MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairman Douglas Duncan, Roth and Duncan, P.A.
Paulette Burdick, Commissioner, Palm Beach County
Clarence Ellington, Senior Chaplain, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Leonard Hanser, Administrative Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Jenise Link, Manager, Palm Beach County Pretrial Services Agency
Tommy Richards, Palm Beach County Bail Bond Association
Caroline Shepherd, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
James Smigel, Captain, West Palm Beach Police Department
Alfonso Starling, Major, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Alton Taylor, Executive Director, Drug Abuse Foundation
Louis Tomeo, Director Criminal Court Services, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller
Barbara White, Public Defender's Office

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Rosalyn Baker, Florida Department of Corrections
Jeffrey Colbath, Administrative Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Glenny Cueto, Professional Probation Services, Inc.
Michelle Dryer, Workforce Alliance
Brian Fernandes, Office of the State Attorney
John Kastrenakes, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit
Brandy Macaluso, Victims Rights Coalition
Joseph Marx, Judge, 15th Judicial Circuit

GUESTS PRESENT:

Mevsim Bocaksiz, Drug Abuse Foundation
Mike Edmondson, Office of the State Attorney
Federico Forero, Professional Probation Services, Inc.
Kelly Garsik, Coalition for Independent Living Options
Latronda Hayes, Pretrial Services
Alan Johnson, Office of the State Attorney (for Brian Fernandes)
Tanya Meade, Coalition for Independent Living Options
Andrea Rocha, Office of the Clerk and Comptroller
Welcome, Opening Comments by Chairman Douglas Duncan

Chairman Douglas Duncan gave a special welcome to Rev. Clarence Ellington, newest Corrections Task Force member.

Roll Call and Introduction of Guests

Chairman Duncan gave a special welcome to Captain Robert Tutko who replaced Captain Alan Fuhrman who had retired. Chairman Duncan recognized Captain Fuhrman as a great asset to the committee.

Approval and/or Additions to the agenda

The agenda was approved without changes.

Approval and/or Amendments to the May 4, 2016 Minutes of the Corrections Task Force/Public Safety Coordinating Council Meeting

The minutes of the May 4, 2016 meeting were approved without amendments.

Reports

A. Jail Population Report

Major Alfonso Starling reported that the population as of that morning was at 2,136.

B. In House Arrest Report

Total In-House Arrest population as of that morning was 225; pretrial 110 (including 2 direct filed juveniles); 112 county sentenced – probation 0, DJJ 3; and zero AO. Pay and go for the month was 184. Chair Duncan asked if the East...
Tower is closed, and for how long. Major Starling said that it will be closed roughly until the end of the year; once it comes back online, the West Tower will close.

C. Pretrial Services Report

Ms. Jenise Link reported that as of yesterday there were a total of 926 defendants on SOR; 531 of these individuals were on SOR only, and 395 were on SOR with accompanying money bond. Of the 531 on SOR only, 11 remained in custody for other holds or bonds; 3 awaiting treatment; and 8 with other charges or bonds. The total out-of-custody SOR population was 796. Compared to last month, they were up by about 75 people; compared to last year this month, they were down by about 50 people. The violations report reflected April; there are a total of 84 signed warrants that came back for SOR violations.

D. Juvenile Detention Center Report

Superintendent Mamine Saintil reported that they were housing a total of 48 juveniles; 42 males, 6 females. About 4 will be leaving today. Superintendent Saintil said that their numbers were relatively high, so they were moving kids around to bring down their numbers.

E. Misdemeanor Probation Report

Federico Forero reported that they had 130 new cases; a total active cases of 2,039; 135 successfully completed cases; 26 cases were revoked.

VI. Old Business

A. MacArthur Foundation Safety & Justice Challenge Grant Announcement – Kristina Henson, CJC Executive Director

Kristina Henson reported on the Network Challenge meeting that the core group attended in Chicago a week ago. The meeting is held twice a year where they bring together the 20 sites receiving the MacArthur funding to share experiences ideas, and get direction. Ms. Henson found out that as one of the nine partner (not fully funded) sites, they were not far off base from the other sites; that it was more a matter of picking sites across the nation that are more unique. But Ms. Henson said that as they are putting together the proposal for next year, she is pretty confident in getting some of the 1.5M-3.5M funding that the other sites are receiving to really do some more work and implement more things. Ms. Henson also talked in greater detail the many things they are doing such as bringing in the Corporation for Supportive Housing to establish for them a stakeholder workgroup and implementation plan. Ms. Henson also gave an update on what they are doing in terms of a risk assessment, as requested by Chair Duncan; they are right now putting in place a contract with the National Pretrial Justice Institute for technical
assistance which will kick-off on June 24th. Commissioner Paulette Burdick asked if the money can be used towards DJJ efforts; Ms. Henson replied that the funding is specifically targeted for the jails.

B. SB12 Update / Heroin Overdose Task Force – Alton Taylor, Drug Abuse Foundation (Palm Beach Post article attached.)

Alton Taylor referred to the attached Palm Beach Post article on the first Heroin Overdose Task Force meeting held at the Fire Rescue Center in West Palm Beach. Mr. Taylor talked about the history of how the task force came about. Fire Rescue gave a presentation to the managing entity on the nature of this epidemic, and the number of overdoses and deaths, which are quite staggering. The goal of the task force is to look at how to address the problem, especially the big challenge of increasing capacity. They are looking at the feasibility of using the Stockade as one of the ways in rapidly building capacity, especially as a secure facility; also consistent with the requirement in SB12 for the managing entity to establish a central receiving area. Mr. Taylor also discussed the other aspects of the problem, such as the unintended consequences of the use of Narcan as antidote. Chair Duncan asked how was the suggestion of using the Stockade received. Mr. Taylor said it will be ultimately the decision of the county commission. But that Chief Deputy Mike Gauger’s position, Co-Chair of the task force, is that it is a viable option but that the Sheriff’s Office would not have the funds to pay for any operation. Judge Leonard Hanser asked about the issue of locating or treating non-criminal clients (Marchman Act) in the same facility; to which Mr. Taylor said it is possible if the facility is set up appropriately as an addiction receiving facility.

Judge Caroline Shepherd also added to the discussion other considerations such as the approach to the two different kinds of people addicted to heroin – those who are ready to stop using heroin, and the majority who are not. She talked about a proposal that she has made regarding a post-adjudicatory drug court which would also address only defendants who are looking up to only 60 months in prison who have pending felony charges, but who also want to be in treatment. She mentioned about the LEAD program out of Seattle which has shown some success. The program involves a whole different mindset than what we are used to; where recovering addicts are paired with a law enforcement officer. Mr. Taylor agreed with Judge Shepherd about looking at all the options, as there are no silver-bullets; but first to look at the people who want help, and increase capacity for these people.

Chair Duncan asked about the former CARP. Mr. Taylor said all he knows was that they have acquired a building that they will be using as a sober house-type of facility, first as a men’s unit, then later open a women’s unit. Judge Shepherd clarified that the old CARP we knew is now a for-profit treatment center; and Mr. Taylor is referring to the new, not-for-profit, revitalized CARP which is two new buildings with 28 beds – one for men, one for women, which are sober homes, not detox or treatment centers.

C. Bond Schedule Review Update – Chairman Douglas Duncan
Chair Duncan reported that the subcommittee met on May 25, 2016, and will be meeting again to vote on some items which they will bring back to the Corrections Task Force to review before it goes to the full CJC.

VII. New Business

A. Sober Homes Task Force – Al Johnson, State Attorney’s Office
   Item was discussed earlier by Chair Duncan.

   Mr. Al Johnson gave a brief overview of a very complex issue of heroin overdose, evidenced by horrific statistics, which does not touch upon the criminal justice system as much as it does the recovery industry. He mentioned about the bill that did not pass in the legislature which proposed to put regulations on the marketing aspect of the recovery industry. So the legislature then contracted with the SAO to conduct a study and strengthen investigation and prosecution of criminal and regulatory violations within the substance abuse treatment industry and establish a task force to identify various statutory clarifications and enhancements to existing law.

VIII. Additional member and guest comments

Chair Duncan announced that the committee will not meet on July 6th. He also asked Reverend Ellington for a few words. Reverend Ellington said he was glad to be there, and that he is very interested in the issue of heroin overdose, which he hears a lot about living in South County. He is also especially concerned about the sober homes that are located in communities, next door to families, particularly in Delray, which are not regulated.

IX. Adjournment

Next Meeting: August 3, 2016; 12:00 P.M.