



**Okaloosa County Public Safety Coordinating Council**  
**Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting: January 31, 2019 12:00 PM**  
**Courthouse Annex Extension, Fort Walton Beach**

**Public Safety Coordinating Council Members**

Present	Name	Agency
	Graham Fountain	Board of County Commissioners
x	Stefan W. Vaughn	Chief Corrections Officer
x	Judge Gontarek	Circuit Judge
x	Judge Grinsted	County Judge
x	Jay Jones (Harold Mason)	Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office Designee
x	Bill Bishop	Assistant State Attorney
	Charles Russell	Assistant Public Defender
x	Robert Kemp	Circuit Administrator, Florida Department of Corrections, Probation and Parole Services
x	Kelli Huckabee	Pretrial Services
x	Tina Ferland	Judicial Corrections Services, County Probation Provider

**Other Attendees:**

C. Eric Esmond, Major, Department of Corrections  
 April McQueen, Department of Corrections  
 Tammy Matthews, Department of Corrections  
 Dennis Knighten, Department of Corrections  
 Susan Priddy, Corizon Health Services, Department of Corrections  
 Sandra Hoffa, Corizon Health Services, Department of Corrections  
 Jeremy Gilbert, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office  
 Jeremy Miller, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Office  
 Larry McFarland Bridgeway Center, Inc.  
 John Anderson, Clerk of Court  
 Paul Farnsworth

Meeting opened at 12:05 pm.

**Welcome:**

Director Vaughn apologized on behalf of Commissioner Fountain as he is unable to attend.

**Minutes**

1. a. The October minutes were approved as sent.

## **2. Old Business**

- a. Chief Esmond reported the state of emergency procedures discussed at the previous meeting.
- b. He reviewed the assistance provided to Bay County following Hurricane Michael. The Sheriff's office and jail deputies were asked to assist Bay County in providing additional staff, food services, and clean laundry. He kept open communication with their jail commander to know what was needed and length of time needed. Governor Scott sent staff letters of appreciation for their assistance. Bay County Sheriff's office manages both the road deputies and jail.
- c. The increasing jail population and the age of the jail population affects the costs of medical services. As reviewed at the previous meeting, there has been an increase in expensive medical needs, such as HIV, cancer, and other chronic illnesses. Ms. Priddy will continue to look for other options and will keep command staff informed when medical costs will be high. Securus wants to work with the county to be good stewards of county budget funds.
- d. The schedule is being updated for upcoming meeting next year. Consideration is being given to alternating locations for meetings between the north and south courthouses or keeping all meetings at the current location.

## **3. Jail Report**

- a. Chief Esmond presented the statistics report. He reviewed the statistics. He asked committee members to review the statistical report to determine which statistics are important and needed. Jail diversion programs continue to be considered. The population continues to rise with the average count last year of 736 inmates, the count this year has risen to 836 inmates. Dr. Vaughn has met with Commissioner Windes and John Hofsted to consider how the half cent sales tax can be used to assist.

## **4. Pretrial Services Report**

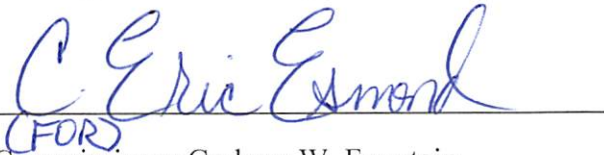
- a. Ms. Huckabee reported an increase in pretrial services. They have had a spike in FTAs, but the increase has come back down. A test system is now being established to assist with court notifications and they hope to have it operational by June.

## **5. New Business**

- a. Ms. Priddy reviewed the Hep A vaccination program for the facility. There has been a rise in cases throughout the state and Okaloosa County. The jail has already had five reported cases. Since our area has been affected, Securus has worked with the health department to establish and implement a plan for vaccinations. The entire jail population was offered vaccination at no cost to the inmate or facility. They were able to run clinics and vaccinate over 80% of the jail population. Both the health department and Securus work to keep the population healthier.
- b. Captain McDaniel provided an update on the Crestview Courthouse. Issues are being addressed in conjunction with the Sheriff's office and facility maintenance. They are working with Department of Juvenile Justice to work out operational concerns. Dr. Vaughn stated a punch list has been developed and everyone is working through it to get issues addressed.

- c. Captain McDaniel reviewed upcoming spring break. Spring break is expected to begin in early February. The cold weather may hold some visitors off early. The process is expected to be as smooth as last year with the arrested spring breakers being booked and released quickly. Consideration was given to transporting the arrested to the courthouse for processing instead of the jail.
- d. The Department of Children and Families has requested to have a speaker, Leah Compton, at the April meeting. Chief Esmond will contact the Regional Director, April Fountain to determine if a meeting needs to be scheduled earlier to discuss options.
- e. Mr. Bishop introduced Judge Gonterek. He suggested having a meeting in the North Courthouse could be beneficial so a tour could be given.
- f. Mr. McFarland announced the availability of Narcan free from their distribution center. They are working to provide family members the ability to assist if they have family members with opioid addictions. The Narcan won't negatively affect a person if they are not on opioids.
- g. Upcoming meeting have been scheduled for April 18, 2019. Feedback on having quarterly meetings is requested. July 18, 2019 and October 24, 2019 are the scheduled meetings for 2019.

Meeting ended at 12:57 pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "C. Eric Esmond". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

(FOR)  
Commissioner Graham W. Fountain  
Okaloosa County Commissioner  
Chairman, Public Safety Coordinating Council