

April 28, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) – Regular Meeting

Monday, April 28, 2025 – 3:00 p.m.

Growth Services Training Room, 2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd., Ocala, FL 34470

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bryant, at 3:01 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2025, at the Marion County Growth Services Building, 2710 E. Silver Springs Blvd, Ocala, FL 34471.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Chairman Kathy Bryant.

Roll Call:

Members in Attendance: *(A quorum was present)*

Chairman Kathy Bryant; Michael Graves; Judge Robert W. Hodges; Major Charles McIntosh; Robin Lanier; Rusty Skinner; Regina Lewis; Jean Tucker; Travis McAllister; Hilary Jackson; Ryan Dorenbush (DJJ alternate designee) attended on behalf of Randy Reynolds; Sasha Kidney and Christi Stua arrived at 3:05 pm immediately after roll call.

Members Absent: Vice Chair Judge Robert Landt; Susan Cizmadia; Joshua Fairbrother; Major Angy Scroble; Jackie Gibson; Barbette Barnes; Karla Greenway.

Additional Attendees: Dana Olesky; Alina Stoothoff; Julie Rada; Jeremiah Alberico; Capt. Bryan Nix.

Notice of Publication

Meeting notice published on the Marion County website on April 11, 2025, in accordance with Florida Sunshine Laws.

Minutes Adoption

A motion to approve the February 25, 2025 PSCC Meeting Minutes was made by Major McIntosh, seconded by Robin Lanier. With no further discussion and no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Member Discussion Items

• Jail Population

Maj. McIntosh reported the current inmate count at 1,482 and provided the average daily totals from January through March. Chairman Bryant reiterated the monthly figures: January - 1,626; February - 1,576; March - 1,604; and April - 1,482. Maj. McIntosh confirmed the numbers.

In response to Chairman Bryant's inquiry about future growth, Maj. McIntosh stated that forecasts are uncertain due to evolving information regarding ICE, administrative warrants, and the Governor's decisions. He noted they are working to get personnel certified to serve such warrants but emphasized that no final decisions have been made on ICE detainee arrangements. He agreed to present updates to the council once all details have been reviewed and finalized. Chairman Bryant stressed that facility capacity should be a key factor in the analysis. Maj. McIntosh confirmed the current capacity is 1,924, with the potential to house up to 2,100 in emergencies.

Judge Hodges asked how long individuals with only immigration holds are detained. Maj. McIntosh responded that ICE has 48 hours to pick up the detainees once local charges are resolved. If not, the detainee is transferred to the nearest ICE facility, although this situation has not occurred yet. Most ICE holds involve local charges, which must be resolved before the 48-hour period begins. Judge Hodges voiced concern about detaining individuals with deportation orders and minor charges. Sasha Kidney noted that the reports typically show most detainees face serious felony charges. The discussion concluded as it moved beyond the jail population topic.

- SMA Criminal Justice, Mental Health, and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant (CJMHS Grant)

Chairman Bryant invited Julie Rada from SMA to provide an update on the CJMHS grant and the associated task force. Julie reported steady progress as the quarter ends. She noted extensive information is being gathered across all stages of the “Intercept” process, from crisis calls to community reintegration.

Julie thanked those present and the broader community for their support, highlighting in-person, phone, email, and online interviews she conducted. She made several information requests to MCSO and expressed special thanks to Maj. McIntosh, Capt. Nix, OPD, and the State Attorney’s Office for their cooperation.

She stated that a substantial amount of data is now ready to be shared with the technical assistance center at the University of South Florida. The team is well-positioned to begin pre-planning for the strategic intercept mapping sessions scheduled for the upcoming quarter.

- CJMHS Grant Task Force

Julie Rada provided an update on the first quarter activities of the CJMHS Grant Task Force. She noted the subcommittee has met twice since the last PSCC meeting on February 25, 2025. Representatives from the technical assistance center attended the second meeting to explain the process, its duration, and objectives. She shared that the intercept mapping session will span a day and a half.

Dates in late June are under consideration for the next meeting. Once confirmed, invitations will be sent to various community partners, including behavioral health units, care organizations, the VA, and others who have expressed interest in participating. Robin Lanier mentioned that a prior study conducted in 2019 can serve as a basis for comparison to measure progress, identify new gaps, and support future funding applications to address those gaps. No further questions were asked.

- Marion County Problem-Solving Courts

Regina Lewis reported that three new grants for FY 2024 were delayed due to audits but are now scheduled for May 20, 2025, Board of County Commissioners’ agenda. The first is a three-year, \$1.3 million grant for Family Treatment Court. The second, a four-year, \$1 million Bureau of Justice grant, supports Judge Landt’s adult pre-plea diversion program. The third is a \$10,000 JAG grant, awarded in partnership with the Marion County Sheriff’s Office, for Youth Courts. Chairman Bryant thanked Regina “Gina” Lewis, Alina Stoothoff, and their team for their outstanding work with the Problem-Solving Courts and encouraged attendees to learn more about their positive impact across the community.

Member Comments

Robin Lanier announced that the women’s residential program is scheduled to open in Marion Oaks, with a tentative ribbon-cutting date of May 12. The number of treatment beds will increase from 24 to 45, and the facility will be able to accommodate women with children. Once the women are relocated, the men’s residential bed count could also rise to 45, for a total of 90 residential beds.

Ryan Dorenbush, Assistant Chief Probation Officer with the Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ), reported that Marion County currently supervises 288 youth in the community. Of these, 77 are on probation, conditional release, or post-commitment probation related to firearm involvement. 21 youth are on supervised release, 12 of whom are on electronic monitoring. 41 youth are on probation with electronic monitoring, 36 of whom are under intensive supervision, requiring closer oversight and stricter sanctions. Additionally, approximately 120 youth from Marion County are placed in committed residential programs across the state.

As of that morning, 95 youth were held in secure detention, though not all were from Marion County, as the facility provides courtesy holds for other counties. Over the past year, the detention center has operated at 53% of capacity. In response to Chairman Bryant’s question, Mr. Dorenbush confirmed that DJJ funding comes from the State and that courtesy holds are typically for neighboring counties due to overpopulation or the need to separate co-defendants. He also clarified that DJJ does not maintain facilities in every county.

Judge Hodges shared that, depending on legislative outcomes, there is hope to secure a third circuit judge for Marion County. Based on an assessment conducted last year, the judicial workload was rated at 1.3, indicating the equivalent of one full-time judge and one-third of another. This supports the case for an additional judge. He emphasized that having a third circuit judge would improve efficiency and case turnover, especially if a new alternative court is established, which would require judicial oversight. He expressed concern about further burdening current judges, who are already managing a workload beyond their share, unlike some South Florida circuits which operate below a 1.0 workload rating. Ms. Lewis noted that the current grants fund programs already overseen by judicial officers: Judge Landt leads the adult pre-plea diversion program, and General Magistrate Soileau oversees the family treatment court. Judge Hodges acknowledged this but reiterated that the additional responsibilities continue to strain an already overloaded judiciary. He thanked the County for providing an additional magistrate and noted that other counties face similar case backlog issues. Chairman Bryant offered support in advocating for the additional judge. Judge Hodges responded that the matter now rests with the legislature. The discussion concluded with no further questions or comments.

Chairman Bryant brought up the next PSCC meeting, originally scheduled for July 28, 2025, at 3:00 p.m., and asked for consensus on whether it should proceed, as it would primarily serve as an update meeting. The decision was made to cancel the July meeting and reconvene on October 27, unless an urgent matter arises requiring an earlier meeting.

Maj. McIntosh noted that by October, MCSO may have updates regarding a potential ICE contract.

Julie Rada and Robin Lanier of SMA agreed with the decision, noting that the intercept study should be completed by then and an update will be available. The PSCC meetings fulfill the project's quarterly meeting requirement, and should an earlier meeting be necessary, Ms. Rada will contact the PSCC staff liaison to coordinate scheduling.

Public Comments – General Public Comment

None

Action Items for next meeting

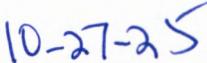
- CJMHSA grant update.
- Jail population.
- Judiciary grants update.

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was officially adjourned at 3:33 pm.



Kathy Bryant, Chair



Date