

**MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**

**July 14, 2020 4:00 PM**  
**Courthouse Square**  
**Salem, OR**

**MCPSCC:** Mark Caillier, Kevin Cameron, Rob Carney, John Vandreal, Paige Clarkson, Jayne Downing, Jim Ferraris, Don Frederickson, Tamra Goettsch, Troy Gregg, Michael Iwai, Jessica Kampfe, Joe Kast, Alison Kelley, Pastor Garland King, Representative Rick Lewis, Pete McCallum, Todd McCann, Ed McKenney, Jerry Moore, Tim Murphy, Tracy Prall, Mike Runyon, Shaney Starr, Hitesh Parekh (recorder).

**GUESTS:** Susana Escobedo-Bogarin, Representative Raquel Moore-Green, Cydney Nestor, John Vandreal

**1. ADMINISTRATIVE (INFORMATION/ACTION)**

**Approve October 8, 2019 meeting minutes**

MOTION: Jayne Downing made a motion to approve the October 8, 2019 meeting minutes. Seconded by Ed McKenney. A voice vote was unanimous.

**1. ADMINISTRATIVE (INFORMATIONAL/ACTION)**

Meeting called to order at 4:05 P.M. by Commissioner Kevin Cameron.

- Introductions
- Council's last meeting took place in January and the executive committee of the council met on June 23.

**Memberships**

- Welcome (and farewell) to John Vandreal who has temporarily replaced Cliff Carpentier as the Salem Keizer School District's Director of Safety, Security and Risk Management until former Marion County Lieutenant Chris Baldrige assumes this position. Council needs to remove Mr. Carpentier and add Mr. Baldrige as a council member.
- At the June 23, 2020 Executive Committee meeting of the MCPSCC, the committee recommended appointing Tim Murphy, Chief Executive Officer of Bridgeway Recovery Services as a member of the MCPSCC. On July 8, the Marion County Board of Commissioners formally appointed Mr. Murphy to the council and reappointed council members Pete McCallum, Pastor Garland King, and Keizer Councilor Roland Herrera for an additional three year term.

**Ratify Letters**

1. Letter in support of an IMPACTS Grant Application (Improving People's Access to Community, Treatments and Supports).

- Senate Bill 973 (2019) allocated approximately \$10 M for pilot counties to designate and implement programs and services for individuals with mental health or substance use disorders, and prevent their involvement with the criminal justice system, hospitalizations and institutional placements.
- Application was made by the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

MOTION: Ed McKenney made a motion to ratify the IMPACTS letter. Seconded by Rob Carney. A voice vote was unanimous.

2. MCPSCC Executive Committee recommended sending out a letter to Marion County’s legislative delegation (during the first special session) highlighting the county’s concerns with several of the legislative proposals including officer use of force.

- Recommended the legislature convene work groups first and invite all aggrieved parties to attend and discuss legislative proposals.

MOTION: Don Frederickson made a motion to ratify the letter to the legislative delegation. Seconded by Rob Carney. Judge Prall abstained and Jessica Kampfe voted “No”.

### **Approve January 14, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

MOTION: Ed McKenney made a motion to approve the January 14, 2020 meeting minutes. Seconded by Rob Carney. A voice vote was unanimous.

### **Upcoming Events/Announcements**

- Marion County Health and Human Services Department is hosting a test event with the University of Oregon in Salem to research the validity of using saliva as a test medium for COVID-19.
- Woodburn has a COVID-19 testing event at Centennial Park.
  - Wants to test two to three hundred people per day. All welcome.

### **2. Overview of Public Safety in Marion County in the time of COVID-19**

- Things have changed since the MCPSCC’s January 2020 meeting.
- COVID-19 has created a challenging time for everyone, local businesses, schools, parents, teachers, hospitals, and the medical system.
  - The Governor shut down the economy in mid- March to prevent overrunning the hospitals.
- Nation saw a terrible incident of a citizen being strangled to death on television.
- We’ve asked the council members to each give us a five minute overview of how COVID-19 has changed their operations.

### **City Police**

#### **Chief Jerry Moore, Salem Police Department**

- City made a declaration mid-March that more than two people could not congregate on the streets of Salem. They had to social distance.
  - This was implemented because of the volume of individuals experiencing homeless in the county.
  - City provided two parks the homeless could go to and social distance, Wallace Marine and Cascade Park.
- City of Salem shut down the Civic Center and city employees started working from home.
  - This impacted the courts.
  - The city police department shut its doors but individuals can still communicate with officers in person to report a crime.
- Oregon STOP data went down to about two activities per day per agency - so very little traffic enforcement occurring throughout the state.
- Biggest COVID-19 challenges were the protests that occurred in the city from the George Floyd incident- some were permitted and others not.
- Biggest issue the city has now is that there is a lot of controversy – city no longer issuing permits for activity in parks or anywhere else, simply because crowd limit is ten.
- There is no expectation police are going to enforce masks and social gatherings.

### Chief Ferraris, police chief, City of Woodburn

- City of Woodburn is following the Governor's orders.
- Seeing marked decreases in certain crime, mostly low level livability issues, property, and auto crimes.
- Not seeing the number of child abuse cases accustomed to see. Schools have been closed and daily contact with school resource officers was the best way of finding out about child abuse.
  - Concerned auto theft rate is out of control since it increased by 100% over a 90 day period.
- Concerned property crimes have increased 15%, non-criminal domestic disturbances are up 57%, and domestic violence crimes are up 12%.
- To limit contact between officers and members of the public, department has reduced the number of vehicle stops it normally makes.
  - Accepting complaints by phone and limiting face to face meetings.
  - City and police facilities remain closed to the public.
- Just launched a photo speed enforcement program- but on hold since counterproductive to generate citations when people are financially impacted by COVID-19.
- Luckily we have not had any covid-19 cases.

### **Joe Kast, Marion County Sheriff**

- On enforcement side county has mirrored what Cities of Salem and Woodburn have done.
- Had a few COVID-19 cases in the jail-they have been taken care of.
  - In March jail capacity management plan was suspended for six months. This allowed changes to jail operations.
  - By April 1 Sheriff had spoken with all Marion County police chiefs and requested they not transport people to jail unless absolutely necessary.
  - This reduction in bookings (and reopening a jail pod) enabled the single celling of inmates.
  - Everyone that comes into custody is being single celled and quarantined for two weeks before we put them with the general population.
  - All staff and anyone who enters the jail and transition center are all checked for COVID-19.
  - But Sheriff's Office does not have staff to oversee the inmates in summer. Will shut a pod down and double cell everyone again.
- With the decrease in the jail population (from 415 to 300) jail pre-trial numbers have grown exponentially from 60 to 324 and will continue to increase.
- Most community corrections programs have been shut down.

### **Mike Iwai, Oregon State Police**

- COVID-19 initially reduced statewide activity, but this has changed over the past four to six months.
  - Troopers are being cautious when responding to incidents.
  - Had a huge increase in traffic issues, speeders on I-5.

### **Troy Gregg, Marion County Juvenile Department**

- Majority of the probation staff started working from home.
- Guaranteed Attendance Program, GAP and detention program numbers have decreased significantly since started tracking youth with GPS tracking units.
- Difficult because juvenile work is about making connections with youth.
- Have not had any staff test positive at this time.
  - Employees gradually returning to work from the office.

- Probation officers do home visits but stay outside the home.
- Shelter program and GAP only works at night since kids are at school during the day.
- Everything is now open including Fresh Start Market.

#### **OYA**

- Oregon Youth Authority has youth all around the state so very complicated to go and see them.
- All facilities now open for visits, except MaClaren.
- Have had some positive tests amongst staff and youth, so are working with the Oregon Health Authority to mitigate.

#### **Paige Clarkson, Marion County District Attorney**

- Biggest challenge in the District Attorney's Office has been relationship with the circuit court.
- Also questions of how to maintain obligation to victims, the accused, and uphold their constitutional rights.
- Worked closely with Sheriff's Office and police agencies.
- Court processes have been constantly adjusted based upon Governor's directives.
- Legislative changes and varying presiding judge orders came out as a result of the Oregon Judicial Department chief justice's order.
- Weekly calls with the Marion County Association of Defenders.
- All doing the best they can.

Susana Escobedo-Bogarín covered victim assistance.

- Marion County District Attorney's Office, Victim Assistance Division was fortunate enough to maintain most of its services during this time.
- Using phones but difficult since much of work involves connecting with advocates in person.
- These last four months have seen an increase in need for emergency financial support - particularly amongst victims of domestic and sexual violence. These types of crimes arise in isolation especially when victims stay home with their abusers.
  - Need emergency financial assistance, crisis intervention, and safety planning.
  - High demand for transportation, emergency hotel vouchers, security cameras, door locks, moving expenses.
- Last few months saw a steep increase in the number of protective orders.
- Victim Assistance calls the victims after their court hearing to do safety planning.
- Also a high number of contested hearings.
- Still responding to victims of sexual assault calls- but cannot go to the hospital.
- We work closely with the hospital over the phone to provide victim advocacy.
- Working with court staff and partners to meet community needs.

#### **Jessica Kampfe – Public Defender of Marion County, Inc.**

- Ongoing work with the Oregon Criminal Justice Advisory Council.
- Communicating with the Marion County District Attorney's Office, circuit court, Sheriff's Office to coordinate access to the court/work together to reduce the court's pretrial-population in a way that is safe.
- Marion County's courts are functioning a lot better than some other county courts.
  - Have a more collaborative approach to keep the courts up and running.
  - Clients are still getting arrested and need their cases to be adjudicated.
  - In early March everyone worked from home.
- Made it hard to work with client population since some don't have access to the internet, address changes a lot, and hard to build trust over the phone.

- As the pandemic continues, seeing more clients losing their employment which is effecting their ability to participate in services, housing, and overall stability.
- Court has been working hard to keep everything open, but pursuant to the chief justice's order, have in custody jury trials, but no access for out of custody jury trials.
- Challenging to have jury trials.
- Questions about if these can be kept fair during this climate, questions about how you move that many humans through the courthouse to keep them safe.
- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the public defender's office never had a caseload of over 700 clients. Currently well over 1,000 clients.
- Not decreasing anytime soon.

#### **Tracy Prall- Marion County Circuit Court Presiding Judge**

- Marion County is a great place to be in the justice system because of our hard work with the public defender's office, Marion County Association of Defenders, the district attorney's office, and county jail.
- All worked very hard to try the most important cases in our community.
- Put a plan together, and rearranged the furniture for proper social distancing.
- Other counties are continuing to hold adults in custody beyond 180 days. We are not.
- We are meeting the original trial dates set.
- Initially we sent a lot of the judges and staff home.
- Just had a core team here initially for 8 weeks, after which judges and staff returned.
- Went from an individual calendaring county where every judge has an individual caseload, to a master calendar docket.
- Marion County is doing far more than any other county to make sure justice is served.
- Governor's required mask wearing order did not apply to Marion County but Judge Prall has asked everyone entering the courthouse to wear one since masks make jurors feel more comfortable.
- May not be able to do civil cases until January or February 2021.
- Next hurdle is the "out of custody" criminal cases.
- County has assisted the court with leasing the Grand Theater building on High Street for six weeks.
- Just started mandatory settlement conferences on all out of custody criminal cases that were set for trial between March 17 and August 1.
- Following these, we will be starting jury trials in the Grand Theater for out of custody cases.
- Criminal Justice Advisory Council is communicating weekly by phone.

#### **Jayne Downing, Center for Hope and Safety**

- Number of shelter hearings have dramatically decreased. Calls to abuse hotline calls decreased by approximately 70%.
- Daycare has very few children right now.
- Department of Human Services, DHS, is only required to phone in or video chat to check with children in care.
  - DHS is in the process of trying to implement limited visitations between biological parents and children, but proving to be challenging.
- Advocacy continues with community corrections, domestic violence response team advocates and the Salem Police Department.
- We are all working together to coordinate services.
- Want to help victim advocacy programs since they have helped us.
- Center for Hope and Safety started planning in January 2020.

- Slow for a while. Then more than 10,000 walked in. Quite a shock to our system.
- Still providing shelter (which was at capacity when the shelter in place order came down).
- Then we had an 83% increase in requests for shelter in March over the same time last year.
- April increase was 53%.
- Implemented many changes to ensure staff are safe, but no staff and shelter services cut.
- Received lots of calls from other counties.
- Have also been getting people into permanent housing at this time.
- Very grateful to the legislature which gave us some money to provide emergency housing.
- Doing very well so far.

#### **Alison Kelley, Liberty House**

- Pandemic was like pouring jet fuel on a fire when it comes to child maltreatment.
- Since schools are closed and school resource officers don't have access to school kids, Liberty House saw 25% more children in January through June than in 2019.
- Referrals are consistent. Seeing kids on a daily basis.
- Our multidisciplinary team seeing a large influx of child abuse cases categorized as severe abuse: multiple broken bones in infants 1-2 months old.
- We have a lot of safety equipment and implemented social distancing immediately.
- Sent clinical non-therapeutic staff home.
- Our ten therapists have iPads so able to maintain 95% continuity and productivity during these past four months with clients.
- Hiring two additional physicians.

#### **Shaney Starr: CASA**

- Our office never closed down, still fully staffed and business as usual.
- Kudos to our CASA volunteers.
- Have a training that starts next Monday: Twelve new advocates to train virtually.

#### **Tamra Goettsch: Community Services**

- Our economic development division put out \$800,000 in business recovery grants.
- County fair was cancelled but moved to a virtual fair.
- Had a virtual auction for youth that raised approximately \$400,000 online.
- Last year we managed to raise \$600,000.
- Children and Families Commission working on a project called Hope Alive for East Salem area that encompasses Haysville Elementary, Scott Elementary, Stevens, and McKay schools.
- Supporting the school district since it is difficult for young people to return to school.

#### **Tim Murphy: Bridgeway Recovery Services**

- Bridgeway Recovery medical detox is the only detox program in Marion and Polk County.
- In March reduced beds from 24 to 12 for social distancing, but are now up to 20.
- Outpatient work done in collaboration with the Sheriff's Office - telemedicine.
- Seeing everyone, spending a lot of time with therapist team and clients.
- Closed two 8 bed residential programs, one for men and the other for women.
- Participating with Oregon Department of Corrections and Marion County Sheriff's Office to assist women released from Coffee Creek Correctional Facility.
  - These have a high rate of opioid addiction history and will overdose when released.
  - Using Vivitrol medication for them.
  - Operating as well as we can.
- Great relationship with the City of Salem Police Department and Marion County Sheriff's Office.

- Recently had some transient activity at one of our detox clinics which the City of Salem took care of.

Q: I find the victim assistance statistics very alarming. There was an expectation that we may see an increase in this kind of behavior. Is that what is happening?

Jayne: Today is my 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary. We went through several national and global events such as 9-11 and H1N1. Told my staff it will get quiet and then we will see a lot of activity- but I have never seen anything like this. Sheltering at home is very difficult for victims. A lot of the sheltering programs shut down and didn't admit anyone so they couldn't even go there. Abusers enjoy taking advantage of victims in isolation. Abusers told victims they will expose them to COVID or tell everyone that victim has COVID so victim cannot get any services. Volume of psychological abuse just escalated. Have been told by other communities that this will go on for another year. If things are shut down again will see another increase. So preparing for another calm and surge.

Alison: Worse for children since you are now not going to school and have no access to school resource officers. Our detectives and law enforcement partners have been very caring and compassionate. Liberty house is one of the few child abuse centers that kept things open and moving.

### **FIRST 2020 SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE**

Summary of presentation from Paige Clarkson:

- All six of the police accountability bills were passed and signed by the Governor.
- Topic the district attorneys were involved in (and law enforcement cares about) is the review of officer involved use of deadly force incidents.
  - The Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council recommended the legislature assign it to a special committee to discuss further.
  - Broad complicated area of the law.
  - Marion County has an effective, robust process it has been following since 2005.
- HB 4210 removes the authority of courts to impose personal and commercial driving privilege suspensions for failure to pay traffic-related fines or comply with requirements ordered in lieu of fines on or after October 1, 2020.
- There were a lot of court extension timelines - all passed.

Summary of presentation from Representative Rick Lewis:

- Representative Lewis is on Joint Committee on Transparent Policing and Use of Force Reform created by HB 4201.
  - Bipartisan group of senators and representatives.
  - Committee received testimony from college professors from around the country, but had very little data on what is going on in Oregon.
  - Hoping to see more Oregon specific data.
- Committee has a mandate to return in December and propose some legislation regarding police reform for the 2021 legislative session.
  - Also a few "fix it" bills for the special session.
- Concern that we're rushing through a lot with very little time to ask questions, or having law enforcement professionals clarify things.
- Need a national database not a state database since police applicants come from other states.
- Need to hear from both sides before coming to a conclusion.
- Two things to watch for: 1) A ballot measure to legalize mushrooms and 2) Initiative Petition (IP) 44 that decriminalizes drug possession for low level drugs in Oregon and expands drug treatment. Both have enough signatures to go on the ballot.
  - The MCPSCC will continue to monitor IP 44.

- Other bills that passed were a ban on choke holds, a bill that causes police officers to intervene when another is using excessive force, a bill that creates a Department of Public Safety Standards Testing data base, and restriction on the use of tear gas during a riot situation.

#### **Special Legislative Session**

- Looking at a 17%-20% reduction in state funds for community corrections. This could translate to widespread impacts.

#### **4. POLICING IN MARION COUNTY**

Commissioner Cameron presented this item. Overview of presentation:

- Commissioner Cameron held a Zoom meeting in June with Marion County police chiefs Jerry Moore, John Teague, and Jim Ferraris, and Sheriff Kast to discuss the national crisis in policing.
  - One of the local topics that surfaced was School Resource Officers, SROs.
  - The council’s representative police chiefs and the Sheriff are recommending that we keep police resource officers.
- Marion County District Attorney Paige Clarkson showed a video of district attorney Kyana Hughes, a former Department of Health Services caseworker, who worked on child welfare cases before coming to work in the District Attorney’s Office.
- Ms. Hughes testified before the Salem-Keizer School Board on June 23 and made a unique point in her testimony that when a report of an abuse is made there are specific laws that require DHS and law enforcement to investigate that case together.
- The general public doesn’t always understand how SROs keep students safe.
- Ms. Clarkson wanted group to understand how concerned she is if SROs are removed from schools.

John Vandreal: Salem- Keizer School District- Interim Director of Safety and Risk Management:

- The Salem Keizer School District rewrote contract with SROs to emphasize prevention.
  - SROs are not in school to arrest kids - in schools to prevent arrests- but there are times when they do have to make arrests.
  - Increased their role in the last decade on prevention models like behavioral threat assessment, suicide risk assessment, sexual misconduct, fire setting.
  - Also receiving standard trainings on equity, care, restorative practice, implicit bias.
- 42,000 kids in the district and between 5-7 thousand employees served by eleven SROs.
  - Need more SROs who know how to work with youth.
- District is in Phase 1 which is a “listening session” led by superintendent Christy Perry. Phase 2 is community engagement to decide if program should be kept, and if so, what that would look like in the way of modifications.
  - Unsure who will make the decision to keep program or not.
- The role of director of safety and risk management is to make the education environment peaceful for every student.

Commissioner Cameron suggested council could adopt a resolution in support of retaining SROs in Marion County School Districts.

#### Summary of Discussion

Pete McCallum: Administrators, faculty, and staff of each school are supportive of SROs, even though in some schools they have become the disciplinarians of that school. Proud of the Woodburn City Council and the Mayor who unanimously endorsed the SRO program – now in the hands of the school board. SROs do not want to be involved in our discipline process- nor should they- they have other things to do.



Councilor Rob Carney: Use an accumulation of testimony we have had today (Alison and Shaney) when drafting resolution.

Jayne Downing: Liked Mr. Vandreal's comment about the listening piece, incorporating the things district learned, and (like the letter we sent to the legislature on policing) having that balance in there. Important to make statement that we're listening to the folks that have concerns and learning to make the program better.

John Vandreal: Holds the program in high esteem.

Representative Lewis: The Silverton Police this week were interviewing officers to continue the SRO program in schools and I think they have solid support from the school district.

Chief Ferraris: Woodburn School District has a new superintendent who started a week ago. Our SRO program is on "pause" right now. Superintendent going to be embarking on a plan to listen and gather information from constituents before making a recommendation. Chief Ferraris has a twenty year history with SRO programs in the state from Portland to Salem and now Woodburn. Knows they work and he explicitly advocates for them. Concerned that some of the information in opposition to SROs is false. Strongly supports anything this council can do to support those programs.

Chief Moore: Supporter but preferred to abstain from voting on this issue.

MOTION: Councilor Carney made a motion for the council to adopt a resolution supportive of retaining SROs in Marion County School Districts. Seconded by Ed McKenney. A voice vote was unanimous.

(All AYEs- following abstention: Chief Jerry Moore)

**ADJOURNED**