

**COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP
Executive Committee Meeting
County of Tuolumne**

Minutes

Wednesday, April 16, 2025
12 p.m.

Tuolumne County Probation Department
465 S. Washington Street
Sonora, California

Present:

Dan Hawks, Chief Probation Officer (Chair); Chris Hurtado, TCSO; Neil Evans, Undersheriff; Heather Smith, GEO Program Manager; Stacey Robbins-Podvin, Court Program Manager; Scott Gross, Public Defender; Amy Cooper, Probation Staff Services Analyst; Kevin Parr, Probation Adult Division Manager; Patrick Spink, DA Public Safety Administrative Manager; Cassandra Jenecke, District Attorney; Shanna Relei, Probation Public Safety Administrative Manager; Michael Arndt, Assistant Chief Probation Officer; Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Director; Annie Hockett, HHSA Director; Shalom Rosenfelder, Superior Court Operations Manager; Ashley Pries, TCSO; Sean Cole, CAO's Office Administrative Analyst; Liz Peterson, CAO's Office Deputy County Administrator; David Vasquez, Sheriff.

Documents Provided:

April 16, 2025 CCP Agenda;
February 19, 2025 CCP Meeting Minutes;
Cognisen AI Demonstration Dates List;
CCP Proposed Draft Budgeted FY 25-26 and Funding Requests;
CCP Partnership Goals

Start Time:

Chief Probation Officer Dan Hawks called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. and members of the Committee introduced themselves.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Public Comments: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. REVIEW & APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 19, 2025, MEETING MINUTES

Chief Probation Officer Dan Hawks motioned to approve the minutes and Sheriff David Vasquez seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions; the motion passed unanimously.

2. COGNISEN AI DISCUSSION AND FUTURE DEMO

Chief Probation Officer Dan Hawks presented a summary of Cognisen AI software. This program will be utilized to assist Probation Officers with the Court report writing process. The Cognisen AI software team is available to provide a lunchtime demonstration of their Pearl AI software for any CCP members who are interested in learning more. Several dates were proposed during the month of May. A tentative date of May 9, 2025, at noon was selected, pending Court availability.

3. FUNDING REQUESTS FRO FY 2025-26 – Review all submitted funding requests and vote on FY 25-26 proposed budged (All CCP members)

Public Safety Administrative Manager Shanna Relei presented the Proposed Draft Budget for Fiscal Year 2025-26 to the group. An explanation of the Operation and Implementation trusts and proposed budget was provided. It was noted that the Implementation account did not receive the \$100,000 for completing the CCP Annual Survey as in previous years. Funding requests this year included \$526,480 in new costs that will be ongoing in future years. Concerns were raised that FY 2025-26 expenditures would exceed anticipated allocation by \$1,068,101, which would result in tapping into trust reserves to cover the shortfall.

Details of FY 2025-26 funding requests are as follows:

Tuolumne County Behavioral Health

Director Tami Mariscal presented the FY 2025-26 funding request of \$8,000, a 0% change from the previous fiscal year. The requested funds will be utilized to provide training to Behavioral Health staff that is culturally appropriate for AB109 individuals, helping to lower recidivism rates and facilitate successful reintegration.

Superior Court of California, County of Tuolumne

Program Manager Stacey Robbins-Podvin presented the funding request for the Superior Court of California County of Tuolumne. The requested \$69,000 for FY 2025-26 includes a \$9,000 increase (15% increase) from the prior fiscal year. The requested increase is to cover anticipated costs associated with Prop 36 services. The funding will be utilized to continue treatment services with various agencies, provide access and support networks to residential treatment programs, and continued training and education.

Tuolumne County District Attorney

District Attorney Cassandra Jenecke presented the FY 2025-26 funding requests for the District Attorney's Office. The total funding request of \$555,094 included a \$258,760 increase (87%) from the previous fiscal year. This amount included increases to existing staff positions and an additional \$231,763 for a new attorney position.

Tuolumne County Probation Department

Chief Probation Officer Dan Hawks presented the FY 2025-26 funding request for the Probation Department. The total requested amount of \$1,965,436 includes \$317,138 in new expenses, a 19.2% increase from last fiscal year.

\$8,500 of the new expenses is for Axon Body Cameras for Probation Officers assigned to the High-Risk Supervision Team. This will ensure officer safety, transparency, and improved accuracy for documenting interactions with probationers in potentially volatile situations.

\$1,500 of the new expenses requested as Collaborative Planning Expenses to cover the costs of working lunches for CCP meetings and CCP Workgroups. Due to conflicts in schedules, CCP meetings are generally held during the lunch hour.

\$1,955,436 in ongoing costs associated with staffing, equipment, and supplies is requested. This covers the costs associated with 10.5 full-time equivalent positions to supervise justice-involved individuals and associated services and programs. This amount also includes two new staff positions: Legal Assistant II (\$129,533) and Senior Deputy Probation Officer 50% of 1.0 FTE (\$97,500). The new Legal Assistant II position would lessen the administrative burden on sworn staff and support the increased Prop 36 caseload. The request for 0.5 FTE Senior Deputy Probation Officer would provide essential coverage for the Prop 36 caseload.

In March 2025, the CCP-funded Probation Mental Health Clinician position was eliminated.

Also included in the funding request for staffing, equipment, and supplies were ongoing amounts to services such as the Work Release Program (\$4,500), staff training for working with high-risk populations (\$7,500), and Treatment and Emergency Housing Support (\$30,000).

Chief Hawks indicated that he would be willing to cut the Staff-Legal Assistant (II) and Staff-Probationer Officer (Sr. 50% of 1.0 FTE) in consideration of the overall increase for the FYE 2025-26 budget.

Tuolumne County Public Defender's Office

Scott Gross presented the funding requests for the Public Defender's Office. His office is requesting \$120,000 for the continuation of the AB109 attorney contract. This is a \$6,000 (5.3%) increase from the prior fiscal year. This funding request ensures that AB109 representation is managed locally by a contracted attorney. The contracted party is responsible for his own staff and equipment with the option to apply for investigation expense reimbursements up to \$6,000 for FY 2025-26. Maintenance of this contract is important for workload distribution resulting from an increase in serious cases being handled by the Public Defender's Office.

Shared Costs

The funding request for shared costs was jointly presented by Chief Hawks, Shanna Relei, and Heather Smith of GEO. The total funding request for GEO was \$505,443. The request included a substantial increase the operating cost of the Day Reporting Center and Jail Re-entry Program due to the contract increase which is set to expire in February 2026. Heather Smith reported that the funding request would keep services and staffing at the existing levels from FY 2024-25 and no reduction in staffing has been considered at this time. Two pricing options were presented in the funding request. The figures included in the overall budget utilize the amounts in Option 2.

Option 1 maintains current staffing (1 Program Manager, 3 Case Managers, 1 Assistant Case Manager) at a fixed rate of \$574,920 annually for Years 1–3, with COLAs in Years 4–5.

Option 2 swaps one Case Manager for a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Counselor, addressing rising opioid use (38% of participants tested positive for opiates in 2024-Current). This option is \$592,980 annually for Years 1–3, with COLAs in Years 4–5. If GEO faces recruitment issues for the SUD Counselor, they will honor Option 1 pricing.

Concerns about clientele enrollment and an overlap or duplication in services was raised by BH Director Tami Mariscal. DA Jenecke answered that there is no overlap as the Behavioral Health and GEO are two separate programs. Questions regarding the possibility of reimbursement for opioid crisis funder were raised and if this was a viable option. Director Annie Hockett reported that it is, however, the language to access opioid funding is very specific.

Sheriff David Vasquez inquired if a detailed breakdown of all staff costs and was uncomfortable approving expenditures without that information.

Undersheriff Neil Evans expressed concerns that in future, discussions involving payment amounts to a vendor should be conducted when the vendor (GEO in this instance) is not present in the room.

Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office

Sheriff David Vasquez presented the funding request for the Tuolumne County Sheriff's Office. The request totaled \$1,808,862, a \$353,226 (24.3%) increase from the previous fiscal year.

Included in the request were two TruNarc Devices (\$47,285 each) to be utilized for officer safety when unknown substances are encountered. This would eliminate potential risk to officers from handling unknown substances as the device identifies substances without direct contact.

A \$140,000 request for a work truck vehicle would be used to coordinate with the Office of Emergency Services (OES) for fire crew work. This would enable transportation to contracted jobs and be a revenue generating expenditure.

Chief Hawks proposed no new ongoing costs and to approve any one-time expenses. Several scenarios were discussed and the expected deficit with all new positions remove was approximately \$500,000.

Liz Peterson of the CAO's Office requested a standardization of the methodology used to calculate employee costs.

Sheriff David Vasquez inquired about what amounts of previous budgets were unspent. Shanna Relei indicated that she could provide a trust account balance breakdown at a later date but generally the CCP comes in under budget every year.

Chief Hawks made a motion to continue discussions until another date. Motion not carried.

Sheriff David Vasquez made a motion to approve the FY 2025-26 budget as presented with all funding requests. This would include a timeline or condition on some items to search for additional funding options in future fiscal years. DA Cassandra Jenecke seconded the motion. Motion was put to a vote and was passed.

Sheriff David Vasquez:	aye
DA Cassandra Jenecke:	aye
PD Scott Gross:	aye
BH Director Tami Mariscal:	aye
Judge Laura Krieg:	absent
Chief Dan Hawks:	nay

4. DISCUSSION/SETTING OF FISCAL YEAR 2025-26 CCP GOALS

Not discussed

5. OTHER BUSINESS

None

6. NEXT MEETING – Schedule date and location of next quarterly meeting

No meeting was set at this time.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

End Time:

Meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Recorded By:

Amy Cooper, Staff Services Analyst, April 16, 2025