

## **Lebanon County Criminal Justice Advisory Board**

### **Minutes of the Meeting of June 23, 2025**

**Time: 9:00 a.m.**

**Place: Second Floor Conference Room, MH/ID/EI, 220 East Lehman St., Lebanon, PA, 17046**

#### **Present**

Holly Leahy, MH/ID/EI Administrator and CJAB Chair; Audrey Fortna, Director of Probation Services; James Donmoyer, Director, Drug and Alcohol Commission and CJAB Vice-Chair; Rebecca Davis, LCCF; Glenda Folsom, Offender Reentry Coordinator; Briana Reigel, County Coroner's Office; Michelle Howard, Court Administration, Stephanie Hamersky, Domestic Relations; LeAnne Burchik, Executive Director, Domestic Violence Intervention; Alissa Perrotto, Executive Director, SARRC; and, John P. Shott, CJAB Planner.

#### **Absent**

Jamie Wolgemuth, County Administrator; Daniel Lyons, Director, Housing Authority; Pier Hess Graf, District Attorney; Robert J. Phillips, County Commissioner; Stephanie Axarlis, Court Administrator; Jeffrie Marley, Sheriff; Megan Tidwell, Chief Public Defender; Jonathan Hess, Chief County Detective, Police Chiefs Representative; Erin Moyer, Director, Children and Youth Services; Carla Cyr, Veterans Justice Outreach; and Kimberly Mackey, PCCD Regional Representative.

***Voting proxies entered for the record: Michelle Howard, Deputy Court Administrator, for Honorable John C. Tylwalk, President Judge; Briana Reigel, Deputy Coroner, for Dr. Jeffrey Yocum, County Coroner; Rebecca Davis, Deputy Warden, for Tina Litz, LCCF Warden; Stephanie Hamersky, Case Manager, for Michael Anderson, Director of Domestic Relations.***

CJAB Chair Holly Leahy called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. Presence of a quorum noted. Self-introductions by members.

**Minutes of Meeting of April 7, 2025**—Approved on a motion by Mr. Donmoyer, seconded by Ms. Folsom.

**Welcome to New CJAB Member**--The Chair welcomed Ally Perrotto, Executive Director of SARRC, to the Board. She is replacing Norma Gonzalez, who is retiring from SARCC. Board members wished Norma well in her next chapters of life.

#### **REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

**D.U.I. Court**—At present, 26 offenders are participating in the program, with eight offenders under consideration by the review team. No one is on the court schedule to be accepted into the program

**Prison Reduction**—The Average Daily Population (ADP) at the end of May was 252, with an average length of stay of 21.17 days.

**Mental Health**—Team M.I.S.A. continues to meet on a regular basis. Since its inception, the team has built a foundation of relationships among providers and entities involved to assist identified individuals. Effective communication via meetings, emails, and phone calls. The Team has also bolstered its provider network within the County, forging an understanding of each provider's role and capabilities, all focused on solutions.

As of 4-22-25, the County reports seven suicides. Statistical breakdown: seven males, no females; average age 63, with the youngest being 19 and the oldest being 89; three by firearm, three by hanging and one insulin overdose; two veterans; all residents of Lebanon County; four with known mental health history, one with known substance abuse history, none known to MH/ID/EI; seven Caucasian. ***No completed suicides since 4/19/25.***

At present, three women reside in the County-owned cottage (full capacity). Three residents have graduated from the cottage. Since their graduation, one woman also graduated from Drug Court on 1/21/25 and continues to be successful. One individual is on target to graduate from DUI Court. The third individual has not had any incidents with the police and continues to participate in mental health services.

Ms. Leahy invited interested parties to participate in public hearings as part of the process of developing Lebanon County's FY 2025-2026 Human Services Plan. The public hearings will be held in-person at MH/ID/EI, second floor conference room on the following dates:

Wednesday, July 9, 2025, 10:0 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Wednesday, July 16, 2025, 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Discussions will focus on services and support mechanisms in the Human Services Plan, including mental health services, intellectual disabilities services, homeless assistance program services, substance use disorders services, and the Human Development Fund.

No updates on establishing a mental-health treatment court in the County. Still remains a priority and is part of the CJAB Strategic Plan.

**Veterans' Court**--At present, 12 offenders are active participants in the program, with three under consideration. No one scheduled for acceptance.

**Drug Court**—23 offenders are currently participating in the program, with ten applicants under consideration. No one scheduled for acceptance.

## **CJAB DEPARTMENTS: REPORTS AND ISSUES OF INTEREST**

**Heroin Task Force Report**—The County has confirmed five overdose deaths so far this year. Statistical breakdown: five males; average age 60, with the oldest being 76 and the youngest being 36; four residents of Lebanon County, one from Ephrata. At this time last year, the County had confirmed 13 overdose deaths. The County reported 21 overdose fatalities in 2024 and 31 in 2023. Lower number of deaths for the first half of this year is encouraging. Meth and alcohol

use remains prevalent. The reduction in fatalities could be attributed to several factors, including Narcan distribution, drug take-back events, Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT), and the new methadone clinic on Schneider Drive (Lebanon City). LCCF offers MAT for inmates, and Probation Services has an officer specifically assigned to offenders with known drug-abuse issues. Opiate settlement funds from previous litigation are also being expended for prevention and addiction-treatment services. The PA Attorney General's Office has announced a nationwide settlement with Purdue-Sackler acknowledging their role in the opioid epidemic. PA could receive up to \$200 million from this recent settlement over a period of 15 years. Lebanon County's share of the settlement will be determined later.

**Offender Reentry**—The Reentry Coalition is active and has met four times. The coalition has updated the old bylaws and appointed a new executive committee. The coalition is now developing a strategic plan and continuing its focus on data collection to examine recidivism. The coalition's web site is up and running: [www.lebanoncountyreentry.org](http://www.lebanoncountyreentry.org).

The coalition is also considering engaging the services of a consultant to assist in planning and establishing objectives. In 2015, the County used grant funding from PCCD to contract with Melanie Snyder of Lancaster County to assist in forming a reentry coalition, developing a reentry plan, setting goals, creating bylaws, etc. After a decade, it might behoove the county to use a consultant again to provide guidance in moving offender reentry forward. Next step is to explore the availability of funding to make this happen.

#### **ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS—**

***IP Grant Funding for FY 2025-2026***—The IP funding announcement for the new fiscal year will only be released after the FY 2025-2026 has been passed and signed into law by the Governor. It seems unlikely that the General Assembly will adopt a new budget by the June 30 deadline. Word from Kim Mackey that any IP funding could be part of a block grant/grant-in-aid funding stream. No further details about the amount of IP funds available for counties or grant parameters.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Mobile Crisis Intervention program is working effectively and has documented an increase in the number of individuals served. This is part of an ongoing plan to enhance crisis intervention services in the County, as mandated by the State. Crisis intervention's relationship to the criminal justice system is a factor in developing the plan. This could also include implications for offender reentry.

**ADJOURNMENT**—With no further business to conduct, the Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m. on a motion by Ms. Folsom, seconded by Ms. Fortna.

**NEXT CJAB MEETING—Monday, August 4, 2025, 9:00 a.m., MH/ID/EI.**

