

DRAFT

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL
MINUTES

November 6, 2018 4:00 PM
Courthouse Square
Salem, OR

MCPSCC: Mark Caillier, Kevin Cameron, Janet Carlson, Rob Carney, Paige Clarkson, Kim Doster, Jayne Downing, Jim Ferraris, Don Frederickson, Courtland Geyer, Tamra Goettsch, Roland Herrera, Justin Hopkins, Mike Iwai, Jessica Kampfe, Greg Leo, Pete McCallum, Todd McCann, Ed McKenney, Cary Moller, Jerry Moore, Tracy Prall, Mike Runyon, Jeff Wood, and Hitesh Parekh (recorder).

GUESTS: Courtney Knox Busch, Cathy Clark, Jimmy Jones, Alison Kelley, Jolene Kelley, Michael Livingston, Sarah Owens, Kristin Retherford.

1. ADMINISTRATIVE (INFORMATION/ACTION)

Meeting called to order at 5:04 P.M. by Commissioner Janet Carlson.

Welcome and Introductions

Attendees introduced themselves.

Recap of East Salem Town Hall

- Excellent turnout in that more than 100 people attended, and event was live streamed on Facebook, so even those at home could participate.
- County received advance questions from some of the residents which enabled the county to select the right staff to be present.
- These are individuals that are not living in incorporated Salem, but they want city services. So at the meeting it was unusual to hear them say they *want to* pay more for city lights and public safety services.
- Good for the commissioners and the sheriff to hear directly from the attendees that the county is going in the right direction in terms of adding lighting and public safety resources for the area. Commissioners did a great job explaining that a combined lighting district was more efficient than 35 separate lighting districts.
- Complimented the commissioners and staff for being well prepared to answer tough questions. People look for immediate answers and staff was professional in how it responded to their questions. Impressed by presentations made by county staff. Didn't try to dodge issues. People felt responded to, so great to have county staff there.
- Did get the impression that we need to be better communicators with the residents. Will communicate through e-mails and also have the Marion County Public Works Department provide regular updates. Better communications translates to less anxiety and residents assisting the county with setting priorities.

Approve October 9, 2018 Minutes

MOTION: Mark Callier moved to approve the October 9, 2018 meeting minutes. Seconded by Ed McKenney. A voice vote was unanimous.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

- St. Paul Mayor Kim Wallis and council member Greg Leo are working on a traffic safety meeting in the north county area for early December.
- Groundbreaking for the new Salem Police Facility is November 9 at noon.
- Commissioner Cameron presented Commissioner Carlson with a certificate of thanks for chairing the council for the last four years.
- More than \$38,000 was raised at the MCRI “Giving People a Second Chance” breakfast event held on October 25, twice as much as at the previous events.

2. LEGISLATIVE CONCEPTS 2019 SESSION

Commissioner Carlson presented this item. Summary of presentation:

- Prior to each long legislative session, the council holds a briefing meeting with Marion County’s state legislative delegation at the Capitol.
 - For the 2019 session, the legislative briefing meeting will be held on January 29.
 - This is a good opportunity for legislators to ask the council questions and for council members to hear what the membership is working on.
- Staff is working on the legislative agenda document. In addition to legislation, the draft includes the council’s accomplishments.

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

- If either justice reinvestment and/or community corrections funding is reduced, this will have a detrimental impact on Marion County.

MENTAL HEALTH

- \$16 million of the 2017-19 community mental health budget was funded through marijuana tax revenue. If marijuana tax revenues are not used in 2019-21 to fund the community mental health budget, then those dollars will have to be backfilled from somewhere else.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

- Unlawful use of motor vehicle. In 2018, the Oregon District Attorneys Association, Oregon Department of Justice, and Oregon Criminal Defense Lawyers Association negotiated language in House Bill 4161 that would have made it easier to prosecute motor vehicle thefts. The bill died in committee because of disagreements about the costs of implementing the bill. This legislation moves the negotiated language forward for adoption in 2019.
- Expediting Oregon testing for DUI influence. Oregon State Police is currently behind in testing 2,200 urine samples. Marijuana stays in a person’s blood for a month, so it doesn’t mean the individual was impaired by it at the time of the citation. Without quantification, a prosecutor is unable to prove these cases in court. This bill addresses both these issues.
- Law Enforcement Data System (LEDS) firearms. The purpose of the bill is to manage guns from getting into the hands of the wrong people. If someone is found unfit to proceed in court (such as the 370 “aid and assist” population) and is not supposed to

have a firearm, courts will be required to note this in LEDS, managed by the Oregon State Police. When the individual attempts to buy a firearm, State Police will be notified.

- The Oregon State Sheriffs' Association and Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police will meet on November 29 to craft their legislative agenda priorities.

VICTIM SERVICES

- District Attorney used to prosecute parents who had drug paraphernalia in their homes that was accessible to children.
 - Then came an adverse case law making it impossible for district attorneys to proceed if the drugs were merely "present." Drugs had to be pervasive in the household.
 - Proposed legislation would change language to allow district attorneys to prosecute these parents again.
 - This is a population that has addiction issues and is ripe for intervention.
 - Consequences will result in a misdemeanor, but with probation the individual could at least be put into treatment.
- Oregon Alliance to End Violence Against Women is seeking additional funding for the Oregon Domestic and Sexual Violence Services Fund. Funding is very flexible, so service providers are able to do a lot more for victims.
- Housing for victims of domestic violence is also a very significant issue.
- Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council Steering Committee will meet on November 27 to develop recommendations on these legislative items before the full council meets again in December.

3. HOMELESS INITIATIVE/SOBERING CENTER

Sobering Center

City of Salem Strategic Initiatives Manager Courtney Knox Busch presented this item. Summary of presentation:

- Foundational work on the sobering center idea started with the Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative in 2016.
- City of Salem developed a strategic plan in the fall of 2017 which included addressing homelessness and housing as a primary concern.
 - There is a high need in the community for a sobering center.
 - Center will decrease the use of the emergency room and county jail.
 - In November 2016, a task force started looking at the development of a sobering center.
 - A partnership of Marion County, City of Salem, Salem Hospital, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency, and Bridgeway Recovery Services has met to discuss building and operating the sobering center.
 - Partners still need \$188,000 for the center's annual operating costs.
 - Bridgeway Recovery Services will provide services at the center.
 - Community Action Agency has already purchased a property at 615 Commercial Street in Salem with Mid-Valley Community Action Agency's ARCHES program.
 - The sobering center will be co-located at this address. The cost to remodel the ARCHES building to accommodate the ten-bed center is approximately \$508,000, with an annual operating cost of \$638,000.
- Marion County, City of Salem, and the community at large is committed to building this sobering center, but needs to ensure there is sustained funding for the center to survive.
- The capital costs to remodel the facility have been secured, but not the operating costs.

- Expect the center to open in March 2019 or later.

Summary of discussion:

- There is a difference between sobering and detox services:
 - Sobering is for people who cannot manage themselves and are inebriated.
 - The sobering center is a place for people to stay for a day or less.
 - Sobering centers have nurses on staff, but not physicians.
 - Bridgeway Recovery Services manages a 24-bed detox center for clients who are being treated for alcohol, methamphetamine, and opioids.
 - Detox is a process that takes up to a week and the client is medically managed.
 - Insurance and Medicaid will pay for detox and substance abuse treatment, but not for sobering, which is why there are only approximately 35 sobering centers in the nation.
 - Detox has nursing and physician staff and transitional support mentors.
 - They decide if person needs to stay in the detox center, or go to the emergency room.
 - 24/7 staffing is needed for both detox and sobering centers.
- There have been sobering and detox centers here in the past in Marion County, but they have not survived.
 - Law enforcement cannot take people to a center against their will.
 - Sometimes clients will misbehave at the sobering center and are banned from returning.
 - Law enforcement has to take care of these individuals too and keep them safe for a 24-hour period.
 - People in need of sobering services usually end up going to the emergency room which is frequently at capacity, expensive, and limited in the number of people it can treat.
- Since approximately fourteen individuals a day are at the emergency room and the proposed sobering center will have ten beds, this will relieve the pressure on the hospital.

Homeless Initiative

Introduction

Commissioner Carlson introduced this topic. Summary of presentation:

- The Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative Task Force, a collaborative effort among the cities of Salem, Keizer, Marion, and Polk counties, met in 2016 to discuss regional housing and homelessness before developing [a strategic plan](#) and concluding its work in 2017.
- Plan delineates multiple strategies to affect homelessness, including increasing the supply of housing, shelters, and transitional housing.
 - It also highlights public safety, special targeted populations, and victims of domestic violence.
- To operationalize the plan, task force members worked with the Mid-Willamette Council of Governments that hired a homeless initiative program coordinator.
 - The coordinator developed a detailed analysis of the resources for the homeless in Marion County as well as an inventory map.
- A steering committee made up of representatives from Marion County and the cities of Salem, Keizer, Dallas, and Monmouth set direction for the coordinator's work.

Summary of City of Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark's presentation:

- Community leaders are trying to get ahead of the problem of housing and homelessness.
- This is not a jurisdictional issue, but a complex community issue.

- Requires a coordinator who is on the front lines with a knowledge of all the resources available in the community for homelessness.
 - Someone able to identify and close system gaps.
- Today, outcomes are materializing from the strategic plan.
 - Locally, seeing additional resources for domestic violence, veterans, and youth services.
 - The most important outcome is that homelessness has a human face.
- Public safety entities have been excellent partners in recognizing this is a long-term problem and helping to develop long-term solutions.
- Civic leaders are passionately committed to serving the homeless in a practical way.

Summary of Urban Development Director Kristin Retherford’s presentation:

- The coordinator worked hard at laying down some foundations for the work on the homeless by developing a [resource and inventory service map](#).
 - This work will help the city prioritize its allocation of Community Development Block Grant and urban renewal funds.
 - The city allocated urban renewal, state, and federal funding to finance the Cornerstone project with the 180 affordable units.
 - City wants to replicate this model for the Fisher Road residential project.
- The City of Salem also convened a downtown homeless solutions task force to discuss complaints the city received from business and property owners frustrated with the homeless.
 - The task force met from February 2018 to August 2018 and developed several recommendations.
 - One recommendation was how to meet basic human needs for the homeless.
 - This included toilet, shower, laundry, and storage issues, and when it was appropriate for someone to call 911.
 - Another recommendation was having some type of ongoing structure to consolidate social service providers, city departments, and the business community to address daily issues around the homeless population.
 - The task force’s plan will be finalized in the next few weeks.
- There are overlapping elements between the city and MWVCOG’s work plan.
- With homelessness, one of the biggest challenges the city has had is the setting of expectations and communication with the public.
- There are significant limitations on what the city can do with a homeless individual, particularly from a law enforcement perspective.
- City is working on identifying who a citizen can call besides dialing 911.

Summary of discussion:

- City police deal with homeless people all the time.
 - There is a reason someone is homeless and it usually involves drugs, alcohol, and/or mental health issues.
 - Law enforcement cannot do much if a homeless person is sleeping in a business storefront, but not completely blocking the sidewalk.
 - People are reaching a point of becoming less compassionate about this.
 - Those homeless people visible in downtown Salem are the hardest to reach.
 - Police officers may offer services multiple times, but people refuse because the service location prohibits drinking and drugs.

- Problem is people see a homeless person clearly in a crisis who is not harming him/herself or someone else, but this individual is making businesses and shoppers uncomfortable.
 - The public becomes frustrated and angry that city officials cannot do anything.
- City of Salem Housing Authority was able to house the first 100 of the “hard to house” through the Housing Rental Assistance Program, or HRAP.
 - City has also issued its first community report on homelessness.
- Each of the candidates currently being housed in the HRAP program has been thoroughly vetted.
 - Very few were born in Salem, but (like most people in Salem) most moved here ten to fifteen years ago from somewhere else.
- There is no straightforward path to solving the homelessness problem.
- While there is frustration, people also want to help the homeless, but are confused about where they can donate funds to help.
- Agencies should advertise giving opportunities before the holidays.
- In San Diego, law enforcement officers created a public education piece which altered the perception people had of people who are homeless.
 - Message was not to give money to the individual out on the street, but to the non-profit that is providing services to them.
- Marion County Health Advisory Board is trying to find ways to assist.
- Salem’s homeless problem is improving compared to Portland and Eugene.

4. CRIMINAL JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Marion County Circuit Court Presiding Judge Tracy Prall presented this item. Summary of presentation:

- The Criminal Justice Advisory Council is working on a pre-trial release process.
 - Once a defendant supplies the court with a phone number, the court will send the defendant a reminder call when to appear in court.
 - If defendants do not honor their court dates, they are designated as a “failure to appear” which results in a warrant for their arrest.
 - Court is trying to prevent this.
- Council is also working on cite and release warrants starting at the Marion County Jail Annex.
- Annex will cite and release a person in lieu of bringing the individual into custody.
- Sheriff’s Office will train other entities on the use of the Public Safety Checklist tool.
 - If officer in the field has a warrant that could be a cite and release, this decision can be made in the field.
 - Not every warrant will be cite and release, but hoping some are so jail beds will remain vacant, even if only for a few hours.
- Sheriff’s Office is will hire a pre-trial monitor position by January 1, 2019.
 - Will allow custody releases.
 - Defense attorneys, district attorneys, and the Sheriff’s Office are on the pre-trial workgroup team along with other police agencies and Salem Municipal Judge Jane Aiken.
 - Outcomes will hopefully reduce pretrial use of county jail beds, and free up officers to do more important work out in the field.

5. EMERGING ISSUES/PROBLEM SOLVING

Rob Carney announced that the League of Women Voters will be holding a lecture on redistricting.

ADJOURNED 5:56 PM