

February 25, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) – Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 25, 2025 – 3:30 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 3:32 p.m. on Tuesday, February 25, 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; Vice Chair Judge Robert Landt; Sasha Kidney; Michael Graves; Judge Robert W. Hodges; Chief Deputy Clint Bowen (hereinafter referred to as "Major Bowen"); Susan Cizmada; Joshua Fairbrother; Major Angy Scroble; Regina Lewis; Jackie Gibson; Travis McAllister; Hilary Jackson; Karla Greenway; Christi Stua; Randy Reynolds. Robin Lanier arrived at 3:35 pm shortly after roll call.

Members Absent: Rusty Skinner; Jean Tucker, Barbette Barnes.

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

Notice of Publication

The meeting notice was published on the Marion County website on February 13, 2025, in accordance with Florida Sunshine Laws.

Minutes Adoption

A motion to approve the 10/21/24 PSCC Meeting Minutes was made by Major Clint Bowen, seconded by Judge Robert Hodges. With no further discussion and no objections, the motion passed unanimously.

Member Discussion Items

- New Members Introduction and Ratification

Chairman Bryant called for a vote to approve all new members, with introductions to follow. Major Bowen announced that Major Charles McIntosh will serve as his replacement on the committee as the Marion County Sheriff's designee, effective immediately. Vice Chair Judge Landt confirmed that a member vote is not required for designee changes. Major Bowen will be retiring after 35 years of service. A motion to ratify the new members was made by Judge Landt, seconded by Robin Lanier. With no further discussion and no objections, the motion passed unanimously. Each new member and incumbents present proceeded to introduce themselves. Chairman Bryant provided a synopsis of what the charge of Public Safety Coordinating Council is -To coordinate with our Sheriff's Office, keep the conversations going with regards to the jail and anticipate jail population growth and programming needs, as well as come up with initiatives to increase positive outcomes for people leaving the jail, specifically recidivists. The Chairman added that early on it was determined that the Council has not received federal funding.

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

Chairman Bryant invited Robin Lanier to provide an overview of the grant, noting that its approval is the reason new members were added to the committee, as state statute requires specific community representation for eligibility. Robin explained that the grant is a planning grant, awarded to conduct a Sequential Intercept Model analysis through the University of South Florida to identify service gaps. Following this phase, SMA will apply for an implementation grant of up to \$4 million over three years to address those gaps.

Robin clarified that, although the October 21, 2024, PSCC meeting indicated a December 1, 2024 start date, the grant officially began on February 1, 2025. SMA will coordinate the process and notify stakeholders of required participation in upcoming meetings. Robin also introduced Jeremy Alberico, SMA's Senior Medical Director, under whom the planning grant falls, and Julie Raad, the Grant Director -both of whom bring extensive experience in managing similar initiatives.

Chairman Bryant open the floor for members to comment. Judge Landt asked if this meeting could be considered the first stakeholders meeting. Robin said that they were already counting today's meeting as their first required quarterly meeting as it meets the standard.

Julie Rada from SMA (5664 SW 60th Ave) was invited to the committee table to explain the requirements for compliance with the CJMHSA planning grant awarded to SMA. One requirement is the formation of a PSCC subcommittee that will meet monthly to gather information and transition into strategic planning. The subcommittee will need a Chair, and Julie Rada will serve as the facilitator. Julie explained that each subcommittee member must represent one of the agencies currently on the PSCC, either the same individual or an official designee. The number of subcommittee members will be determined by the PSCC, but each organization must be represented for the Sequential Intercept Model process.

Chairman Bryant noted that subcommittees typically consist of fewer members than the full Council and agreed that this meeting could count as the first quarterly meeting for the grant. She asked for legal guidance from Assistant County Attorney Dana Olesky regarding subcommittee formation.

Dana advised she would review the grant requirements to determine the necessary participants and structure, and report back at the next PSCC meeting. Robin stressed the urgency of convening the subcommittee before the next PSCC meeting. Dana added that subcommittees must be created during a publicly noticed meeting. Julie provided relevant documentation to Dana during the meeting.

Judge Hodges stated he does not wish to serve on the subcommittee and requested assurance that PSCC members would not automatically be assigned. He expressed willingness to maintain general oversight as a PSCC member but declined subcommittee participation.

Alina Stoothoff (110 NW 1st Ave) was invited to clarify the subcommittee's role. She explained that while PSCC historically oversaw grants, that responsibility later shifted to other agencies. The subcommittee should primarily consist of stakeholder representatives, ideally not current PSCC members, due to Sunshine Law. Chairman Bryant then asked Ms. Olesky to review the grant details provided by Julie Rada.

Following the jail population update, Randy Reynolds asked about the timing of inmate services. Robin Lanier explained that the intercept model, once completed, will identify service gaps. Dana Olesky then reviewed key points of the CJMHSA planning grant contract between SMA and Marion County, noting it doesn't specify subcommittee membership or meeting frequency. Mr. Reynolds asked whether juveniles would be included in the intercept model. It was confirmed they could be, and a juvenile-focused representative would be needed. MCSO confirmed the jail does not currently house juveniles. Chairman Bryant requested Julie Rada and Alina Stoothoff assist in identifying subcommittee members. Robin added that Julie would contact stakeholders to confirm representatives, with selections due by April 30, 2025, for USF. SMA will provide ongoing updates to PSCC. Dana will share the grant contract with Gennifer Medina for distribution. Chairman Bryant assured Mr. Reynolds juveniles would be included. Mr. Reynolds also shared concerns about juvenile firearm offenses, prompting further discussion on parental accountability and potential DCF involvement.

- Jail Population

MCSO representatives were invited to provide an update on the jail population. Captain Bryan Nix (3290 NW 10th St) reported the current inmate count at 1,627, including 84 federal inmates and 105 non-citizens: 36 with ICE holds and 6 with Border Patrol holds. Chairman Bryant asked if these holds were being promptly processed, and Major Bowen noted there had been little change on the pickup process. The Chairman acknowledged a recent decline in the jail population.

Judge Landt inquired whether individuals with ICE or Border Patrol holds also faced local charges; Major Bowen confirmed it was a mix. He referenced jail population figures included in the 2024 annual report distributed at the meeting, emphasizing that anticipated growth in inmate numbers remains a key concern for the Council. He noted that while numbers have fluctuated over the years, they have not shown drastic changes.

Discussion followed on how federal actions and potential policy changes from the new U.S. Attorney for the Middle District may impact local jail numbers. The group also addressed the increasing volume of judicial dockets and caseloads, and a proposed state law making unlawful presence a misdemeanor with a nine-month minimum sentence -its impact remains unclear. Chairman Bryant mentioned she would speak with the Sheriff regarding the possible effects of this legislation. She then asked whether a subcommittee should analyze the proposed law and report back. Sasha Kidney responded that discussions with the Public Defender's Office would occur before the next meeting, with the possibility of seeking amendments. Vice Chair Landt added that a discussion between the State Attorney's and Public Defender's offices would not violate Sunshine Law, as no formal vote would occur. Captain Nix concluded the jail population report, and no further questions were raised.

Pretrial Intervention Program (PTI):

Joshua Fairbrother inquired on the PTI referral process effectiveness. Judge Hodges commented that its meeting goals, and all the efforts to facilitate the program are appreciated.

Pretrial Release Program:

No updates.

Public Comments – General Public Comment

Alina Stoothoff (110 NW 1st Ave) mentioned that the judiciary currently has two grants that require the oversight of a PSCC committee, there are no other requirement she was aware of other than quarterly meetings, and the quarterly PSCC meeting qualifies to meet it. Permission was requested to include updates of judiciary grants within the PSCC quarterly agenda, as the stakeholders are basically the same ones represented by the current members. Chairman Bryant asked the Council for consensus to have those grants come underneath the Council and bring forth updates as an agenda item at the next PSCC meeting. Members approved.

Member Comments

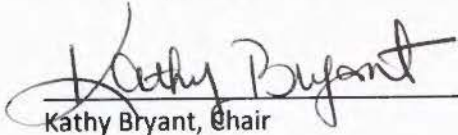
Major Bowen was acknowledged and praised for his years of service and collaboration with other agencies. Chairman Bryant mentioned that the PSCC next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 28th, 2025 at 3:00 pm.

Action Items for next meeting

- SMA planning grant implementation status, and subcommittee formation.
- Jail population.
- Judiciary grants.

Adjournment

There being no further business to conduct, the meeting was officially adjourned at 4:56 pm.


Kathy Bryant, Chair

4/28/2025
Date