

COMMISSIONERS COURT

May 26, 2020

Mr. Huron, thank you so much for taking the time out of your busy schedule to join us for Commissioners Court on Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 3 p.m. You can connect to the meeting via ZOOM by going to Frio County's website <http://www.co.frio.tx.us/>, and clicking on the meeting link, which will go live twenty minutes before 3:00 p.m.

QUESTIONS

When GEO discovered their first cases of COVID-19 in the facility, did these detainees get infected at the facility or were they transported into the facility? If transported, did they come infected and was the facility made aware they had the virus coming into the facility?

The first two detainees that were infected, came from another jail (unable to tell us which jail). They did not start showing symptoms until after 9 days of being at the GEO Facility. They were screened into the facility, and they were not aware they were infected.

Is the facility accepting new detainees? If so, are they being screened and tested before being placed with detainees that are not infected?

No, they have been told to suspend intakes of new detainees. Geo is evaluating the situation weekly before they allow new detainees to be housed at the facility.

According to the News Media, infected detainees are being kept in dorms, separated from the other detainees. How many dorms are in the facility for quarantine?

Does not know how many dorms they have, but they have several. They are large dorms.

How many employees work at the South Texas ICE Processing Center? About 400 to 600 employees. They have 1st, 2nd, and 3rd shifts.

How many of those employees live in Frio County limits?

Does not know how many live in Frio. They do have employees that come from San Antonio and they have a carpool system set in place to transport those employees.

How many contractors are retained that make contact with detainees and/or employees at the South Texas ICE Processing Center?

How many live in Frio County limits?

Any Contractors coming into the facility are being screened as they enter and are required to wear PPE.

How many employee/contractors have been tested?

What is the timeline to test all of them?

They don't test unless they have symptoms.

What PPE are you providing to employees and how often?

What PPE are you providing to detainees and how often?

Does the facility have an adequate supply of PPE?

Yes, both employees and detainees are provided PPE. They have masks and numerous wash stations.

Are there safety protocols in place that have been discussed with employees/contractors about visiting public places, such as restaurants for lunch, grocery stores, etc.?

Protocols have been discussed with employees and they are asked to implement safety procedures outside of the facility.

Have the average population numbers changed intentionally as a response to the pandemic? If so, how?

They have moved out some detainees to other facilities to make room at this one in order to contain the virus. They have remained at 32 infected detainees, some have recovered, none are in bad shape or needing ventilators, plus they are not accepting any new detainees due to suspension.

How many detainees have been tested? What is the timeline to test all of them?

Will only test if they show symptoms of the virus.

How many detainees are currently cohorted?

They have several dorms, but they are large. They have the infected in several dorms, some are in the same dorm. The dorms are separate from the healthy detainees. These dorms use to be used to keep juveniles, but they no longer keep juveniles at the facility, so they are using these dorms for the infected detainees.

Medical staff are doing all the testing and are reporting the information to the State of Texas.

GEO usually has quarterly meetings with community leaders at Cowpokes. They have not had a meeting because of the coronavirus, but he has seen Judge Luna and law enforcement from the Pearsall Police Dept. attend. They do this to keep the lines of communication open.