

PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL

MINUTES

TUESDAY,
February 27, 2017

11:32

JUSTICE BUILDING -
JURY ASSEMBLY ROOM, 2ND FLOOR

MEETING CALLED BY	Bob Kleker
ATTENDEES	Dave Carter, Joe Charter, Marie Curren, Doug Engle, Joe Ferguson, Eric Guyer, Stuart Hansen, Beth Heckert, Barbara Johnson, Danny Jordan, Bob Kleker, Lee Tyler, Lorenzo Mejia, Jennifer Mylenek, Mark Orndoff, Dan Penland, Mark Reagles, Nate Sickler, Randy Sparacino, Aja Stoner, Bob Strosser, Rita Sullivan

- Bob Kleker opened the meeting at 11:30
- Opening Remarks: Bob Kleker welcomed everyone to the February PSCC meeting.

Agenda Topics

MINUTE ADOPTION – JANUARY

BOB KLEKER, CHAIR

DISCUSSION	
No suggested revisions were identified for the January minutes, Danny Jordan provided a motion to adopt, seconded by Eric Guyer. A vote was requested, all were in favor, and none were opposed. The January minutes were officially adopted.	

PRESENTATION- JUVENILE JUSTICE TRENDS

JOE FERGUSON

DISCUSSION	
<p>Joe Ferguson presented on the history of juvenile justice and trends over the past 12 years in Jackson County.</p> <p>Joe Ferguson provided a history of the two juvenile buildings. The original Juvenile Department was located behind the Medford Armory and built in 1957 with a 12 cell capacity. In 1981 eight additional cells were added, along with a classroom and additional day room space. There were also two temporary modular buildings to accommodate the additional probation staff. The total square footage was 19,500 square feet including a 288 sq. ft. meeting/treatment space. The focus was a punitive approach to get youth to comply and stop committing crimes/violations. The Juvenile Department was a stand-alone department until 2001 when it was combined with Adult Community Corrections and became Community Justice. In October 2004 they moved into a new two story building that is 50,440 sq. ft. and changed their name to Juvenile Services. There are two 20 bed secure detention units, a 15 bed residential unit, gym, and two outdoor recreation areas. There is also a court house, classrooms (used by the Medford School District), community meeting room, probation offices, and an area leased to the Oregon Youth Authority. In 2008 more focus was put on standardized risk assessments to guide case management and more emphasis on utilizing evidence based practices. The current approach is trauma informed and works with both the youth and families.</p> <p>Danny Jordan the Jackson County Administrator informed the PCSS members that the building was paid off seven years early.</p> <p>Deputy Director Ferguson next discussed statistical trends 2005 to 2017. There has been a 64% reduction in criminal referrals, an 84% reduction in non-criminal referrals, and a 68% reduction of youths being referred by the police. Overall, there has been a 54% decrease for males and a 60% decrease for females. The decline has also continued amongst age groups and race; 12 and under: -65%, 13-15: -56%, and 16 and above: 56%. African American: -8%, Asian: -42%, Hispanic: -33%, Native American: -57%, and Caucasian: -59%.</p> <p>Juvenile Services provides the following services: evidence based skill building groups, risk assessments to determine services, Barriers 2 Bridges Residential Program (six month residential program for medium to high risk male youth), Community Accountability Boards (located in Medford, Phoenix-Talent, and White City), use of effective practices in community supervision, Keep Encouraging Youth Program (gang prevention, intervention, and suppression program), Afterschool Program (weekdays 4pm-8pm, even in summer), Youth Reformation System, using a trauma informed lens (ACEs), and Courage 2 Change Detention Based Program (transition/vocational program for 18-20 year old males).</p>	

DISCUSSION

Bob Kleker asked if agencies had any updates that they wanted to share. Listed below are the updates:

- Lt. Lee; Oregon State Police: They are down a few positions in patrol.
- Sheriff Sickler; Jackson County Sheriff: During the Commissioner's Meeting they talked about funding a county-wide survey to see what the appetite is for a new jail. This will be getting underway fairly quickly. The data will take a few months to collect. They have also started a FTA initiative, and will help consolidate efforts and resources for the most problematic offenders. These are the offenders that consume the large portion of their resources with regards to FTA's, records, courts, DA's office, and police time due to multiple lodgings in jail. Staffing is good.
- Mark Reagles; City Administrator of Rogue River: They are down a few positions.
- Chief Sparacino; Medford Police Department: They are fully staffed and have not been fully staffed since 2005. The Part I and Part II crime rate dropped 4 % in 2017. The crimes that affect livability and are the highest in recidivism are still continuing to go up. The calls for service continue to climb.
- Jennifer Mylenek; CASA: They are in a new building .They are still seeing a very high caseload of children in the child welfare system with open cases. There are 450 children on their waiting list and are serving more than they ever have. It was originally down 6 % from two and a half years ago but it is now starting to climb again, and the numbers are much higher than they were 10 years ago.
- Barbara Johnson; Community Works: They have a partnership with law enforcement with their first responder advocacy coordination and since that was implemented they have had a 33 % increase in the number of clients they are able to serve. This partnership is a wonderful example of law enforcement and advocacy working together to reduce the workload that law enforcement is experiencing with someone who is traumatized. They are able to stay with them longer and work on a safety plan with the intention for them not to get called back in.
- Eric Guyer; Community Justice: There has been an overall increase in the population they are in charge of supervising; 6% in the last eight months. Highly anticipating that in the next biennium Jackson County will be more highly represented as a percentage of the overall population statewide.
- Judge Lorenzo Mejia; Jackson County Circuit Court: The jail and the FTAs are a big issue due to the lack of capacity. The capacity issues slow everything down and create warrant problems. Another indigent defense group has been created to **reduce out of county attorneys for the indigent.**
- Dr. Dave Carter; Southern Oregon University: Thank you to all of the leaders in the law enforcement agencies for helping with the 17th Annual Lock-In.
- Beth Heckert; Jackson County District Attorney: The Grand Jury recording starts March 1st. The DA office and Community Justice are working together on the new 416 program. The program has added a position in the District Attorney office. Along with the new position, they will be looking for good candidates for all of the alternative supervision programs to make sure that they are not missing people and to provide an alternative to prison. This will roll out in April.
- Joe Charter; Justice of the Peace: Will be presenting at the ODOT Traffic Safety Conference in March.
- Mark Orndoff; Health and Human Services: Are starting to talk about possibly having additional veteran services in their building. Want to see if the VA wants to have an out-patient treatment in Medford.

Danny Jordan provided more background and information in regard to building a new jail. In 2006, they went to the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) and did a Planning of New Institutions for a new jail and a Local Criminal Justice Assessment. At that time, it was determined that a 650 bed jail was needed. During that same time period there were 11,000 outstanding warrants and currently the number is just as high; there are a lot of people that could be in jail. The Budget Committee and the Board of Commissioners were not interested at the time to build a new jail so they tried to remodel the current jail with what little resources were available. When a new jail project happens all of the jurisdictions need to agree to participate in the project. The NIC came to Jackson County to do a Local Criminal Justice Assessment and determined that Jackson County has tremendous alternative custody programs and is ahead of the curve by providing alternatives to jail. Unfortunately, a lot of people are placed in those programs that are not suited for them due to lack of jail space. The NIC concluded again that there is not enough adequate jail space.

Medford does not have a lot of options for building a jail. The jail is primarily filled with people that are taken into custody from MPD and the Sheriff's department. MPD takes up approximately 50% of the jail space and could probably utilize more but lack of space is preventing that. The last county jail that was built in Oregon was Multnomah County Wapato Jail; it was built in 2004 and cost \$58 million to build a 525 bed facility. The county already owned property for the jail site and were in a city that had infrastructure to the site. Those are some of the big issues that this county is facing.

When you build capacity in a system, such as a new jail, you also have to look at the other parts of the system; additional staff for prosecution, police and community justice, mental health, drug and alcohol, etc. Jackson County's problem is that all of the other systems are operating at a higher capacity than the jail. This puts the county in a different situation. It is not unreasonable to believe that the cost of building a new jail will be \$100 million for a 750 bed operating capacity with a total of 1,000 beds. This is estimating that in 2006 a 650 bed facility was recommended. It is not unreasonable to anticipate an increase of 100 beds when there has been increasing crime rates, arrests, prosecutions, cases, calls for service, and an increasing population over the last 10 years. The Planning of New Institutions with NIC has been requested and they will provide an accurate number based on their formulas. The estimated jail bond for \$100 million is approximately 35 cents/per thousand, but increased operating costs of approximately \$14 million accounts for approximately 74 cents per thousand additionally of the total \$1.09 per thousand

discussed. The 35 cents per thousand would be paid off in 20 years. The total estimated operating cost of \$28 million is double the current budget but the new jail would triple the capacity.

However, the county is not going to spend their time and money to do this if the public does not have the appetite to build a new jail. Approximately 7,000 people have been released from the jail that should not have been.

It is highly likely that the new jail will not be built within the city limits due to the lack of available property. The new jail will need an expansive landscape that will allow it to be built in a pod design. They will have to have court rooms to avoid transfer of inmates back and forth for arraignments. When they build a new jail it will be built to support programs such as; mental health services, alcohol and drug treatment, life skill, etc. This will also increase the operating budget and floor plan. The operating budget for the jail in 2018-19 is roughly over \$13 million with about \$44.5 million in revenue; the net cost to the general fund is approximately \$8.5 million. Looking at essentially tripling the capacity with a new jail it would double the budget. With three times the number of people being served this increases the cost for medical, food, supplies, transport; there is a lot more that goes into cost than staffing. Having programs in the facility will also cost money. All of the expenses need to be considered when building and running a new jail. If a new jail is going to be built it needs to be done right.

There is not a site ready for a jail in the county and therefore it is likely a rezoning process will occur which can take up to three years. Plans for property acquisition may be done with a request for proposals.

The current jail is unable to be expanded. It does not meet the current Essential Services Facility Standards.

Next Scheduled PSCC Meeting: March 27, 2018

Meeting Adjourned: 12:50 pm