

## MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL (MCPSCC)

Full Council Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2026, 4:00 p.m.

Commissioners Boardroom, Courthouse Square, Salem, Oregon

MCPSCC: Colm Willis, Nick Hunter, Don Fredricson, Mike Runyon, Olcott Thompson, Jennifer Gardner, James Edmunds, Carlos Texidor, David Gerboth, Frank Lonergan, Jace Hall, Paige Clarkson, Scott Smith, Lina Prine, Pete McCallum, Andrew Copeland, Chris Baldridge, Shaney Starr, Jonathan Bauer, Todd McCaan, Ashley Carson, and Steve Webster.

Guests: Trevor Lane, and Gary White.

Commissioner Colm Willis called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

### 1. ADMINISTRATIVE

-Commissioner Colm Willis

#### Announcements

- None

### 2. APPROVE JANUARY 13, 2026, MCPSCC MEETING MINUTES (ACTION)

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve January 13, 2026, MCPSCC meeting minutes. Seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### 3. PRE-TRIAL RELEASE ORDER DISCUSSION

-Sheriff Nick Hunter and District Attorney (DA) Paige Clarkson

- April 21<sup>st</sup> work session on revising presiding judge's pre-trial release order:
  - Community partners invited, with room for additional interested participants.
- Presiding judge order in place of some form, for about four years, with minor adjustments:
  - Timing is seen as natural point to reassess effectiveness and alignment with statute.
- Statute states judicial districts to have a presiding judge order approved by Chief Justice:
  - Some elements are mandated by law, while others can be tailored locally.
- Identified gaps in current order:
  - Failure to Appear (FTA):
    - Requires five FTA's before held for arraignment as overriding circumstance.
    - Seen as too high:
      - Consumes enforcement and court resources.
      - Allows repeat nonappearance.
      - Potential reoffending.
  - Firearm offenses:
    - Gaps in firearm use cases, especially how actual discharges are treated.
    - Merit clearer categories as overriding circumstances justify holding for

- arraignment.
- Order impacts short-term holds for arraignment, not long-term custody decisions:
  - Goal:
    - Interrupt the cycle earlier
    - Get people before judge.
    - Connect with counsel and services.
- Jail Capacity Constraints:
  - Nominal capacity approximately 470 beds.
  - Effective capacity is closer to 445:
    - Single cells required for those with behavioral/significant mental health issues.
  - Weekend surges regularly push population close to 440:
    - Trigger capacity management concerns.
  - Population is increasingly “person offense” heavy:
    - More violent and high-risk individuals, requiring isolation
- Increased front door lodgings must balance with back door releases to avoid overcapacity.
- Intake deputies and officers need clear, simple rules:
  - It is obvious when someone should be held or released.
  - Not forced to interpret ambiguous criteria at intake with limited information, time and resources...
- Person with firearm case released because charge configuration didn’t meet “Category 3” standards under Senate Bill 48:
  - Need to align charges, categories, and jail policies to match safety expectations.
- Public safety override tool described:
  - Allows holding someone when they present clear threat to the public.
  - Rely on subjective narrative by officers and review by supervisors.
  - Interest in tightening criteria to make the process more objective and consistent.
- Oregon State Hospital (OSH) delays add pressure to jail capacity and operations:
  - Legally required to be taken within seven days
- Staff and leadership capacity update:
  - Jail staffing improved to point of having all deputy positions filled:
    - Some are still in background/psych and training.
  - Off-site hospital watches drain resources and affect ability to keep jail out of constant lockdown:
    - For individuals awaiting state hospital placement
- Core system partners working together to maximize safe bed use and refine order:
  - Sheriff, courts, DA, defense, and county leadership.
  - Plans to return to this council after draft is developed.

#### **4. 2025-2027 JUSTICE REINVESTMENT PROGRAM (JRP) SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT AND AMENDMENT REQUEST (ACTION)**

- Commander Mike Hartford

##### ***Summary of presentation:***

- JRP and House Bill 3069:
  - Criminal-justice grants consolidated into one grant structure starting in 2027–2029

- biennium.
  - 15% holdback of county awards:
    - Contingent on meeting defined outcome measures and goals.
- State Criminal Justice Commission (CJC) has been surveying counties to identify:
  - Potential outcome measures and goals.
  - Startup issues and data collection challenges.
  - Technical assistance for implementing local public safety plans for 2027–2029.
- Semi-annual report status:
  - CJC collected information from all counties:
    - Has not yet finalized statewide goals/metrics.
  - Metrics will drive if counties earn back 15% holdback in 2027–2029 biennium.
- Current (2025–2027) grant structure:
  - Split into:
    - Formula funds:
      - Based on proportion of supervised population.
    - Competitive funds:
      - Based on proposals and state scoring.
  - Counties instructed to initially budget assuming full competitive awards:
    - With understanding of needing to amend once final allocations are made.
- Final allocation required a reduction:
  - Competitive awards funded at 85% of requested amounts.
  - Amendment to align budget with actual award:
    - Keeping key positions Full Time Equivalent (FTE) funded.
- FTE protection strategy:
  - Focus on maintaining staffing for prison diversion programming:
    - One deputy district attorney and three community corrections officers.
  - Shifted some probation officer costs from competitive award to formula grant:
    - Keeps positions whole.
- Offsetting budget adjustments:
  - Reduction in housing subsidy funds of approximately \$93,973:
    - Short-term housing supports:
      - Such as transitional and Oxford housing for supervised individuals.
  - Savings on contract with Chemeketa Community College for Student Opportunities for Achieving Results (SOAR) educational/employment services:
    - About \$29,248 less than previously budgeted.
  - Use of more funds in prison diversion FTE without increasing total grant spending.
- Reduction in housing subsidies constitutes real reduction in direct client services:
  - Chemeketa savings reflect renegotiated contract terms rather than service cuts.

**MOTION:** A motion was made to approve the semiannual report and budget amendment for submission to CJC. Seconded, motion passed unanimously.

## **5. OREGON DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY STANDARDS AND TRAINING (DPSST) OVERSIGHT REPORT**

-Steve Webster

### **Summary of presentation:**

- Statistical Transparency of Policing (STOP) program and related legislative requirements:
  - DPSST coordinates program.
  - CJC analyzes STOP data:
    - Decision to STOP,
    - STOP outcomes.
    - Search findings.
  - Agency with statistically significant disparities in two or more analyses:
    - Must be reported to local public safety council on technical assistance and follow-up.
- For latest reporting period (data through 2025), Oregon State Police (OSP) flagged for:
  - STOP outcomes analysis:
    - Disparities in how often searched or cited for certain racial/ethnic groups compared to predicted rates.
    - Black motorists showed statistically significant differences in search outcomes:
      - Actual vs. predicted rates differed by about 0.4 percentage points.
      - Meaningful at this data scale).
    - Other outcome disparities for Asian/Pacific Islander, Black, Hispanic, and Middle Eastern groups.
  - Search findings analysis:
    - Hit-rate differences with significant disparity identified for Hispanic motorists relative to white motorists.
- Context and OSP response:
  - Current reports use rolling two-year data set:
    - Older years drop off as new data comes in.
  - Analysis suggests disparity influence may be by prior assistance in Multnomah County with Portland Police Bureau, which still affects two-year window.
  - OSP conducted internal dive into geography, patterns, and trends:
    - No clear, localized or officer specific issues were identified.
  - OSP instituted mandatory STOP program training for all sworn personnel in 2024:
    - Via DPSST's online platform.
  - Plan ongoing review and 2025 internal audit for emerging trends, compliance and best practices.
- Based on OSP's proactive analysis and remedial actions:
  - No additional technical assistance or corrective measures were deemed necessary.
- Council received the report and no questions were raised.

## **6. MACLAREN REPORT**

- DA Paige Clarkson

### ***Summary of presentation:***

- Received 63-page grand jury report on conditions and management at MacLaren Youth Correctional Facility:
  - Completed pursuant to DA's statutory duty to annually inspect correctional facilities in the county.
- Rationale for selecting MacLaren for an in-depth review in that year:
  - Recent, serious concerns about incident reporting:
    - Police reports and criminal referrals being forwarded timely and appropriately to OSP and DA's office.
  - Community concerns over escapes, safety issues, and transparency.
  - Leadership changes at MacLaren prompted by Governor:
    - Signaling statewide recognition of problems.
- Scope and process:
  - Dedicated grand jury focused solely on MacLaren for several months;
    - Did not juggle regular caseload while conducting this review.
  - Grand jury reviewed facility operations, safety, and management:
    - Heard and indicted criminal cases arising from MacLaren incidents.
  - Collaborated with Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) leadership and MacLaren staff:
    - Proactively cooperated and acknowledged need for improvements.
- Major themes and findings:
  - Identity crisis / mission drift:
    - Expected to be secure custody, mental health treatment provider, treatment center, and de facto placement for youth lacking stable support.
    - Broad mission undermines internal coherence and operational effectiveness.
  - Population and statutory changes:
    - Serious crimes start in juvenile court as measure 11 and waiver law changed:
      - More high-risk youth are at MacLaren.
    - Can remain until age 25, resulting in a majority of residents being legal adults.
  - Staffing, training, and workforce strain:
    - Staff, skills, and training can't keep up with mental and behavioral needs.
    - Pandemic hurt recruitment, retention, and training in all correctional and behavioral health systems.
  - Safety, contraband, and facility design:
    - Nearness of apartments to fence facilitates contraband coming to facility.
    - Need better controls, surveillance, and communication with community.
  - Gang activity and institutional culture:
    - Youth without gang ties may leave involved due to dynamics and influence.
    - Contrary to rehabilitative goals.
    - Presents serious community safety implications when youth are released.
  - Mental health and treatment gaps:
    - Limited mental health and treatment capacity relative to need.
    - Staff often manage highly complex cases without sufficient specialized resources.
  - Sexual assault and misconduct:
    - Significant concerns about sexual misconduct and abuse:
      - Both youth and staff involved.

- Some issues already public prior to grand jury's work.
    - Involved clearing large backlog of under or uninvestigated incidents.
  - Reporting and case handling:
    - Historical backlog included:
      - Incidents were not properly reported from MacLaren to OSP.
      - Reports reaching enforcement don't quickly go to charging decisions.
    - Grand jury process provides structure and deadlines to review and:
      - Indict cases in Marion County's jurisdiction where appropriate.
      - Primarily adult age individuals at MacLaren.
    - Youth charging may occur in home county under juvenile jurisdiction rules:
      - Not all cases were handled locally.
  - Parole, reentry, and community impact:
    - Many residents' reenter community after aging out or completing sentences.
    - Evidence of criminal activity in community by youth on parole:
      - Show's the need for improved coordination, planning, and accountability.
- Backlog resolution:
  - Historical reporting backlog for related incidents has been substantially cleared:
    - Strong cooperation from OYA and OSP.
  - New incidents move through investigative and prosecutorial channels quickly.
- Ongoing and future steps:
  - Superintendent is willing to attend council meeting to provide updates and answers.
  - Updated documents and progress reports are being shared with council.
  - Woodburn is reengaging with MacLaren to rebuild communication and partnership.
  - Report is meant to inform and not mandate specific changes:
    - Legislators and state partners encouraged to use it for policy decisions.
- Broader context:
  - Current statutory facility review focuses on OSH.
  - Cooperation and access may be challenging due to litigation and complex systems.
  - Seen as model for what can be when a state facility works with local public safety partners.

## 7. OPEN DISCUSSION

-Commissioner Colm Willis

### *Summary of presentation:*

- Child Abuse Prevention Month:
  - April is Child Abuse Prevention Month.
  - Information on training courses available, with events such as:
    - Session at State and Community Center.
    - "Best in Hope" community needs meeting.
- REACH (Rapid Engagement Assessment and Community Health Team):
  - Pilot launched January 20 under Clean, Safe and Healthy initiative.
  - Team composition:
    - A paramedic.
    - An Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).
    - A mental health associate.

- Mission:
  - Respond to appropriate 911 calls in place of fire engines for behavioral health, substance use, and low acuity medical calls:
  - Divert high 911 utilizers from emergency rooms to appropriate services.
- About 30% of individuals are taken to non-Emergency Room (ER) destinations.
- Geographic focus:
  - Initially downtown.
  - Now it is split between downtown and Northeast (NE) Lancaster corridor.
- Regular weekly coordination between Salem Fire and county:
  - Three- and six-month performance updates planned.
- City and county agreed to extend pilot to full year:
  - Partners are exploring grant funding to sustain and expand operations.
- Critical Response Group (CRG) Mapping Project:
  - School district engaged CRG to map all facilities after bond related construction.
  - Outputs include:
    - Professional fire evacuation maps.
    - Mapping of Automated External Defibrillator (AEDs, evacuation chairs, cameras, access points, and other critical infrastructure.
    - Indoor and outdoor mapping to help with law, fire, and EMS during emergencies.
  - Maps are integrated into dispatch and agency systems:
    - Accessible to law enforcement and fire partners.
  - Contract includes ongoing updates as buildings change.
  - Public safety agencies view maps as major improvement for incident command and school safety operations:
    - Especially combined with standardized training and drills across agencies.
  - Joint training scheduled May 28<sup>th</sup> with partners to practice use of maps in exercises.
- Mass Incident Preparedness and Medical Response:
  - County adding medics to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team:
    - First time in about 20 years.
    - Leverages partnership with Marion County Fire District #1.
  - Medics will improve ability to deliver rapid medical care in high-risk incidents:
    - Including at schools.
  - Annual multi-agency drills standardize skills and response protocol for critical incidents.
- Medically Managed Withdrawal (Detox) and Sobering Beds:
  - Ribbon cutting for new medically managed withdrawal program:
    - Planned for June 5<sup>th</sup>.
  - Provide a safe place for individuals to stabilize instead of going to jail or the ER.
  - Reduce risk to individuals on the street and lessen pressure on jails and hospitals.
  - Invitations and details to be sent to council members and stakeholders.
- Future Meeting Locations and Site Engagement:
  - Interest expressed in resuming occasional off-site council meetings at key facilities as was done pre-pandemic.
  - Offers made to host future meetings at school facilities and potentially at MacLaren.

Commissioner Willis adjourned the meeting.