant adjustment is likely to be granted. Mr. Flores responded that TCCO is very hopeful that it will be granted. Mr. Dominguez stated he would like Mr. Flores to keep the Board abreast of the situation.

Mr. Dominguez asked Ms. McLane if the information obtained from consulting with other states' programs would be utilized for this program in Texas. Ms. McLane stated that, even though TCCO has contracted with Correct Care for them to run the program at the Littlefield facility, TCCO will still have input in how the program is run. The program will be a combination of what works for Correct Care in their Florida program plus the knowledge gained from consulting with other states regarding how their programs are run.

Mr. Dominguez asked Ms. McLane what the hourly rate was for the police officers who were hired to escort the transports and provide security at the halfway houses, to which Ms. McLane replied \$50 per hour and stated that this amount was really non-negotiable as the security was necessary because of the public safety concerns.

Ms. Jack wanted to clarify that TCCO was not asking for more grant money from the Governor's Office, rather, asking for the grant time period to utilize the existing money be extended. Mr. Flores stated that was correct. Ms. Jack asked if there was any reason to believe that there will be another grant available to apply for. Mr. Flores stated that he believes there is always money available to be requested in the form of grants and it is just a matter of knowing what program objectives we need the money for, looking for grants and competing for them. Ms. McLane added that TCCO would always be on the lookout for available grant money. Ms. Jack also asked where in the budget the money would come from for the Board Members and some TCCO staff to attend the coming Sex Offender Civil Commitment Program Network (SOCCPN) Conference, and Mr. Flores stated that it would come from the grant money because the conference would involve learning about different programs and finding out best practices from other states and how they will be applied to define the Texas Program.

Mr. Flores then discussed the reclassification of some TCCO positions, which included the Deputy Director, Budget Director, General Counsel and Accountant III. Ms. McLane added that the reclassification of these positions included a detailed and arduous audit of each of these positions by the State Classification Team, then that team was responsible for classifying these positions where they fit within the State Classification guidelines. Ms. McLane added that she would be looking at the classifications of our case managers to ensure that our positions remain competitive.

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding approval of the FY 2016 Internal Operating Budget

Mr. Flores discussed the FY 2016 budget and noted that there is \$56,312.00 left in the grant budget for FY 2016. The budget includes an estimated \$62,000 in GPS fee recovery. The total FY 2016 budget for TCCO will be \$14,690,232.00, minus \$785,285.00 that gets transferred to the Texas Department of State Health Services, as mandated by Senate Bill 746, to help pay for the services that agency is responsible to provide to TCCO. After correcting a DSHS accounting error of \$151.00, the final budget amount is \$13,904,947.00.

Ms. Jack requested that a motion be made to approve the FY 2016 budget. Board Member, Robert Dominguez, made the motion and the motion was passed. The budget was adopted and approved with no opposition.

Report from Correct Care Recovery Solutions regarding new treatment program and operations of the Texas Civil Commitment Center

Interim Facility Director, Richard Miraglia, introduced himself and gave an overview of facility operations thus far. He stated that the facility opened on September 1, 2015, housing 44 individuals and that in the few weeks since, their population has grown to 181. He stated that there had been some minor bumps in the road but that, overall, it has been a fairly smooth process. Mr. Miraglia further explained that Correct Care has opened four housing areas and established an honor dorm for individuals that are in higher supervision levels.

Mr. Miraglia included that Correct Care treatment staff is currently assigning clients to treatment tiers, and that their system for doing so seems to be in line with the Clients' current TCCO supervision levels. He also stated that the residents of the facility have remained cautiously optimistic about being there. There have been some concerns with food temperatures and portions served, along with some other issues with resident accounts, availability of personal hygiene items, etc., but Correct Care is working on these issues. Mr. Miraglia included that there have been no resident on resident or resident on staff assaults.

In addition to establishing the four housing units, the law library has opened and the commissary program is being implemented. Mr. Miraglia stated that he meets with the residents weekly for a community meeting and also provides them with a weekly memo to keep them abreast of the progression of the facility and the program. He added that, beginning next week, the program is scheduled to begin an advisory committee where the residents will have the opportunity to meet with administration and provide input on the operation of the facility as well as the program.

Bruce Laflen, Acting Clinical Director, gave an overview of the treatment program, stating that it is a four tier treatment program with each tier building upon the previous tier. The program is based on the Risk-Need Responsivity model and the Good Life model. It is also based upon the current model that Correct Care utilizes in Florida. The program is designed to be positive and help the clients do well and be able to get back to their communities and families.

Mr. Laflen explained the tiers of the program. Tier one is for the clients to learn the basics of treatment and how to get their needs met in order to live a balanced life. It is based upon giving the client hope that there can be a better life and teaching them responsibility. Tier two is a two-part tier which involves disclosure, or life history, which is how they ended up here. The second part of Tier two is discovery, which is where the client begins to identify their deviancy and sexual offending behaviors, and learn to deal with how to change them. Upon completing each tier, they are staffed to decide whether or not they have met all the goals and targets of the treatment program. This staffing includes the TCCO Case Manager as well as the therapist looking at and evaluating the client's progress in the program. If the client has not progressed appropriately, they go back through their current tier, but if so, they move on to the next tier. Tier three is where they learn to put the knowledge and tools they have acquired into practical use in their lives. They also learn about empathy and what healthy relationships look like. After another staffing, the clients move on to Tier four, which is simply putting the finishing touches on what they have learned in treatment, as well as how they will avoid pitfalls in daily life and stay out of trouble. This is the tier where the client will begin to plan and prepare for life back in their communities. It is expected that it would take approximately five to seven years to complete the program. Tier five is when the client moves back into the community.

Ms. McLane added that it is important to note that not everyone who has moved into this program will have to start on Tier one. As clients are assessed and evaluated, they will be placed into the tier that is appropriate for them. Ms. Jack then asked what the Correct Care attitude is toward mentorship in the group setting of their program, to which Mr. Laflen replied that Correct Care wants to utilize mentors to have the clients in higher tiers help the clients in lower tiers through experience and knowledge that they have gained. He added that this can be especially helpful to those clients with special needs. He also clarified that the program is geared toward clients with special needs and ensuring that they can grasp the information provided in treatment.

General Counsel's report regarding due process hearings

TCCO General Counsel, Jessica Marsh, described the notice and hearing process involved in changing clients who had been committed to the previous outpatient program from that model to the new program. Notices, which included: a copy of Senate Bill 746, a copy of the law previous to Senate Bill 746 and a description of the major changes in the law as well as the client's rights, were sent to all clients. The packet also included a form for the client to consent to be placed into the new program without a due process hearing should he so choose. Ms. Marsh reported there were 87 clients in halfway houses who gave consent, 21 who were in prison, and three that were in a state hospital or state school.

Hearings for those that did not consent began on August 17, 2015. TCCO worked with the Office of the Attorney General as well as the Special Prosecution Unit to conduct approximately eight hearings per day in two courtrooms at the same time. Ms. Jack asked if attorneys were available to the clients to advise them, should they so choose, when they received the information. Ms. Marsh stated that the clients were not entitled to legal representation during the process of deciding whether or not to waive their hearing and, while TCCO did not provide them legal advice, they did encourage them to speak to an attorney if they wished.

Hearings for those in halfway houses were completed on September 21, 2015 which was also the date that hearings were started for those still in prison. TCCO will be moving forward with the 145 remaining hearings for those in prison. Of those, 45 people submitted the signed consent form without a witness signature. TCCO will be following up with these 45 people to find out whether they intended to give consent.

Report Regarding Pending, Potential and Contemplated Litigation

The board took a ten minute break at 10:10 a.m. and then convened in executive session from 10:19 a.m. to 10:56 a.m. under the authority of Texas Government Code, Section 551.071(a) to hear a report from the Office of the Attorney General regarding pending, potential, and contemplated litigation.

No formal action was taken by the board during the closed session.

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Amendment of Board Policy 1.02 "Budget Activity and Expenditure Approval"

Ms. Marsh noted the changes in the policy, to include the name of the agency and page 2, item 5. Ms. Jack asked for a motion to adopt the policy, Ms. McClure made the motion and the policy was adopted without opposition. The policy was signed by Ms. Jack.

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Excused Absences

Ms. Jack noted that all Board Members were present at the last meeting; therefore, there were no absences to excuse.

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding July 24, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Ms. Jack asked the other Board Members if they had an opportunity to review the minutes from the July 24, 2015 Board Meeting. All Board Members stated that they had. Ms. Jack asked that a motion be made to adopt the minutes. A motion was made by Board Member, Robert Dominguez, to adopt the July 24, 2015, meeting minutes; the motion was passed without opposition, at which time Board Chair, Christy Jack and Executive Director, Marsha McLane signed the minutes.

Discussion, Consideration, and Possible Action Regarding Future Meeting Dates

The Board Chair asked if there were any agenda items for the near future that need to be planned for or scheduled around. With none noted, it was decided that the meeting date would be left open for the time being.

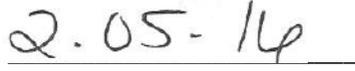
Public Comment

There were two members of the public who signed in to speak at the meeting; however, neither was present at this point in the board meeting. The General Counsel and another TCCO employee left the meeting to attempt to locate the women in the hallway. One of the women, Irene Rubio, stated that she had a question that she could ask at a later time. She also stated that this was all she had.

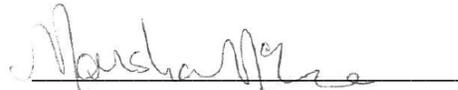
Meeting Adjourned at 11:05 am.



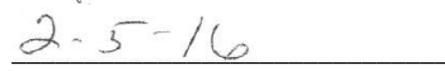
Christy Jack, Chair



Date



Marsha McLane, Executive Director



Date