

**Public Safety Coordinating Council
Pinellas County
December 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The Pinellas County Public Safety Coordinating Council (PSCC) met in special session at 1:07 PM on this date in the Third Floor Judicial Conference Room at the Pinellas County Justice Center, 14250 49th Street North, Clearwater, Florida.

Present

Dave Eggers, Chair, County Commissioner
Deanna Carey, representing Sheriff Bob Gualtieri
Kendall Davidson, representing State Attorney Bruce Bartlett
Chris Dudley, Department of Corrections
Michael Jalazo, Pinellas Ex-Offender Re-Entry Coalition (late arrival)
Joseph Lawhorne, representing County Court Judge Dorothy Vaccaro
David Moran, representing Public Defender Sara Mollo
Jennifer Parker, representing Chief Judge Shawn Crane

Not Present

Bruce Bartlett, State Attorney
Dianne Clarke, Operation PAR, Inc.
Shawn Crane, Chief Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit
Bob Gualtieri, Pinellas County Sheriff
Sara Mollo, Public Defender
Dorothy Vaccaro, County Judge, Sixth Judicial Circuit

Others Present

Reginald Allen, Department of Juvenile Justice
Steve Blank, WestCare Florida-Gulfcoast, Inc.
Maxine Booker, Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services (PEMHS)
Tim Burns, Pinellas County Human Services
Elisa DeGregorio, Pinellas County Justice Coordination
Yashira Gonzalez, Pinellas County Justice Coordination
Zach Haisch, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office
Japhia Kendall, Boley Centers, Inc.
Kevin Marrone, Boley Centers, Inc.
Joseph Morrissey, County Attorney's Office
Kimberly Nunn-Crawford, Willa Carson Health and Wellness Center
Nick Bridenback, representing Court Administrator Jennifer Parker
Marilyn Quiles, Pinellas County Human Services
Dominique Randall, Pinellas County Human Services
Ramona Schaefer, Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

Darryl Smith, Pinellas County Justice Coordination
Beth Stephens, representing City of Largo Chief of Police Michael Loux
Lamar Woods, Tarpon Springs Housing Authority
Krista Johnson, Board Reporter, Deputy Clerk
Other interested individuals

All documents provided to the Clerk's Office have been made a part of the record.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF PSCC MEMBERS

Chair Eggers called the meeting to order at 1:07 PM, welcomed those in attendance, and requested that those present introduce themselves.

REVIEW AND UPDATE OF 2023-2026 STRATEGIC PLAN

Referring to a document included in the agenda packet titled *Public Safety Coordinating Council Strategic Plan 2023-2026*, Mr. Burns summarized its contents and reviewed the updates to key strategies which included changes to Key Strategy 1 and the insertion of Key Strategy 2, which refer to the Adult Justice System and Juvenile Justice System Sequential Intercept Mapping processes, respectively; whereupon, he noted that the membership page reflects current Council membership.

Ms. Parker made a motion, which was seconded by Mr. Bridenback, to approve the Strategic Plan. Upon call for the vote, the motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION: RE-INVESTMENT GRANT PROPOSALS

Chair Eggers introduced the item and explained that each of the four applicants would be given three minutes to provide information regarding their proposal; and that a primary and a backup proposal will be selected.

Responding to comments by Chair Eggers regarding voting procedures, Attorney Morrissey provided information regarding ballot voting and confirmed the number of members needed to establish a quorum, as well as the number of votes required to move a recommendation forward; whereupon, he indicated that he believes that Council members should not participate in a vote if they are members of a proposing organization. A brief discussion ensued.

Chair Eggers confirmed the presence of a quorum; whereupon, responding to a query by Ms. Parker, Mr. Burns indicated that, as part of their submittals, the applicants were asked to certify that they would provide the grant's requirement of a 100% match.

Pinellas County Pathways Program – WestCare Gulfcoast – Florida

Presenter: Steve Blank, Regional Vice President, WestCare Gulfcoast-Florida, Inc.

Mr. Blank provided a brief overview of the services currently offered by WestCare, noting that the submitted proposal details plans for growth of services; and that the funding could provide for additional services, including housing or more treatment beds.

In response to queries by the members, Mr. Blank provided information regarding program eligibility requirements, duration of services, number of individuals served per year, and submittal of the proposal; whereupon, Mr. Blank confirmed that WestCare has the ability to provide the required statistical data required by the grant; and that he understands that there is a funding match requirement.

Mr. Jalazo arrived at 1:31 PM.

Empowering Youth Resiliency – Cops ‘n Kids

Presenter: Lamar Woods, Youth Life Coach, Housing Authority of Tarpon Springs

Mr. Woods provided a brief overview of the services currently offered by Cops ‘n Kids Youth Center, noting that the submitted proposal details a prevention program; and that the funding could help provide for additional services, including counselors for at-risk youth.

In response to queries by the members, Mr. Woods provided information regarding career development, funds for overlays, and staffing provided by the Center; whereupon, Mr. Woods acknowledged the grant funding match requirement.

Culturally Competent Counseling – Willa Carson Health/Wellness Center

Presenter: Kim Crawford, Executive Director, Willa Carson Health and Wellness Center

Ms. Crawford indicated that the submitted proposal is a collaboration between the Willa Carson Center, Up With Life Ministries, and New Vision Behavioral Health and briefly summarized the services offered by each organization; whereupon, she explained that the majority of the grant funding would be used for housing assistance and mental health counseling.

In response to a query by Mr. Burns, Ms. Crawford related that the funding would expand current counseling services through referrals from Up With Life Ministries.

Following a query by Ms. Parker, Mr. Burns provided information regarding criteria related to the grant's match requirement, specifying that the match provided by the organization can also be met through in-kind resources, such as dedicated staff. A brief discussion ensued.

Treatment for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness – Pinellas County

Presenter: Kevin Marrone, Chief Executive Officer, Boley Centers, Inc.

Mr. Marrone provided a brief overview of the services offered by Boley Centers, indicating that the organization's primary function is to provide access to affordable housing; whereupon, he related that the goal of the proposed project is to provide case management, mental health services, and stable housing to individuals experiencing mental health and substance abuse disorders and who are at a high risk for criminal justice involvement.

In response to queries by Messrs. Jalazo and Bridenback, Mr. Marrone provided information regarding the additional staff that would be needed and the source of the proposed project's client referrals.

SELECTION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE REINVESTMENT GRANT PROPOSAL

Chair Eggers requested input regarding the members' preferred method for voting; whereupon, Mr. Burns provided information related to the Council's past voting method with regard to the grant.

Responding to a query by Chair Eggers, Mr. Burns discussed potential conflicts of interest based on Council members' affiliations with the organizations whose proposals are being considered at today's meeting, indicating that the County and the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office would have potential conflicts; whereupon, Chair Eggers acknowledged his conflict of interest.

Mr. Davidson made a motion for consideration of the WestCare Pathways Program proposal, and the motion was seconded by Mr. Bridenback.

Messrs. Davidson, Dudley, and Bridenback provided brief comments in support of the WestCare Pathways Program; whereupon Mr. Jalazo agreed with the aforementioned supporting comments. He expressed his concerns regarding the issue of homelessness and mentioned the Treatment for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness Program.

Chair Eggers acknowledged the comments made by Mr. Jalazo regarding the Individuals Experiencing Homelessness Program, and Mr. Moran responded with a second.

Mr. Allen expressed support for the Cops 'n Kids Program; whereupon, hearing no second and no further nominations by the members, Chair Eggers indicated that the two proposals agreed upon would now be considered utilizing a ballot vote.

Following the vote, Chair Eggers indicated that the Treatment for Individuals Experiencing Homelessness Program received five votes and will move forward as the primary recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC); and that the backup program is WestCare Pathways, which received four votes. Mr. Burns confirmed that Ms. Carey and Chair Eggers abstained from voting.

In response to queries by Chair Eggers and Mr. Bridenback, Mr. Burns provided information regarding the Criminal Justice Reinvestment Grant process, including timelines, expectations, and reporting requirements. He noted the reason for the selection of a backup program, and that he feels that the Council's primary program recommendation should be presented to the BCC for approval at its January 30 meeting.

In accordance with the provisions of the Standards of Conduct Law, the completed Memorandum of Voting Conflict forms have been received and made a part of the record.

OLD BUSINESS

2024 PSCC Meeting Dates

Chair Eggers indicated that the dates for the 2024 meetings of the PSCC are provided on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS - NONE

ROUNDTABLE/UPDATES

Chair Eggers expressed appreciation to each of the organizations which submitted proposals, noting that all four of the programs are excellent; whereupon, Mr. Burns indicated his agreement; noting that there is always a willingness to have discussions related to collaboration and partnering with other organizations.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 PM.