

Okaloosa County Public Safety Coordinating Council
Regular Meeting
Thursday August 6, 2026

Present:

Commissioner Paul Mixon
Maj. April McDaniel
Craig Coffey, Deputy County Administrator
Maria Everton, Clerk to Board of County Commissioners
Lt. Joe Gordon
Larry McFarland
Ingrid Webb
Aaron Broxson
Kelli Huckabee
Itza Andrade
Susan Priddy
Michelle Burns

Location:

Okaloosa County Courthouse Annex, Fort Walton Beach, Florida

Minutes prepared by Maria Everton

Commissioner Mixon called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes

May 28, 2026, minutes were approved as presented by the majority.

2. Old Business

None.

3. Jail Population/Statistical Report: Q & A

Maj. McDaniel provided the data to the group via email. Lt. Broxson said the population is just under 700. Ms. Huckabee stated that there are 80-90 monitors.

4. Inmate Programs Update

Ms. Andrade presented statistics for current jail programs as follows:

- Celebrate Recovery - 25 females attending, 25 males attending
- Celebrate Recovery (Special Housing) – 7 females attending, 7 males attending
- Yoga Class – 25 females attending

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- ECLC (Emerald Coast Life Center) – 25 females attending, 25 males attending
- ECLC Pod- 36 participating
- AA – 23 females attending, 20 males attending
- NA – 21 females attending, 25 males attending
- Fatherhood Initiative – 6 males attending
- Anger Management – 12 females attending, 16 males attending

There is a total of nine programs with 355 participants. A new female parenting class will start this August. The FLOW bus is scheduled for August and September. The CareerSource bus is scheduled as well.

- Programs Outside the jail (Rehabs/Transitional Housing) – a total of 52 individuals accepted and 27 are pending applications.

5. Pre-Trial Information

Ms. Huckabee said pre-trial data is presented with the Jail Population/Statistical Report emailed out to the group prior to the meeting. GPS numbers are as follows:

- April 2026 – 98
- May 2026 – 91
- June 2026 – 87

Mental health cases served in April 2026 were 106, May 2026 were 105, and June 2026 were 124. The Mental Health Diversion Program sustained ten new admits over April-June 2026.

6. New Business (informational only)

a. Medical/MAT/Mental Health Update

Ms. Priddy presented following data:

ENCOUNTER TYPE MAY 01 - JULY 31, 2026	RESULT COUNT
INTAKE EVALUATIONS BY NURSING STAFF	1822
REPORTED MENTAL HEALTH CONDITION AT INTAKE	174
REPORTED MEDICAL CONDITION AT INTAKE	1112
PHYSICAL EXAMS	679
ANNUAL PHYSICAL - INITIAL	18
TOTAL MENTAL HEALTH ENCOUNTERS (NOT INCLUDING S/I WATCH)	1035
TOTAL ON SUICIDE WATCH - (NOT INCLUDING DIR OBS)	141
ENCOUNTERES COMPLETED BY THE DENTIST	150
TOTAL I/M ON PRESCRIPTION DRUGS	9846
TOTAL I/M ON PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS	140
TOTAL I/M ON HIV DRUGS	29

She then said that on August 12, 2026, medical staff will be meeting with Bridgeway staff and EMS POST Officer Kindle to discuss potential gaps/barriers to reentry processes for those actively in the MAT program being released. The biggest hurdle is not knowing when a participant is getting out of jail. The intent is to work with community partners to strategize on hand-off processes relating to reducing relapse.

Commissioner Mixon stated he is glad about the level of funding that Bridgeway is getting and he is looking for ways to boost funds for the jail.

Ms. Webb informed the group (via email) that the Mental Health team remains focused on providing evidence-based, patient-centered care while meeting accreditation standards. Staff continue to partner with Mental Health Court and Ms. Priddy to get inmates placed in the best possible scenario post release. Additionally, the partnership with the Pre-Trial MH Diversion (90-day Bridgeway Program) has proven to greatly benefit the inmate. Staff continue to work collaboratively with Security staff and Programs to ensure inmate safety and well-being and re-entry.

b. MAT Update

Ms. Webb provided some statistical data about the MAT Program. She then said the MAT Program continues to provide meaningful support for patients with Alcohol Use Disorders. Patients are being connected with recovery resources such as Peer Support, AA, NA, Celebrate Recovery, and community providers for continuity of care.

c. In-Jail Competency Restoration

Maj. McDaniel said there was discussion about in-jail competency restoration services. She has met with a credentialed individual to provide the service and worked on who is appropriate, implementation tactics and operations. A concern is that the population selected would be inappropriate for services at the jail. It was assured that the evaluation process prior to the order will include jail records, jail medical records and contact with jail staff. The jail has not had any inmates referred and no inmates currently receive this service.

d. Inmate Community Work Outside the Jail

Mr. Coffey discussed the possibility of utilizing inmates for work outside of the jail setting. He suggested working with neighboring Counties who currently practice this. This may be avenue for certain inmates who want to reform. Discussion is needed about job types and selection criteria. He feels this may be a good opportunity for the County and the inmate(s).

7. Public Comments

Larry McFarland – Mobile MAT State Grant

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21 p.m.