



# FAMILY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Location: MCC - TRU Visiting Room Date: 10/14/2023 Time: 10a - 12p

Teleconference details: Microsoft Teams

## MEETING ATTENDEES

Assoc. Supt. Paula Chandler Department/facility co-chair Josephine Johnson Family co-chair

Elisha Madden AA3 Facility/council secretary Diane Pasta Family secretary, if applicable

Members present: Redacted at request of Tier Reps

Non-council member attendees: Associate Superintendent Chandler, Associate Superintendent Ferrell, Captain McNeese, LBM Leslie O'Connor, CPM Leslie O'Connor, Superintendent Daniel White, AA4 Maldonado, HSM Rachel Symon, Correctional Industries manager 3 Blair, AA3 Madden, Rec specialist Casey Gallagher, Sgt. Ankrum, Health Services Manager Alex Costa, CPM Arben Kullojka

## AGENDA

Old business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Welcome	Associate Superintendent Paula Chandler	
Can vending machines be reloaded halfway through visiting?	Associate Ferrell: Talked with our vendor Evergreen and they are working on it. Due to staffing concerns within their company, it is causing delays.	Keep in contact with vendor.
Can items be donated to EFV?	Associate Ferrell: It is a safety concern at this time, so this is not an option.	
Statewide meeting notes	Josephine Johnson: The fees for EFVs collected after July 23 <sup>rd</sup> will be refunded. The statewide new classification model will be used starting around December; they will be applied during routine reviews thereafter. Reentry includes family. IMU and SOU will be getting Securus and wi-fi. MCC is limited to one ticket to Securus but it should be 10; this is a "future enhancement". The contract with Securus is for two 20 minute calls, cannot be changed to forty minutes overall.	Notes for SFC on website.
Night yard for MSU?	Captain McNeese -The lighting is still getting repaired at MSU,	

	but the problem right now is ensuring there is a safe way to manage the yard without contraband introduction. Is also looking to see if there is some way, we can have the adequate staffing to have night yard.	
Programming and classes updates-T4C?	CPM O'Connor: T4C began in August. TRU will have 3 separate classes. There are up to 2 sessions at MSU.	
IIBF update	LBM O'Connor-Copies of July and August budget will be given out to members. If there is a line item we have not spent, it will go into another line item.	

New business

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Increase commissary pricing limits	There were concerns voiced from both members and tier reps regarding price increase in commissary products yet the max spending budget per I/I 125 dollars. Supt. White: CI is looking into negotiating with our vendors. A question was brought up of how long does everyone have to wait to hear an answer regarding this? Answer: If it comes to a point where they cannot get to a reasonable price, they will look further into increasing the spending limit. With over 100 products being looked into, this is going to take an extended amount of time.	Matthew Blair is going to continue working with our vendors.
VR Attire	Sgt. Ankrum: When visitors come in that are inappropriately dressed and do not read the guidelines, you will be asked to leave. Notes are now being taken for repeat attire issues. There is also an issue with the time of visiting. Please stay in your car until the sign is flipped. It is a safety issue. The earliest you can come is 1130. A question was asked about having alternative clothing to	Assoc. Supt. Paula Chandler is going to look into this.

	offer visitors if they are not meeting dress code. Answer: We are looking into alternate clothing for visitors.	
Upcoming Events	Heather Trenk: With the holiday season coming there are multiple events coming up. Harvest fest will be held at SOU and WSRU, and Winter fest is happening at MSU and TRU. There are other events that are in the works, just waiting for them to get approved. TRU is having a Pride event next month, and there are many religious events coming up. There was a question about who is allowed to go to the religious events. Assoc. Supt. Paula Chandler is going to speak with the chaplain to get an answer for that.	Assoc. Supt. Chandler is going to speak with the chaplain.
MSU weight room equipment	Recreation notes attached to agenda and notes. A question was asked if the weight limit for the 50lb dumbbells is statewide, answer is yes. Another question came up about more games to be able to be played ie; baseball. Supt. White: Would be happy to have a volunteer crew to fix that yard but at this time the maintenance crew is understaffed, and it is a big project. Another question arose inquiring about members of the population meeting up to have a rec schedule put together. Answer: Assoc. Supt. Paula Chandler will be setting something up in the next few weeks. There was another question about the population fixing the field, and Assoc. Supt. Paula Chandler stated she needs to get with staff to see how that could/would work.	Assoc Supt. Paula Chandler and Captain Ina McNeese are going to set up a rec meeting. Paula is also going to speak with staff regarding the field.
The new hobby policy (in cell curio)	Recreation specialist Casey Gallaghers answer attached	.

	with notes and agenda. It was confirmed that the old hobby policy is still in place while the new hobby policy is being reviewed.	
Tour of facilities	Assoc. Supt. Paula is working with Kristi Webb to set up a tour for the Co-Secretary, Co-Chair, and Statewide rep. Anyone else interested please email Paula at <a href="mailto:paula.chandler@doc1.wa.gov">paula.chandler@doc1.wa.gov</a>	
Medical treatment	HSM Alex Costa-MCC has been in the process of finding better providers. Wait times have increased due to low staff. There are currently 5 RN positions open. Covid boosters are coming in, not enough for the entire population yet as they are hard to obtain at this time, but first to get them will be elderly and any I/I with an underlying condition.	
LFC Council vote	Co Secretary-Danicka Seavoy Co-Chair-Josephine Johnson Statewide rep-Danielle White	
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Roundtable open discussion

Topic	Discussion/Key points	Next steps
Visiting	Can we add visiting signs to the parking lot instead of just at the door?	Supt. White-we will look into it
Trailers are not family friendly. No games, books, etc.	Assoc. Supt. Ferrell ordered more of that so it will be here soon.	
Vending machine variety is very low.	Vendor provided I/I with what they currently provide MCC.	I/I is going to scan the list to Assoc. Supt. Ferrell and she will look further into this.
The population that needs to eat soft food do not have many options.	Looking into getting softer food choices. Suggested I/Is send suggestions to commissary.	Mathew Blair

Next meeting location: MCC TRU Visiting room Date: December 9 Time: 10a - 12p

Comments: Recreation Director Casey Gallaghers responses:

Question: MSU weight room equipment, would like to see new treadmills & weights over 50 lbs. repair broken items.

Answer: We should be receiving a special allotment from headquarters to purchase new equipment soon. Part of the plan for that allotment is to purchase new stationary aerobic equipment and a set of dumbbells up to 50 lbs. for MSU. I reached out to our headquarters contact, Chris Stone Monday, 10/9/23 and he said that he has not received approval Lisa Flynn yet to begin processing special IIBF requests.

Section IV. A.1 (page 6) of the recently updated recreation policy 540.105 limits the purchase of new dumbbells to 50 lbs.

The only broken equipment that both RAS 3 Gerard and I am aware of is the spin bike. The spin bike was repaired and brought back to MSU Thursday 10/5/23.

Question: The new hobby policy (in cell curio)

Answer: The allowable hobby items list and the directive to mail out hobby items no longer listed have both been rescinded and the allowable hobby items list is under emergency revision. We are currently approving hobby orders based on the old permits. When the revised allowable items list is posted, it is likely that there will not be a directive to mail out or dispose the items no longer allowed. As of today, Thursday 10/11/23, the revised allowable items list has not been published.

Union Supply is planning to sell much better scissors starting in November. I personally tested the new scissors and they will cut leather.

\*The statements below are answers to possible follow up questions from the LFC. This is based on questions I received and answered from the population\*

• The new allowable items list was developed to more closely match close custody standards with the intent to make it easier for staff when I/Is transfer from medium to close custody; fewer items would be rejected upon transfer from lower custody to close custody.

• Recreation Directors across the state were involved with discussions regarding the changes but were told not to inform the population of the possible changes.

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