

## Okaloosa County Public Safety Coordinating Council

### Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting: February 16, 2017 12:00 PM

Courthouse Annex Extension, Fort Walton Beach

### Public Safety Coordinating Council Members

Present	Name	Agency
x	Graham Fountain	Board of County Commissioners
x	Stefan W. Vaughn	Chief Corrections Officer
x	Judge Flowers	Circuit Judge
	Judge Grinsted	County Judge
x	Jay Jones	Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Designee
x	Bill Bishop	Assistant State Attorney
	Tom Murphy	Assistant Public Defender
		Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole Services
x	Julie Gaither	
x	Kelli Huckabee	Pretrial Services
	Tina Ferland (Ms. Davis)	Judicial Corrections Services, County Probation Provider

### Other Attendees:

Paul Farnsworth, Department of Corrections  
Tammy Matthews, Department of Corrections  
Joe Foley, Captain, Department of Corrections  
Janice George, Big Bend Community Based Care, Inc.  
Susan Priddy, Health Services Administrator, Corizon Health Services  
Larry McFarland, Bridgeway Center, Inc.  
Bonnie Barlow, Bridgeway Center, Inc.  
Matthew Harrison, Okaloosa Sheriff's Office  
J. D. Peacock, Clerk of Court  
John Anderson, Clerk of Court  
Valerie Broxson, Court Administration

Meeting opened at 12:04 pm.

### Welcome:

Commissioner Fountain welcomed all attendees and stated he is learning the process for the meeting as he was just appointed as committee chair. He has requested Chief Vaughn conduct the meeting.

### Minutes

1. a. August minutes were approved as corrected. Julie Gaither was not in

attendance at the meeting as the minutes reflected.

## **2. Old Business**

- a. Mr. Anderson provided an update on cashless bonds. The program will roll out in phases. The first phase will be accepting credit card for bonds at the arrest location. The second phase will allow family to use credit cards to post bonds. Upon review of the process, they discovered a problem of having a second party pay the financial obligation of the arrestee. Other counties have already allowed it and it is expected the legalities will soon be worked out.
- b. Chief Vaughn reported the process of VOP arrests will be speeding up. A letter of support has been provided for county violations to allow the VOP arrest when the current arrest is done. A connection is in the process allowing law enforcement to connect with the misdemeanor probation tracker to see those on probation. Arresting the person on the VOP along with current arrest will reduce the amount of holds on inmates and begin the court process quicker. Mr. Jones asked if the new arrest and the VOP can be put on the same report. Chief Vaughn stated that it already occurs that way, but not all reports process it the same. Mr. Bishop stated it has been completed this way prior and the clerk's office must verify both charges are complete. He stated the documentation must be clear on the charges. Upon further discussion, a determination was made that the program won't allow two separate court dates for the same report, so it must be submitted on two reports.
- c. Chief Vaughn reported the Jail Master Plan is still under review by the BOCC.
- d. The process for Spring Break will be similar to last year with only a slight change in language. The program will be review after this year to determine how well it is working and the best way to move forward. The process has streamlined the arrests and bonds. The bond remains at \$270.00

## **3. New Business**

- a. Commissioner Fountain reported Commissioner Ketchell continues to work with the bill on a grant for the mental health facility. The legislature is reluctant to approve the use of TDC funds to assist with the program.
- b. Chief Vaughn reported concern over transporting inmates for Baker Act evaluations when the evaluations could be completed at the facility. The amount ordered shortly after booking has increased and would like to review what the cause is. He asked if telemedicine could be utilized for handling evaluations.
- c. Chief Vaughn reported the jail is currently 120% over capacity. He continues to consider alternatives to incarceration and requests members to forward any suggestions and possible options. Ms. George asked if the court required Florida State Hospital defendants to return to the county jail. Mr. Bishop stated the defendant must return to the county of the arrest for court proceedings.
- d. Chief Vaughn reported the corrections board workshop will be on February 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **4. Jail Report**

- a. Mr. Farnsworth sent out the statistical report by email. There were no questions pertaining to the report.

**5. Probation Presentation**

Ms. Gaither provided a review of the responsibilities of the probation office. The probation office provides classes for offenders on life skills, the probation program, and other options. Most probation officer are certified in mental health first aid. She hopes that the e-file system will speed up the process of filing through the court. She provided a handout for the Alternative Sanction Program.

**6. Commissioner Update – Graham Fountain**

- a. The county will need to prepare for the upcoming legislative rules on immigration. Senate bill 786 has approved increased funding to hold for ICE, the county will be required to pass ordinances to match the federal rules in order to collect the funding.
- b. A bill has been presented to provide the right to carry a firearm in places that were not allowed previously. Problems of storage would occur if firearms were allowed in courthouses, but not in court. Sworn officers would be required to supervise the weapons storage. Storage concerns would also include what would happen to a stored weapon if the person in court gets sentenced and taken directly into custody. Airport security would need to be considered, also. He stated a high likelihood that open carry will be approved soon.
- c. Mr. Fountain is working to save time and efficiency throughout the county and has worked is all aspects of the system.

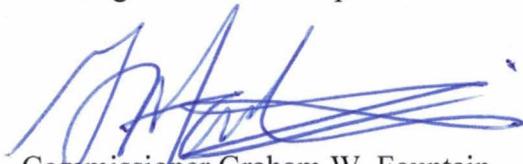
**7. Bridgeway Center, Inc.**

Mr. McFarland introduced a new program. The Intensive Outpatient-Substance Abuse and Addictive Disorders (IOP-SAUD) program will be offered to those in need with or without insurance. The program is a 16 week program.

The next full meeting for the Public Safety Council will be April 20, 2017.

Mr. Farnsworth will send an email reminders for upcoming meetings.

Meeting ended at 12:57 pm.



Commissioner Graham W. Fountain  
Vice-Chair, Okaloosa County Commission  
Chair, Public Safety Coordinating Council