### POLK COUNTY

**POLK COUNTY LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL**

**February 3, 2025 - 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 12:02 p.m.

**Those in attendance:**

Mark Garton – Sheriff

Sam Hittle – LPSCC Coordinator

Tim Park – Judge

Rebecca Shaw – Courts Supervisor

Rochelle Findler – Program Manager

Treven Upkes – Salem PD

Jessica Fitts – Community Member

Maggie Walker - 988

Jennifer Lief – Behavioral Health

Jodi Merritt – Community Corrections Director

David Shein – Dallas City Council

Brian Latta – Dallas City Manager

Isaiah Haines – Monmouth PD

Juventino Banuelos – Independence PD

Matt Jarvis - Local Defense Attorney

John Cummings – OYA

Tom Simpson – Dallas PD

Commissioner Gordon

Aaron Felton – Polk County District Attorney

Uncha Kim – Courts Administration

Rochelle Findler – Program Manager

**Attending on video:**

Alison Kelley – Liberty House

Rochelle Juarez – Acting Executive Director Sable House

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: November 4, 2024:**

**Motion: DAVID SHEIN moved to approve November 4, 2024 meeting minutes, TIM PARK seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.**

**3. 988 Presentation**

Maggie Walker went over a presentation for the 988 suicide and crisis hotline. Ms. Walker’s presentation went over some background and history information for the hotline and she wanted to make sure that people understood that 988 is the same system as the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. In addition, she went over what happens when someone calls into the 988 hotline and what steps are taken. Ms. Walker talked about the common call types, urgent realities and what they do and the services they offer.

**4. JRI Progress Reports & Approval**

Jodi Merritt stated that they have to submit their JRI reinvestments and the annual progress report, which is required to receive LPSCC approval. Mrs. Merritt gave a brief overview of the report for everyone and explained what the purpose for the report is.

**Motion: Commissioner Gordon moved to approve the JRI Progress Reports, DAVID SHEIN seconded.**

**Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Board.**

**5. Department Reports:**

* Community Corrections – Jodi Merritt stated they had a PO who graduated from the academy and they are currently recruiting for another position. They are doing condition-based supervision right now. She is hoping that they can get back on track within the next 8 months.
* Courts – Update on 4002 DEM cases.
* Sheriff’s Office – Mark Garton stated that they are down two positions right now, one on patrol and one in the jail. They are currently building a dog kennel right now and he explained why they are doing that.
* District Attorney – Aaron Felton gave a staffing update, and said that they are in a good place right now.
* Matt Jarvis – Stated the OPDC is about 90 days behind and explained what that means.
* Board of Commissioners – Commissioner Gordon talked about AOC and how they are advancing a bill to increase the funding thresholds for deflection programs in hopes to go from $150k for two years to $500k. He talked about some of the messages that were being delivered on behalf of counties like Polk County.
* Health Services – Jennifer Lief said she was excited to say that they have four recruitments out for night shift crisis positions and they have already made some changes to their current staffing schedules in order to be available 7 days a week to the public. She also talked about other providers she is working with in order to put together a 2 day training and what that will look like when it is ready.
* Dallas PD – Tom Simpson stated that they are getting started on their budget process and they are currently fully staffed. They are working on getting a new police station built. He will be retiring in about 5 months.
* Salem PD – Treven stated there are protests happening right now and they are trying to keep it from bleeding over into West Salem. Budget is also coming up.
* Monmouth PD – Isaiah talked about the staffing perspective of Monmouth and how they are fully staffed, however they are 3 retirements coming up. Budget is coming up as well. CTE Programs are being expanded and he is looking forward to being able to work along with students.
* Independence PD – Juventino Banuelos talked about staffing and said that they are not fully staffed and they are excited about their partnership with Monmouth PD.
* City of Dallas – Brian Latta talked about the Dallas Council voting on the bond measure in order to get funding for a future Police Station. He talked about staffing levels and said that their budget is underway.
* OYA – Nothing to report.
* Liberty House – Alison stated Liberty House is holding steady and she held up a letter from the National Children’s Alliance and she explained what that means for them.
* Sable House – Rochelle stated that they have hired 2 new case managers since the last LPSCC meeting and they are currently seeing 20 active families in their rapid rehousing program.

Sheriff Garton stated that something they need to do is start tracking when everyone has started participating in LPSCC because everything should be done in 2-year terms so he said emails will be going out to everyone in order to start gathering more information. Next meeting a new LPSCC chair and vice chair will be nominated.

Commissioner Gordon wanted to invite everyone to a ribbon cutting ceremony to a new Dallas Family Shelter today at 3 pm and provided those details.

**5. ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:54 pm. The next LPSCC meeting date is Monday May 5, 2025

Minutes: Nicole Pineda

Approve: May 5, 2025