



PALM BEACH COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

CORRECTIONS TASK FORCE/ Public Safety Coordinating Council

Palm Beach County Governmental Center
301 N. Olive Avenue, 12th Floor, McEaddy Conference Room
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401

Wednesday, April 6, 2016; 12:00 P.M.

http://www.pbcgov.com/criminaljustice/task_force/corrections/

- MEETING MINUTES -

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Douglas Duncan, Roth and Duncan, P.A.
Rosalyn Baker, Florida Department of Corrections
Paulette Burdick, Commissioner, Palm Beach County
Glenny Cueto, Professional Probation Services, Inc.
Brian Fernandes, Office of the State Attorney
Leonard Hanser, Administrative Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
John Kastrenakes, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Jenise Link, Manager, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency
Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Caroline Shepherd, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
James Smigel, Captain, West Palm Beach Police Department
Alfonso Starling, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Alton Taylor, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation
Louis Tomeo, Director Criminal Court Services, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller
Barbara White, Public Defender's Office

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jeffrey Colbath, Administrative Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Michelle Dwyer, Workforce Alliance
Brandy Macaluso, Victims Rights Coalition
Mamine Saintil, Superintendent, Department of Juvenile Justice
Joseph Marx, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mevsim Bocaksiz, Drug Abuse Foundation
Alan Johnson, Office of the State Attorney
Leon Lipsick, West Palm Beach Housing Authority
Marsha Martino, NAMI PBC
Stewart Saalfied, Court Administration
Mark Strach, Florida Department of Corrections
Schnelle Tonge, Public Defender's Office
Helen Trainor, Episcopal Dioceses of Southeast Florida

CJC STAFF PRESENT:

Kristina Henson, Executive Director
Katherine Hatos, Senior Criminal Justice Analyst
Damir Kukec, Research and Planning Manager
Allison Orr, Administrative Assistant
Candee Villapando, Criminal Justice Analyst

I. Welcome, Opening Comments by Chairman Douglas Duncan

II. Roll Call and Introduction of Guests

III. Approval and/or Additions to the agenda

The agenda was approved without changes.

IV. Approval and/or Amendments to the February 3, 2016 Minutes of the Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting

The minutes of the February 3, 2016 meeting were approved without amendments.

V. Reports

A. Jail Population Report

Major Alfonso Starling reported that the population as of that morning was at 2,063.

B. In House Arrest Report

Pay and go for the month was 206. Total In-House Arrest population was 230; pretrial 118 (including 2 direct filed juveniles); 107 county sentenced – probation 3, DJJ 2; and zero AO.

Chair Duncan noted that the number of inmates on AO that authorizes house arrest has been at zero for a long time, and asked Major Starling if there is something they can do to re-publish that and make it better known to inmates; and asked Major Starling for suggestions. Major Starling said that they have taken a look at this numbers; but many individuals who would have been eligible that have been asked have refused. Barbara White asked if there is any kind of follow up after that; Major Starling said no. Ms. White asked if it will be possible to send the PD a list of the people that will qualify so they can also take a look at them and disseminate the information the lawyers. Major Starling said they will take a look at the numbers again; they will look at the last thirty days and see

how many of the individuals they met with actually stayed in custody, and how many were released.

C. Pretrial Services Report

Jenise Link reported that as of Monday there were a total of 834 defendants on SOR; 490 of these individuals were on SOR only, and 344 were on SOR with accompanying money bond. Of the 490 defendants on SOR only, 17 remain in custody mostly because of other charges; 3 awaiting treatment. Of the 344 individuals on SOR with a bond, 66 remained in custody due to holds or bonds. Total SOR population out of custody was 751. Compared to last month and last year, these numbers were slightly reduced, mostly because in the last two months there was less arrest. Compared to last month, they were down by 95 people on SOR; compared to last year, they were around 115.

D. Juvenile Detention Center Report

No report was presented.

E. Misdemeanor Probation Report

Glenny Cueto reported that for the month of March they had a total of 187 new cases. Total active cases was 1,984; successfully completed was 126; and revoked or terminate by order was 37. Total terminated cases for the month of March were 163.

VI. Old Business

A. Marchman Act & Baker Act Bill – Alton Taylor, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation

Alton Taylor reported that SB12 passed with provisions aligning Marchman Act and Baker Act. It requires the managing entity to submit a plan for a centralized receiving center. Invite SEFBHN to discuss how the Corrections TF can contribute to this plan. The discussion centered around its implications and impact on Palm Beach County that will have a combination of central receiving center with some virtual aspect; which means that it is not required that there are actual Marchman Act or Baker Act beds in the receiving center. The managing entity (ME) is required to have a transportation plan to transport individuals received and evaluated/assessed at the receiving center to the actual Marchman Act and Baker Act beds. One of the concerns addressed in the bill was having secure or locked detox facilities, which Palm Beach County does not have. The national norm was to have 70 detox beds, and PBC has about only 20 detox beds. However, the problem is locked detox beds are twice as expensive; therefore if you secure locked detox beds, you will be spending a lot more money but not necessarily increasing capacity. But Mr. Taylor believes that they can work through this issue

while working on the plan, and by looking at PBC's unique needs. The ME is going to take the lead role in putting this plan together.

Chair Duncan asked the status of CARP and its new owners. Mr. Taylor said that the last contact he had with the representative from the CARP board, was that the board was looking at how they were going to use the facility. At one point they were looking to do a detox facility in north PBC; but recently may have shifted to sober house beds.

Mr. Taylor said that they are also working to find a property in central PBC to do detox beds and also looking to expanding some residential beds, which however has been a problem for several reasons which he explained and was discussed. Judge Leonard Hanser commented that they had been talking about the same thing 22 years ago since he started doing Marchman Act work; not enough beds; and Chair Duncan added that we have never had a secure, locked down facility. Mr. Taylor noted that they did have a secure juvenile facility, but it was closed due to lack of need. He added that however, as a response to the increased heroin epidemic, there has been a general consensus and response to the urgency of the need for facilities or services, so that if needed, the funds are there; it is just a matter of finding and providing the facility property and labor. Chair Duncan wanted to again extend the invitation to SEFBHN to come because this is something that the committee needs to look at and be involved in.

Jenise Link remarked that if the issue was facility (secure), she wanted to know if the Corrections Task Force can take a look at available open spaces at County facilities, e.g., the drug farm, and stockade. Mr. Taylor said they have started preliminary discussions with the Sheriff's Office, and that they will have to bring the County in, because that is a county facility. But there is some general consensus that the drug farm would be ideal for both detox, and secure residential unit, which it was (a 150 bed secure residential program). Chair Duncan suggested inviting major players to discuss the issue as it is important and has an impact on our jail population.

B. 12th Floor Jail Population Update – *Schnelle Tonge, Public Defender's Office*

Schnelle Tonge, Chair of the 12th Floor Jail Population Subcommittee, provided a brief history on the subcommittee and its current status. The subcommittee was tasked with finding out whether there has been an increase in the 12th floor population, and if yes, identify the reason for the increase. Using data provided by PBSO, they found that there was an indeed and increase in the 13^{2th} floor population. The subcommittee discussed a few possible explanations for the increase; however, they were not able to identify a specific reason for the increase. Having answered the first part of the question and tried to answer to the best of their capacity the second part of the question, Ms. Tonge, on behalf of the subcommittee, would like to request the committee's affirmation that they have fulfilled their mission. But added that they may be allowed to explore other concerns by the stakeholders as they have previously requested. With the 12th

Floor Jail Population Subcommittee fulfilling their primary mission, Chair Duncan suggested that moving forward they meet with the Sheriff's Office to work on the other issues. Major Starling agreed that would be the best route. Ms. Tonge agreed, but asked to continue receiving monthly updates on the juvenile population so she can keep track of it. Kristina Henson asked Damir Kukec to get in touch with the juvenile reentry staff, as they have also been dealing with similar issues. Chair Duncan again thanked Ms. Tonge for her hard work and the subcommittee's hard work.

C. Clergy Representative Vacancy

Kristina Henson suggested going to the Chaplains' Association at the Sheriff's Office to secure a representative to the Corrections Task Force. A motion was made and passed.

D. Bond Schedule Review

Chair Duncan announced the upcoming meeting on April 14th.

VII. New Business

A. Palm Beach Youth Academy's new service provider – Sequel TSI of Florida, LLC (DJJ letter attached)

Mr. Kukec discussed the new service provider currently working with the County. Ms. Tonge also added information on their contact with the new provider with the Juvenile Justice Board, where it was also announced that Mr. Manny Alvarez, previous director was retained. Commissioner Burdick expressed concerned with his hiring due to his connection to the previous provider. Ms. Tonge explained that based on what they have heard and seen, there had been some positive changes under Mr. Alvarez.

VIII. Additional member and guest comments

Mr. Louis Tomeo provided an update on Operation Fresh Start which will take place on April 30th at the Gun Club and South branch locations. They have about 50 appointments set so far, and about 50 more that the Public Defender will be sending shortly.

Ms. Link confirmed whether the letter on fines and fees included in the packet was being reviewed by the bond committee; Chair Duncan said yes.

IX. Adjournment

Next Meeting: May 4, 2016; 12:00 P.M.