

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE CORRECTIONS AND JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Pat Colloton at 1:30 p.m. on January 21, 2009, in Room 535-N of the Capitol.

All members were present.

Committee staff present:

Jason Thompson, Office of the Revisor of Statutes
Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department
Jackie Lunn, Committee Assistant

Conferees appearing before the Committee:

Roger Werholtz, Secretary, Kansas Department of Corrections
Margie Phelps, Director of Risk Reduction & Reentry, Kansas Department of Corrections

Others attending:

See attached list.

Chairperson Colloton opened the meeting by calling for bill introductions and recognized Representative Dillmore.

Representative Dillmore moved to introduce a bill regarding unlawful sexual relations including clergy when a victim is being counseled. Representative Spalding seconded.

A discussion followed.

Chairperson Colloton called for a vote. Motion carried.

Being no further bill introductions, Chairperson Colloton introduced Roger Werholtz, Secretary of the Kansas Department of Corrections to give an overview of the Kansas Department of Corrections. Secretary Werholtz provided a written copy of his power point presentation. (Attachment 1) He called the Committee's attention to documentation passed out entitled *Kansas Department of Corrections Budget Reductions-Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010*. (Attachment 2) and began his presentation highlighting the following:

- The location and number of correctional facilities across the state
- Northern and southern parole regions
- Kansas Community Corrections Agencies
- Kansas Judicial Districts-adult probation and Court services
- FY 2007 through 2009 population projections
- Kansas administration trends
- KDOC performance measures
- FY 2008 turnover rates/uniformed staff only
- FY 2009 turnover rates/uniformed staff only
- Total staff turnover rates
- Impact of turnover rates
- Vacancies/absences in uniformed ranks

Questions from the Committee were addressed by Secretary Werholtz during his presentation.

Upon the conclusion of Secretary Werholtz's presentation, he introduced Margie Phelps, Director of Risk Reduction and Reentry, to give her presentation. Director Phelps provided a written copy of her presentation. (Attachment 3) She gave a quick overview on risk reduction highlighting the following:

- Risk is the likelihood a person will engage in further criminal behavior
- Reentry is a point in time as a person moves through the criminal justice system and is one of the opportunities to reduce risk
- Risk reduction can be done by any person, staff, or volunteer, at any point of contact with offenders
- Risk reduction opportunities
- Geographic-based reentry programs

CONTINUATION SHEET

Minutes of the House Corrections And Juvenile Justice Committee at 1:30 p.m. on January 21, 2009, in Room 535-N of the Capitol.

- Volunteers supporting risk reduction & reentry work/Kansas Mentoring Gold Star Program

Upon the conclusion of the overview, Director Phelps stated they were working on the following:

- The return rates of mentally ill offenders
- Broadening the scope of cognitive services for low risk offenders
- Trained job specialists expanding work with employers and workforce centers for more job development
- Pursuing more family services through federal child support agency and private foundations
- Piloting caseloads in facilities based on risk levels

Upon the completion of Director Phelp's overview, Chairperson Colloton called on Secretary Werholtz and asked if the other presenters could come back tomorrow. Secretary Werholtz stated they could return. With that said, Chairperson Colloton adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m. with the next meeting scheduled for February 22, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in room 535N.