

STANISLAUS COUNTY

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 4, 2024
Stanislaus County Probation Department

Members/Staff Present

Mark Ferriera, Chief Probation Officer, Chair, Probation Department
Jennifer Jennison, Public Defender's Office
Jeff Laugero, District Attorney's Office
Tony Vartan, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services
Brandon Gillespie, Chief of Police, Modesto Police Department
Sheriff Jeff Dirkse, Sheriff's Office
Michael Walker, Probation Department
Vicki Martin, Administrative Manager, Probation Department
Terry Withrow, Board of Supervisor
Mani Grewal, Board of Supervisor

1. Call to Order and Introductions

The meeting was called to order at 11:42 a.m. by Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera.

2. Public Comment

There were no members of the public present.

3. Discussion of the Five-Year Spending Plan

Chief Probation Officer Mark Ferriera advised that in previous months, he had met with the Board of Supervisors to provide a debriefing of the CCP 5-Year Spending Plan. The purpose of today's meeting was for the CCP Executive Committee to collectively provide the Board of Supervisors an overview of the CCP 5-Year Spending Plan recommendations. The tentative date of the CCP presentation before the BOS is October 1, 2024.

The CCP Executive Committee presented their CCP budget requests to Board Supervisors Terry Withrow and Mani Grewal.

Chief Ferriera advised that the current budget will be updated following the meetings with the Board of Supervisors. The CCP Executive Committee will reconvene to continue discussing the CCP 5-Year Spending Plan.

- In Fiscal Year 2024, CCP budgeted \$3,100,000 for the Sheriff's Office to build new recreational yards to meet out-of-cell state requirements. Since the funding was unspent, the Sheriff has requested to roll \$1,350,000 into Fiscal Year 2025 to continue construction, and the remaining amount will go back to the CCP budget. The voting members will discuss this request before it is reflected in the CCP budget.
- Ceres Police Department rescinded their CCP funding request for a CHAT-like Unit.

Supervisor Withrow asked if there was a way to have a CHAT system to service all jurisdictions. Chief Gillespie explained that all agencies involved must work under the same dispatch system; currently, MPD, CPD, and TPD use different dispatch systems.

Chief Ferriera provided the following CCP budget details (the budget is attached):

- For Fiscal Year 2024, 79% of the CCP budget was spent, with a remaining fund balance of approximately \$31.5 million. Typically, 85% of the budget is spent. Much of the unspent budget is due to salary savings; MPD used grant funding before dipping into the CHAT CCP budget, and the Center for Human Services Substance Use Disorder Counselor is now funded through a grant.
- The Department of Finance and California State Association of Counties (CSAC) numbers were received. The growth funding for the current FY is significantly lower than projected; the original projected amount was \$767,000, and now it is \$112,000. The Executive CCP has decided to include the revised growth amount for the first year of the CCP Five-Year Plan and no growth projection for the remaining four years.
- By spending down the CCP budget at 85% with the added FY 2025 growth of \$112,000, the CCP Five-Year budget will continue to have a positive fund balance until FY 2028, when it will go into a deficit.

Supervisor Withrow questioned whether a plan was in place to resolve the IST fine matter. The counties are fined upon exceeding the baseline number of cases determined by the State of California; District Attorney Jeff Laugero stated that the Stanislaus County baseline number determined by the state is incorrect and should be higher. This year, Stanislaus County was fined \$450,000, which was covered by CCP funding allocated to BHRS; next year, the fine will increase to \$4.3 million. BHRS Director Tony Vartan noted being cognizant of the IST situation, stating that IST is a county initiative, not only a BHRS matter. Public Defender Jennifer Jennison and BHRS Director Tony Vartan discussed the root cause of the IST matter is staffing needs; however, they plan to reorganize the IST Team by shifting positions with the expertise to provide the IST population with the needed services to divert their cases.

Lastly, Supervisor Terry Withrow discussed using CCP funding for its intended purpose, maintaining the focus on programming to help rehabilitate the AB109 population without the need for extra jail space. He expressed appreciation for how CCP funding has assisted by funding initiatives that are not CCP-related. However, he did note that he was on the fence about CCP revenue becoming a funding source for everyone. He talked about the CCP Executive Committee's need to identify the areas to be paid for by other revenue, not the CCP budget. The group discussed that foundational positions funded by the CCP budget are requested positions denied by the county, and it was suggested that funding be requested from the CCP budget.

Chief Ferriera advised that the CCP Executive Committee collectively identified the CCP budget's funding priorities. He noted that the CCP budget is challenging to balance due to the unpredictable fund balance and incoming state revenue. Mr. Withrow agreed with Chief Ferriera, reiterating the need to discuss funding from the appropriate source.

Next Meeting:

The meeting date and time will be forthcoming.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.