



CUMBERLAND COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

- Kevin J. Joyce
SHERIFF
- Naldo S. Gagnon
CHIEF DEPUTY

JAIL BOARD OF VISITORS

*October 26, 2022
Zoom*

- I. Call to Order: 1500
- II. Roll Call: Sheriff Kevin Joyce, Chief Naldo Gagnon, Captain John Costello, Health Services Administrator Matt Steinback, Bill Prout- Executive Assistant (minutes) Chair Members: Colleen Hilton, Cushman Anthony, Victor Dumais
Absent Humza Khan, Garrett Stewart, Major Tim Kortees.
- III. Approval of minutes: N/A
- IV. Old Business:
 - a. Inmate Programs
 - b. Mental Health issues
 - c. COVID
 - d. Visits
 - e. Staffing
- V. New Business:
 - a. Discussion regarding the article in the news about inmate Deysean Sanchez. Arrested in May 2020 on serious charges. He immediately became assaultive to staff and was placed in the Special Housing Unit. We try to not keep people there long but he has been involved in continuous incidents. Sheriff periodically follows up on his status with the D.A.'s office. Sanchez frequently assaults staff with fecal matter, urine, or spitting. We can't remove him from SHU due to his assaultive behavior. Victor Dumais asked about Riverview. Per Matt Steinback he was removed from Riverview for similar behavior and transported back to Cumberland County. He went to IMHU at the state prison but was sent back based on their belief that this is a behavioral issue vs a mental health issue. Cushman Anthony asked if Sanchez has an attorney, per the Sheriff he does. Anthony asked if the Attorney can help push his case along. Chief Gagnon echoed that Sanchez was sent back from Riverview. Per the Sheriff inmate Ryan Nutter was just sent back from Riverview for assault as well. Nutter was released for only a few weeks before being re-arrested. C. Anthony believes this is in hands issue is in the hands of his attorney. The Sheriff will be reaching out to Sanchez's attorney. Sheriff wants to fix the root cause so he doesn't re-offend.



- b. Around the 25th of August the Sheriff had worked a couple of shifts. He saw a couple of employees who had worked their tail off and they looked like zombies. Since September of last year we've hired maybe 25 and only retained maybe 12. We just had another resignation as of the other day. Person just walked out. One recent new hire was involved in 2 sentinel events. Bill Prout is starting a Retention and Recruitment group. We started a partial diversion plan to help with Jail staffing. The U.S. Marshal's Office pulled their inmates out of the facility due to staffing, access to grievances. An event happened in Portland last week where someone was arrested, released by Portland PD at their station and re arrested. Our staff were following Sheriff's directive on diversion when he was denied entry the first time. Portland Police are frustrated. Last Thursday Sheriff and Chief spoke to Portland Police Chief. Much like the acting Chief is looking out for his staff, the Sheriff is trying to look out for the Jail staff. Colleen Hilton: we are in the middle of a Mental Health Crisis all over the State. Is there some sort of Public Safety Coalition to try and help with the situation? It feels like the press is writing a story without getting to the heart of the issue. The Sheriff gave an example of a couple of new hires where one of them was a social worker. Sheriff saw a model where another facility has a Jail Administrator is a Psych Doctor. The Sheriff found that to be very insightful. Maine is not laden with a lot of Social Workers looking for work. C. Anthony asked where the Portland arrest is housed. The Sheriff said the Special Housing Unit. Colleen asked how the Board can help. The Sheriff is going to put something on the website explaining the diversion which is only because of staffing. Colleen Hilton would like to be able to get key points out to the public to clarify misconceptions about jail operations. Also stated that hospitals often find themselves in diversion and work with other hospitals.
- c. Recently audited for Re-Accreditation by the American Correctional Association. We had a few, small standard issues. The auditors said are staff are doing a phenomenal job.
- d. Cushman Anthony commented on Lt. Wilmot's update on the Medicine Assisted Treatment program. We are starting the initiation phase. Colleen Hilton asked who's prescribing. Per Steinback we have 2 prescribers on site. Dr. Vohr and P.A. Woodward.
- e. Sheriff is working to improve recruiting, working with another county jail to be able to close units by managing inmates until we can build up staff. Hilton thinks it's start to consolidate with another

VI. Set time for next meeting: TBD, Prout will set up soon.

VII. Adjourn: 1540

