

Public Safety Coordinating Council
Volusia County
Seventh Judicial Circuit of Florida
October 8, 2007
3:00 PM
Daytona Beach, Florida
MINUTES

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Cindy Clifford, Volusia County Corrections
Art Giles, Volusia County Council
David Walsh, Chief Judge
Mark Weinberg, Court Administration
Jessica Simson, Clerk's Office
James Purdy, Public Defender's Office
Fred North, State Department of Corrections
Dennis Moon, Judicial Corrections Services
David Smith, State Attorney's Office
Bill Lee, Volusia County Sheriff's Office

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

David Mims, New Smyrna Beach PD
Toni Barrett, Stewart-Marchman Center
Mike Mannix III, Strollo Architects, Inc.
Cynthia Strollo, Strollo Architects, Inc.
Shirley Olson, Court Administrator
Evelyn Thompson, Volusia County IT
Craig Dyer, Public Defender
Mary Connors, County Manager's Office
Jim Ryan, Volusia County Public Protection
Jim Willits, Volusia County Public Protection

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Art Giles called the meeting of the Volusia County Public Safety Coordinating Council to order at 3:10 PM.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Giles called for additions or corrections to the minutes of the previous August 28, 2007 meeting. There were no additions or corrections and minutes were approved as written.

III. REPORTS

A. JAIL REPORT – Cindy Clifford

Ms. Clifford reported that the total population today is 1,471 including 240 females. She stated this is due to a drop in the sentenced population and a reduction in the length of stay sentences. She attributed this to everyone working together. She also stated that since the JATP was disbanded, there are less people waiting in jail to get into the program.

B. CJIS REPORT – Evelyn Thompson

Ms. Thompson reported that a Steering Committee meeting was held on September 7th. The project continues on schedule with no major issues. Exchanges are continuing to be worked on with the agencies and their vendors. The Clerk's Office is continuing to have meetings to validate customizations made to their system. Court Services will begin their customization checkpoint review meetings in November.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Jim Willits – Volusia County Public Protection

Mr. Willits reported that members of county staff and Stewart Marchman met this morning regarding the Criminal Justice, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Reinvestment Grant. During this meeting it was determined that county staff and Stewart Marchman staff would craft an application for a planning grant. The grant is for \$100,000 maximum that would be matched locally with some in-kind match with the majority being a cash match. The focus is to seek funding for a needs assessment and strategic plan for service providers that operate in Volusia County now. The context is that once the needs are examined and a strategic plan is in place it would have an effect on the jail population by diverting people before they are arrested. The group is asking the PSCC to support their direction and bring it before the county council to get their authorization to submit the grant application to the State. A motion was made by David Smith to present this item to the County Council. James Purdy seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

B. James Purdy – Public Defender

Mr. Purdy advised that the closed circuit communications system will be tested tomorrow between the branch jail and the public defender's office.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. James Purdy – Public Defender

Mr. Purdy inquired to what extent the PSCC members are restricted from discussing issues regarding the jail population outside of the meeting. Since this is considered a Sunshine Law committee and information is public record he questioned whether members were restricted from speaking to one another outside the meeting room regarding jail population issues. Mr. Purdy made a motion that the board write a letter to the Attorney General requesting an opinion on whether or not members of the PSCC can speak outside of the meeting and still comply with the law. David Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. Schedule the next PSCC meeting.

The next meeting of the PSCC is scheduled for Monday, December 17th at 3:00 PM.

VI. DISCUSSION

Public Participation – There was no public participation.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Art Giles adjourned the meeting at 3:33 PM.