

MARION COUNTY PUBLIC SAFETY COORDINATING COUNCIL (MCPSCC)

Executive Council Meeting Minutes

June 23, 2026, 12:00 p.m.

Commissioners Boardroom, Courthouse Square, Salem, Oregon

MCPSCC: Colm Willis, Paige Clarkson, Alison Kelley, Troy Gregg, Julie Hoy, Nick Hunter, Pete McCallum, Mike Hartford, and Mike Runyon.

Guests: Trevor Lane

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

1. WELCOME

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS/UPDATES

-All

Announcements

- Grand Jury:
 - Grand jury report was discussed at last meeting at McLaren.
 - New superintendent, Troy Britting, is willing to attend a future meeting to provide update on current conditions:
 - Agree to invite Superintendent Britting to next full meeting on July 14th.
 - Request to include Brendan on agenda:
 - Handled the grand jury for the DA's office.
- Liberty House Annual Lunch:
 - September 17, 2026, on a Thursday.
 - At the Salem Convention Center.
 - Free event.
 - Formal announcement will be sent in July.

Updates

- None.

3. FEDERAL AID AND ASSIST ORDER

-District Attorney (DA) Paige Clarkson

- Overview of New Federal Order:
 - On June 1st, new federal aid-and-assist order issued by Judge Nelson in Disability Rights Oregon / Metropolitan Public Defender litigation.
 - Runs through June 30th, but there is doubt it will truly expire:
 - Likely to be extended or replaced with similar restrictions.
- Key Changes in the Order:
 - Further restricts who can be sent to Oregon State Hospital (OSH) on aid and assist based on charge type.

- Limits how long individuals can remain at OSH:
 - Even when they are clinically considered “restorable.”
- Eliminates 30-day discharge planning periods previously used to coordinate community placements for individuals still unable to aid and assist at release.
- Impacts on Case Types and Public Safety:
 - Certain Class C felony property and related crimes are excluded from OSH admission:
 - Some burglaries, felony theft, identity theft, resisting arrest.
 - Individuals may be repeat community victimizers who can’t access hospital-based treatment.
 - Charge type often understates actual dangerousness, increasing risk to community.
 - For serious violent felonies:
 - Murder, attempted murder, rape, serious assaults.
 - Previously, DA’s office could obtain multiple 180-day extensions at OSH when evaluations found individual restorable.
 - Under new order, there is only one 180-day extension allowed.
 - Known Marion County cases required more than one extension to reach competency:
 - Under current rules, individuals would likely be let go unrestored.
 - Those individuals are under prison or Psychiatric Security Review Board (PSRB) jurisdiction:
 - Showing restoration allowed cases to be resolved.
 - Victims and community to receive closure.
- Systemic and Legal Concerns:
 - Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ), representing OSH and Oregon Health Authority (OHA), did not object to plaintiffs’ motion:
 - Effectively taking no position.
 - Concern that Oregon is not represented from a public safety perspective in federal litigation.
 - Attempts by DAs and counties to participate as amici or intervenors have been largely rebuffed or procedurally blocked:
 - Limits court’s exposure to front-line public safety information.
 - State agencies (OHA, State Hospital, Governor’s Office, DOJ) appear to be:
 - Failing to meet obligations to seriously mentally ill individuals.
 - Simultaneously supporting or acquiescing to federal orders that lower expectations and obligations on OSH.
 - Federal orders are overriding Oregon statutes duly enacted by legislature and signed by governor.
 - Federally appointed court monitor located out-of-state is directing how Oregon operates its mental health system.
 - Undermines democratic process and constitutional order when elected state officials do not push back.
- Legislative Context and Capacity Needs:
 - Significant 2025 long-session legislation was carefully negotiated to address these issues:
 - Laws have not been allowed to take effect due to continuing federal orders.

- Scheduled to sunset in 2027 and possibility of them expiring without being tested.
- Core remedy identified as increased capacity, including:
 - More OSH beds, staff, and resources for those needing hospital-level care and to protect public.
 - More community-based residential and treatment options:
 - Take years to build and staff.
- Investment in community services, but not commensurate expansion of OSH bed capacity, despite OSH's own study finding a need for more beds.
- Major capacity expansions are expensive and politically contentious:
 - Current leadership has shown limited appetite to advance them.
- Next Steps on Aid and Assist Issue:
 - Continue to monitor cases where county could have pursued longer restoration or different placements.
 - Track where individuals are forced back to jail or community unrestored because extensions are not available.
 - Topic will likely need to be revisited after June 30th:
 - Once there is clarity on whether the order is extended or modified.
 - DA's office will prepare short list of illustrative cases showing concrete impacts.

4. REVIEW & APPROVE JULY 14, 2026, AGENDA DRAFT

-All

Summary of presentation:

- Place McLaren superintendent and Brendan Murphy on agenda.
- Potentially including a brief aid-and-assist update:
 - DA to bring example cases and update on status of federal order after June 30th.
- Confirmation of July 14 as the date of the next full Council meeting.

5. OTHER

-All

Summary of presentation:

- Salem City Update / Homelessness and Wallace Marine Park:
 - Current estimated encampment population is under 90, down from historical peak of about 450.
 - Significant cleanup work is underway with Homeless Services Team (HST).
 - Less organized criminal activity / informal governance in park than previously.
 - Concern over newly arriving vulnerable individuals.
 - Ongoing priority to disrupt patterns that draw people into unsafe encampments and street lifestyles.
- Jail Population and Senate Bill 48 / Lodging Criteria:
 - Jail population recently peaked nearly 458:
 - Typical weekday range is 430–445, with higher counts on weekends.
 - Impact of new aid-and-assist order on jail capacity:
 - Especially if individuals cannot go to OSH and must be single-celled.

- Possibly need forced releases for first time in couple of years.
- Work with classification and supervisors to ensure any forced release decisions prioritize public safety.
- Ongoing work group with the courts regarding:
 - Criteria for lodging individuals in jail under Senate Bill 48.
 - Ensuring correct population is held if capacity becomes constrained.
- Juvenile Justice Update:
 - Juvenile facility is busy, with increasing serious and violent offenses among youth.
 - Population recently climbed to around 48 with capacity at 52.
 - Approximately 11–12 youth are currently held on waiver cases for serious charges:
 - Including youth from outside Marion County housed locally.
 - At least one with a significant stay transferred to McLaren on a charge, relieving some pressure.
 - Educational funding challenges:
 - Oregon Department of Education (ODE) is using Average Daily Population (ADP) formula based on older numbers (~23) that do not match current higher populations.
 - Results in inadequate funding for necessary classroom space and education services.
 - Despite pressures:
 - Juvenile department maintains strong programming and community partnerships.
 - Recent graduation ceremony celebrated about dozen youth completing school with support from education advocates.
- Health & Human Services (HHS) Update:
 - New county Health Administrator reports:
 - Significant turnover across multiple HHS divisions due to retirements, changes in leadership, and other factors.
 - Ongoing work to process exception requests and refill critical positions.
 - Public safety relevant areas affected include:
 - Aid and assist/community restoration services.
 - Intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) services.
 - Behavioral health and diversion programs that intersect with law enforcement and courts.
 - Strong performance and rapid response from Behavioral Health Crisis Center (BHCC) and Rapid Engagement, Assessment & Community Health (REACH)/diversion programs:
 - Capacity strained due to increasing demands shifted from state systems.
- Council Membership Adjustments:

MOTION: A motion was made to add Interim Chief Brandon Ditto to the MCPSCC Executive Committee and MCPSCC Full Council

MOTION: was made to add Alicia Gozad (interim juvenile director) to the MCPSCC Executive Committee and MCPSCC Full Council

- City–Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for ODOT Properties (Homeless Encampments):
 - City reports that MOU with ODOT allowing city personnel to operate on ODOT

- properties is stalled at Oregon Department of Justice (DOJ).
 - City requests support to:
 - Move MOU forward so local agencies can help maintain cleared ODOT sites and discourage re-establishment of camps.
 - Oregon State Police (OSP) representative agrees this is helpful and commit to:
 - Following up with ODOT counterparts.
 - Providing feedback to the city on status and next steps.
- Justice Reinvestment & Resource Center Staffing
 - Justice Reinvestment Program funding tied to Restore Center / Resource Center:
 - 2025–27 biennium.
 - Includes a mental health and evaluation specialist position to:
 - Provide crisis support at stabilization center and parole/probation.
 - Offer individual and group therapy and conduct evaluations.
 - Clinical supervision was arranged with HHS.
 - Recruitment challenges:
 - Multiple recruitments failed, low applicant numbers, some unqualified applicants, and several no shows for interviews.
 - Stabilization center currently closed indefinitely:
 - Position increasingly difficult to fill.
 - May not be best use of resources.
 - Anticipated need to return to Council with an amendment to:
 - Eliminate or repurpose that position.
 - Reallocate funds to other needs within the Justice Reinvestment framework.
 - One option is using portion of funds to fully fund Deflection Deputy DA (DDA) for remainder of biennium:
 - Particularly to cover second year step increases.
- Next Steps:
 - Continue monitoring the federal aid-and-assist order and its impacts.
 - Bring case examples and funding reallocation proposals to future meetings.

Commissioner Willis adjourned the meeting.

Minutes Reviewed- MV GW