



**Okaloosa County Public Safety Coordinating Council**

**Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting: February 10, 2014 12:00 PM**

**50 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Shalimar Florida**

**Public Safety Coordinating Council Members**

Present	Name	Agency
x	Dave Parisot, Chairman	Board of County Commissioners
x	Paul Lawson	Chief Corrections Officer
x	Judge Flowers	Circuit Judge
	Judge Maney	Chief County Judge
	J. D. Peacock	Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Designee
	Bill Bishop	Assistant State Attorney
	Tom Murphy	Assistant Public Defender
	Deborah Brown	Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole Services
x	Kelli Huckabee	Pretrial Services
x	Tina Ferland	Judicial Corrections Services, County Probation Provider

**Other Attendees:**

Paul Farnsworth, Department of Corrections  
 Tammy Matthews, Department of Corrections  
 Robin Wright, Court Administration  
 Allison Mikel, Court Administration  
 Tina Ferland, Judicial Corrections Services  
 Matthew Harrison, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office  
 Susan Priddy, Corizon Health Care  
 Paul Wallis, Department of Juvenile Justice  
 Don Allgood, Clerk of Court  
 Karen McGavin, Bridgeway Center, Inc.  
 Mike Watkins, CEO Big Bend CBC  
 David Daniels, Big Bend CBC  
 Sheila Barbee, Department of Children and Family, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Division  
 Larry McFarland, Bridgeway Center, Inc.

Meeting opened at 12:07 pm.

**Welcome:****Minutes**

Motion was made and seconded for minutes from previous meeting approved as sent.

**Old Business**

Robin Wright stated that she met with stakeholders concerning the feasibility of continuing with a Day Reporting Center project. It was determined that the benefit could not be substantiated with the cost. Paul Lawson expressed concern that the costs to cover the entire region, including the North and South end of the county, would be cost prohibitive. Paul Lawson recommended that it might be more fruitful to augment or expand Pre-Trial Services programs or misdemeanor probation services rather than to add another layer of government or another contracted program that might not be cost effective.

Paul Lawson reminded the council that consideration for a jail addition will need to be considered at some point in the near future. Commissioner Parisot requested that it be added to the upcoming budget to begin addressing future building needs.

**New Business**

Dave Parisot reported on the legislative rewrite of Committee Bill 14-01 which pertains to community prevention services for Juvenile Justice. Funds from Juvenile Justice license plates will be allocated in each county based on usage. The bill also addresses changes in reduction of bed size of the residential facilities, alternative consequence programs, and the possibility of creating evening reporting centers.

Funding of this bill is still under discussion and may be an unfunded mandate for each county. It will be required to become part of the Juvenile Justice budget to fund available programs.

Due to IT issues, the jail statistic report and Pretrial Services Reports were presented in a condensed version verbally. No significant changes or issues in either report.

Paul Farnsworth reported 517 juvenile detention days were billed according to the predisposition detention report. The report covers all days juveniles were detained at the Department of Juvenile Justice for Okaloosa County. There have been no challenges to the billing since a determination of the court ruling on costs. The cost for detaining a juvenile predisposition is \$320 per day.

Mike Watkins from the Big Bend Corporation reported that Fort Walton Beach Medical Center (FWBMC) requested additional funds from the state to operate the Baker Act Receiving Unit, which was approved by legislature, but denied by the Governor. The operation of the unit is underfunded and cannot sustain as a business so FWBMC is determining the possibility of dropping the contract for provision of Baker Act services. FWBMC now considered themselves as a temporary provider. Mr. Watkins asked the council to consider options should they withdraw from the contract. Big Bend is working to assist in the best possible use of state funds to cover these services but would like assistance in possible solutions. Larry McFarland reported that when Bridgeway

Services, Inc. operated the Crisis Stabilization Unit, it ran approximately one million over budget each year which is why they chose to discontinue providing services.

Mike Watkins stated that Okaloosa County is the only location in the 18 counties that Big Bend services that is having the funding crisis this significantly. He requested a subcommittee be formed to review the contract and possible solution to the Baker Act issue.

The next full meeting for the Public Safety Council will be April 14, 2014.

Meeting ended at 12:40 pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dave Parisot".

Commissioner David Parisot, Chairman  
Public Safety Coordinating Council