



## Iowa Department of Corrections

GOVERNOR KIM REYNOLDS  
LT. GOVERNOR CHRIS  
COURNOYER

BETH SKINNER, PHD, DIRECTOR  
JOEL MCANULTY, DISTRICT DIRECTOR

November 27, 2024

To: Dr. Beth Skinner, Director  
Iowa Department of Corrections

From: Joel McAnulty, District Director  
Iowa Department of Corrections District 6

Re: Annual Report FY24

Director Skinner,

This annual report is provided in compliance with requirements established by Iowa Code.

FY24 was a significant year of change for the 6<sup>th</sup> District. I was hired as District Director and began my duties officially on June 30, 2023. Additionally, legislation regarding state government alignment became effective on July 1, 2023. Both created challenges and opportunities for staff, clients and partners of the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

Alignment in FY24 was focused primarily on implementation issues related to policy change, budget processes and alignment of operations. Doing so touched on many different areas of operations ranging from personnel to accounting/budget and workplace culture. You will find that 6<sup>th</sup> District has done its absolute best to honor the changes necessitated in the alignment process by implementing timely changes, following through on commitments and engaging staff at all levels. We have searched for and created opportunities for efficiencies in this District and have supported similar initiatives agency-wide. We have looked for opportunities to share resources and develop consistency among community-based corrections. Many, many hours have been spent by our staff participating on statewide committees charged with moving alignment forward successfully.

While much time has been spent on specific operational alignment issues, an equal amount of time has been spent on addressing culture in this District. We have worked very hard to transition the culture to one that engages staff at all levels, builds trust and provides transparency. Local efforts have moved forward in support of culture initiatives identified and implemented at the state level. There has been emphasis on making good



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use of resources and making sure they are consistent with both cultural and alignment expectations.

FY24 has presented many challenges, but we have moved forward. To that end, I want to express my sincere gratitude to all 6<sup>th</sup> District employees, my colleagues in other Districts and the many people within our corrections system who have found ways to seize opportunities, work through difficult times and find ways to better serve our clients and communities.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. McAnulty", is written over the printed name "District Director".

District Director



## Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, February 2, 2024, 1:00 P.M.

William G. Faches Center Board Room + via Zoom

Board Present: Monica Challenger (district appointee), Jon Degen (Iowa County), Curt Hilmer (Tama County), Shelby Humbles (judicial appointee), Shane Kron (judicial appointee), Mike Niece-Jacoby (district appointee), Joe Oswald (Jones County), Kirsten Running-Marquardt (Linn County)

Absent: Royceann Porter (Johnson County), Rick Primmer (Benton County)

Staff Present: Joel McAnulty, Director; Rob Metzger, Assistant Director; Drew Konicek, Division Manager; Jodie Stoessel, Administrative Assistant; Candace Acord, PPO/AFSCME rep

Guests: Myrna Loehrlein, League of Women Voters

Joel McAnulty, District Director, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### 1. Call to Order – Introductions

Introductions were made.

### 2. Director Updates (Joel McAnulty)

- a. Rob Metzger was recognized as the new Assistant Director. His first day is today.
- b. Alignment work continues on issues ranging from policy to personnel to budget and more. The next major transition will be June 30<sup>th</sup> when districts switch over to the state's budgeting and payroll systems.
- c. Rob Metzger and Drew Konicek have been working with their teams in getting clients who are approved for Parole or Work Release to the District as efficiently and effectively as possible. Our staff have done a wonderful job in this continuing endeavor.
- d. Statewide recidivism rate has dropped in excess of 3%. Joel will provide more information at local meetings throughout the year.

### 3. Board Business

- a. The Board met to discuss the redefined role and structure of its meetings, acknowledging the transition from a decision-making board to a collaborative entity. Consensus decisions included the following:
  - i. **County Supervisors Meetings:** The District will work with local Advisory Board members to arrange meetings/presentations in each county at least once per year. We will aim to provide county-specific information,

introduce staff members, and solicit feedback on potential program changes.

- ii. **Annual Meeting in October:** An annual meeting will be held each October to share a year-end summary, updates, and address any major issues. Additionally, quarterly written updates will be provided by the Director in January, April/May, and August.
  - iii. **Special Meetings:** The Board agreed to have the flexibility to call special meetings and/or for the Director to connect with individual Board members as needed. The Director will proactively reach out to members if any developments may impact a county.
  - iv. **Involvement in Special Projects:** Board members are encouraged to participate in special projects or initiatives based on their individual interests.
- b. Discussion ensued around the draft of new bylaws based on Code changes. Kirsten Running-Marquardt motioned and Joe Oswald seconded to adopt the bylaws as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

**4. Public Comment**

Mike Niece-Jacoby shared his appreciation of staff and their continued communication and professionalism.

Candace Acord expressed an interest in having staff participate in future Advisory Board meetings to aid in communication. Everyone supported this idea.

**5. Next Meeting – Friday, October 25, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.**

Note: Jodie will work with County Supervisors to schedule meetings in their counties.

**6. Adjournment**

The meeting concluded at 1:58 p.m.

Submitted by:

Jodie Stoessel, Board Secretary

Approved by:

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Joel McAnulty, District Director



Stoessel, Jodie &lt;jodie.stoessel@iowa.gov&gt;

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## DOC 6th District Director's Update

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**Stoessel, Jodie** <jodie.stoessel@iowa.gov>

Wed, May 1, 2024 at 9:55 AM

To: Monica Challenger <monica.challenger@gmail.com>, Shane Kron <skron@coralville.org>, Joe Oswald <joe.oswald@jonescountyiowa.gov>, Royceann Porter <rporter@johnsoncountyiowa.gov>, Jonathan Degen <jdegen@iowacounty.iowa.gov>, "Running-Marquardt, Kirsten" <Kirsten.Running-Marquardt@linncountyiowa.gov>, Richard Primmer <rprimer@co.benton.ia.us>, "Shelby Humbles Jr." <Shelrock62@gmail.com>, Curt Hilmer <curthilmer@gmail.com>, Mike Niece-Jacoby <m.niecejacoby@gmail.com>  
Cc: Joel Mcanulty <joel.mcanulty@iowa.gov>, Robert Metzger <robert.metzger@iowa.gov>, "Konicek, Drew" <drew.konicek@iowa.gov>  
Bcc: Jodie Stoessel <jodie.stoessel@iowa.gov>

### Advisory Board Members:

It is my pleasure to provide this written update to the Department of Corrections 6<sup>th</sup> District Advisory Board. I will provide these updates approximately every three months, as was discussed in our prior organizational meeting on February 2nd. If there is additional information you would like to have included moving forward, please let me know and I will do my best to accommodate.

### Annual Diversity Event

It was regretful that we had to postpone the annual Diversity Event from its originally scheduled date of April 16th. We had many employees signed up for the day and we were excited for the event. The weather just simply did not cooperate and severe weather forecasts made it an easier decision. Members of our STRIDE Committee acted quickly, however, and that event is now rescheduled for June 18th. I hope you will consider joining us for all, or part, of the day. We have a dynamic speaker planned and good food being provided!

### Staff Awards

We had intended to present our annual staff awards at the Diversity Event in April. Part of the motivation in doing so was to have those announced prior to the statewide awards banquet scheduled for June 20th in Des Moines. Again, our local awards committee representatives did a great job of pivoting and coming up with a new plan. I will be attending local work unit meetings over the course of the next three weeks to present those awards in person. I will be following each one up with a short video to make the winner announcements to all of our employees. Suffice to say we have some incredible individuals and teams being recognized for their efforts. I will provide you more information about the awards and recipients in my next update.

### County Visits

It has been my pleasure to be present at a couple Board of Supervisor meetings since our last Advisory Board meeting in February. On March 25th, I met with the Tama County Board of Supervisors during their regularly scheduled Board meeting and did the same on April 30th in Jones County. In both instances, I provided some data specific to those individual counties and answered questions as they arose. It was also a pleasure to be accompanied at each meeting by our employees working in those counties. I am currently scheduled to be in Iowa County on May 31st.

I'll use this opportunity to reiterate my invitation to visit any of our counties at any time. I am happy to do so, whether to be on a regular meeting agenda or to have informal discussions with the Board and our other county partners. Please reach out to Jodie Stoessel or me if you are interested. My thanks to Jodie for the work she has done coordinating these county visits!

### Alignment

Alignment continues to occur incrementally. Our employees, particularly those involved with personnel, fiscal and policy issues, have been busy making operational and policy changes to assist in the process. The next big step is to change over to the state's budgeting, accounting and payroll systems. Some of this change is occurring as we speak, with the switch to payroll becoming effective in early July. At this writing, there are two short months remaining in the fiscal year. We have taken a rather conservative approach with the budget, but I am comfortable and confident we will be in good shape when June 30th arrives.

I continue to be grateful for the wonderful employees here in the 6<sup>th</sup> District. I have found them to be kind, resilient and creative. They are committed to our mission and our communities. They have been happy with some changes and probably frustrated with others. Either way, they have been willing to share their opinions and ideas to keep us moving forward. I am proud to work with this group of folks.

I hope you are enjoying the spring weather and some much-needed precipitation. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have questions or concerns!

**Joel McAnulty**  
**District Director**

6th District

Iowa Department of Corrections

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**Sixth District Department of Corrections  
Advisory Board Strategic Planning Meeting  
Friday, September 8, 2023, 1:00 P.M.  
William G. Faches Center Board Room**

Board Present: Monica Challenger, Shelby Humbles, Shane Kron, Mike Niece-Jacoby, Joe Oswald, Keith Rippy

Absent: Jon Degen, Curt Hilmer, Shelly Kramer, Royceann Porter, Rick Primmer, Kirsten Running-Marquardt, Susie Weinacht

Staff Present: Joel McAnulty, Director; Rob Metzger, Division Manager; Jodie Stoessel, Administrative Assistant

Keith Rippy, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Joel McAnulty updated the group on the alignment process as well as provided a budget update. Staff in the 6<sup>th</sup> District have done an outstanding job reviewing, revising and implementing changes associated with the alignment. This will continue to be a process. We will move to Workday and the state's budgeting system on July 1, 2024.

### **ADVISORY BOARD STRUCTURE**

Discussion ensued around the structure of the new advisory board format based on updated Code language. Determined next steps to be as follows:

- We will invite each county Board of Supervisors to include Sixth District on a 2024 meeting agenda to present relevant information to their county.
- Committee members will meet when there are relevant topics and/or updates that would fall under the purview of the Advisory Committee.
- Continue diversity focus and efforts
- In addition to the six County Supervisors, determine two judicial appointees and two community citizens who will make up the Advisory Board (6 County Supervisors + 2 judicial appointees + 2 community citizens = 10 member Board)
- Once the new Advisory Board is seated, bylaws will be established at the January 2024 meeting.
- Schedule next meeting for **Friday, January 26, 2024 @ 1:00 p.m.** Future meeting schedule will be determined at that time.

The following indicated their interest in continuing with the Board:

#### YES

Monica Challenger  
Shelby Humbles  
Shane Kron (or another Law Enforcement representative)  
Mike Niece-Jacoby  
Joe Oswald (Jones County Supervisor)

#### NO

Keith Rippy

**ADVISORY BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING MINUTES**  
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There being no further business coming before the Board the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Jodie Stoessel, Board Secretary

Approved by Board:

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Board Chair