

Public Safety Coordinating Council

March 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Council Members (or designee) in Attendance:

Commissioner Bill Proctor	County Commission
Judge Augustus Aikens	Judiciary
Asst. Sheriff Argatha Gilmore	Leon County Sheriff's Office
John Knowles	Public Defender's Office
Brylan Jacobs	Florida Department of Corrections
Owen McCaul	State Attorney's Office
Anne Meisenzahl	Big Bend AFTER Reentry Coalition
Nancy O'Farrell	NAMI Tallahassee
Teresa Broxton	Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives

Council Members Not in Attendance:

Rebecca Kelly-Manders	ReFire Culinary
-----------------------	-----------------

Also, in attendance:

Chief Mack	Leon County Sheriff's Office
Chief Sheffield	Leon County Sheriff's Office
Shington Lamy	Leon County Administration
Kimberly Holland	Office of Intervention and Detention Alternatives
Amanda Chandler	Apalachee Center, Inc.
Judge Nina Ashenafi Richardson	Judiciary
Dr. Randy Nelson	21 st Century Research & Evaluations, Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM

Issues Discussed

I. Approval of the February 27, 2024, Meeting Minutes

Approval of February 27, 2024, Meeting Minutes continued to the April 16, 2024, meeting.

II. Leon County Community Safety and Engagement Action Plan Presentation - Dr. Randy Nelson, President, 21st Century Research and Evaluations, Inc.

Dr. Randy Nelson joined the meeting to present the Leon County Community Safety and Engagement Action Plan (Attachment #1) developed in partnership with Florida A&M University, community residents, elected officials, civic and community organizations, educators, mental health professionals, faith leaders, law enforcement leaders, business professionals, and students worked to develop strategies.

Dr. Nelson shared that the President's 21st Century Policing Task Force Report identified six main pillars and 63 recommendations to promote crime reduction while building community trust. During the round table held on April 18, 2023, attendees voted on four pillars to be used as a foundation to develop strategies to address violence and crime in the Leon County Community. The four pillars identified as a high priority are: 1) Building Trust and Legitimacy; 2) Training and Education; 3) Policy and Oversight; 4) Community Policing and Crime Reduction.

The attendees were divided into groups consisting of representatives from the law enforcement, faith leaders, mental health professionals, businesses, education, etc. to develop SMART (Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-specific) recommendations. Dr. Nelson provided a summary and overview of each of the recommendations identified under the four pillars.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Commissioner Proctor opened the floor for questions and discussion.

Asst. Sheriff Gilmore commented that everyone is working together to deal with the violence in the community and that Sheriff McNeil continues to emphasize that law enforcement is not the panacea to address the violence. He believes a key factor is the unification of our resources. Asst. Sheriff Gilmore inquired who is evaluating the progress of the recommendations presented in the report. Dr. Nelson stated that the report is a resource and up to community stakeholders to implement and measure the impact of the recommendations in the community.

Ms. Meisenzahl inquired of Dr. Nelson's ideas for beginning the implementation process given the number of stakeholders and interconnectivity of the recommendations. Dr. Nelson recommend each PSCC member take the report back to their respective agencies and identify a starting point for implementation.

Ms. Meisenzahl motioned, seconded by John Knowles, for the PSCC to adopt the recommendations of the Leon County Community Safety and Engagement Action Plan, and set aside discussion time at future meetings to review and identify processes to implement the recommendations.

Motion passed 9 – 0.

III. Leon County Detention Facility Population Updates and Discussion - Asst. Sheriff Gilmore, Leon County Sheriff's Office

Chief Mack presented the Leon County Detention Facility (LCDF) Status Report for 3/25/2024 (Attachment #2). He reported that the LCDF population was 929 as of 3/25/2024.

IV. Court Administration Reports - Ina Hawkins, Detention Review Coordinator

Ms. Hawkins presented the Criminal Case Management Unit's Monthly Report for February 26, 2024 (Attachment #3).

Commissioner Proctor requested clarification regarding the variance between the mental health numbers reported by Ms. Hawkins (267) and number reported by the Leon County Detention Facility (LCDF). Previously, the LCDF staff has reported that 50% of the population has mental health disorders. Asst. Sheriff Gilmore shared that Yes Care, the contracted medical provider for the LCDF, has been very active and recently submitted a report on how they are addressing the mental health issues through collaborative efforts with FAMU and FSU intern programs. Further, Chief Mack reported the difference in numbers is due to the criteria for being identified as mental health. The courts recognize individuals diagnosed with serious mental health disorders (schizoaffective, schizophrenia, bipolar, major depression) by a psychiatrist; whereas, the LCDF identifies anyone prescribed mental health medications.

Commissioner Proctor requested that this information be reconciled on the monthly report. The LCDF and Court Administration will work to add a reference identifying the number of inmates identified by LCDF as a mental a mental health defendant.

V. Electronic Monitoring Reports - Teresa Broxton, IDA Director

Ms. Holland presented the Electronic Monitoring Program Report for February 2024 (Attachment #4).

VI. Other Business:

Next Meeting: April 16, 2024

4:00 PM

Commission Chambers, 5th Floor, Leon County Courthouse