### POLK COUNTY

**POLK COUNTY LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**February 5, 2024 - 12:00 Noon**

**Board of Commissioners Main Conference Room**

## 1. OPENING AND NOTE OF ATTENDANCE/RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:

Sheriff Garton called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

**Those in attendance:**

Mark Garton – Sherriff

Lyle Mordhorst – Polk County Commissioner

Sam Hittle – LPSCC Coordinator

Jodi Merritt – Community Corrections Director

Robert Mason – Independence Police

Treven Upkeys – Salem PD

Bruce Anderson – Liberty House

Jessica Fitts – Community Member

Brian Latta – Dallas City Manager

UnCha Kim – Courts Administrator

John Cummings – OYA

Tim Park – Judge

Amber Mcclelland – DHS

**Attending on video:**

Isiah Hanes – Monmouth Police Chief

Jennifer Lief – Polk County Behavioral Health

Matt Jarvis – Local Defense Attorney

Aaron Felton – District Attorney

Renee Naylor – Liberty House

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: AUGUST, OCTOBER & November 2023:**

**Motion: Jodi Merritt moved to approve August, October & November meeting minutes, Commissioner Mordhorst seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.**

**3. Approval of JRP Progress Report**

Jodi Merritt, Community Corrections Director, provided an update on the JRP Progress Report and went over the data provided in the report. Sheriff Garton asked if anyone had any questions about the report. There were no questions.

**Motion: Treven Upkeys moved to approve the JRP Progress Report, Robert Mason** **seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.**

**4. Pre-Trial Release Program**

Sheriff Garton stated that Judge Hill was planning to discuss this today; however, he had a conflict on his schedule. The Sheriff stated that this would be a topic on the next agenda.

**5. Department Reports:**

* Community Corrections – Jodi Merritt: Jodi stated that her organization has recently put an ask on the Legislation for an addition $16 million in funding. If Community Corrections receives this funding, they will hire for a new Parole/Probation Officer. Jodi also updated the group regarding their new contact standards rule that has recently went to public comment.
* Courts – Judge Park: Uncha Kim provided an update on the recriminalization efforts that are going on over in Salem and stated that as more information comes their way, she will make sure to share it with them.
* Sheriff’s Office – Mark Garton: Mark gave an update on staffing levels and provided an update on the security upgrade that was completed in the Polk County Jail.
* District Attorney’s Office – Aaron Felton: stated that they are very interested at what is currently happening at the Legislator in regards to recriminalization. Mr. Felton provided an update on their staffing levels. He also wanted to recognize the partnership between everyone and working together in general.
* Defense Council – Matt Jarvis: No updates
* Board of Commissioners – Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst: Lyle stated that just like everyone else, they are watching the changes to measure 110 very closely and they are pushing for Misdemeanors to be identified as a Class A. They are also pushing for the police departments and public safety officers to get the tools they need to safely and adequately do their jobs. Commissioner Mordhorst stated that they are also trying to get them to remove the work “deflection” out of the verbiage and to go back to the original terminology. Sheriff Garton stated that deflection is a new term that has no definition.
* Health Services – Jennifer Lief: Jennifer stated that they have been working on their certification for their Crisis Expansion Project, which is due on the 15th. They are also working on their certification on their Substance Abuse Program which requires a lot more in-depth work to get completed and that is also due by the 15th of this month. Mrs. Lief stated that they are also working on SB561 (notification on death by suicide), also due by the 15th. Lastly, she provided an update on their current recruitments for new hires.
* Independence Police Department – Robert Mason: Mr. Mason stated that they are working on a process, internally, to change the way that they are documenting whether or not they have video available from their officers and car cameras. Mr. Mason stated that they plan to iron out their process and bring it back here to discuss with the LPSCC Committee. He explained why they are working on this process.
* Salem Police Department – Treven Upkeys: Treven stated that they are currently all in for their annual budget and that is their focus right now. Treven also provided a staffing update.
* Monmouth Police Department – Isaiah Haines: Mr. Haines stated that he does not have much to update on but like many others, they too are dealing with an increase in the homeless and they hope that the new FCO building will be a good resource for the community. He stated that the City Hall is near completion and stated that they are currently down one officer.
* City of Dallas – Brian Latta: Mr. Latta stated that they are also currently going through their annual budget. He stated that their City Council passed a new Public Safety Fee that will continue to support what they already have. Mr. Latta stated that they are currently working with the owner of the Itemizer Observer to purchase that building and turn it into the new Dallas Police Station.
* Sheriff Garton wanted to provide an update on the citizen member position and stated that Kim Fitzgerald was originally going to fill that spot but will not be able to attend the meetings consistently.
* Oregon Youth Authority – Brian Cummings: Brian stated that they are still hiring.
* Department of Human Services – Amber Mcclelland: Amber stated that things are going well.
* Sable House – Renee Naylor: Renee stated that they are currently going through a transition, restructuring and reorganizing and they are working on hiring some new case managers and a housing rep.
* Liberty House – Bruce Anderson: Bruce stated that we are coming up to April, which is Child Abuse Prevention Month. He wanted to extend their great appreciation to Polk County for being great partners.

**5. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm. The next LPSCC meeting date is Monday May 6, 2024

Minutes: Nicole Pineda

Approve: May 6, 2024