



Tulare County Community Corrections Partnership

Minutes – April 14, 2025

Committee Name:	Community Corrections Partnership	Starting Time: 2:00 p.m.	Ending Time: 2:31 p.m.
Place:	Probation Headquarters – Administration Conference Room		
Executive Committee Present:	Kelly Vernon, Chief Probation Officer (Chair), Tulare County Probation Department; Erin Brooks, Public Defender, Tulare County Public Defender’s Office; Jessica Nevarez, Director of Court Operations, Tulare County Superior Court (proxy for Stephanie Cameron, Court Executive Officer, Tulare County Superior Court); Dr. Natalie Bolin, Mental Health Director, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency (proxy for Donna Ortiz, Director, Tulare County Health and Human Services); Jason Salazar, Chief of Police, City of Visalia, Police Department; Tim Ward, District Attorney, Tulare County District Attorney’s Office		
Executive Committee Absent:	Mike Boudreaux, Sheriff-Coroner, Tulare County Sheriff’s Office; Stephanie Cameron, Court Executive Officer, Tulare County Superior Court; Donna Ortiz, HHSA Director, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency		
Members Present:	Andy Swarthout, Captain, City of Visalia, Police Department; Joe Torres, Assistant Sheriff, Tulare County Sheriff’s Office		
Members Absent:	Jason T. Britt, County Administrative Officer, Tulare County Administrative Office; Mary Escarsega-Fechner, Executive Director, C-SET, Inc; Tim Hire, Superintendent, Tulare County Office of Education; Adam Peck, Director, Workforce Investment Board; Dan Underwood, Chief Deputy District Attorney, Tulare County District Attorney’s Office; Ron Westphal, Assistant Public Defender, Tulare County Public Defender’s Office		
County Staff Present:	Margarita Luna, Deputy Chief Probation Officer, Tulare County Probation Department; Robert Hernandez, Senior Administrative Analyst, Tulare County Administrative Office; Yesenia Magaña-Rocha, Staff Services Analyst, Tulare County Probation Department; Megan Pinheiro, Lieutenant, Tulare County Sheriff’s Office; Steve Sanchez, Captain, Tulare County Sheriff’s Office		

Guests Present:	None
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	Discussion	Person(s) Responsible
I. Call to Order	Chief Vernon called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.	Chief Vernon
II. Public Comments	None	Chief Vernon
III. Announcements	None	Chief Vernon
IV. New Business a. Probation Updates b. HHSA – CCP funding presentation	<p>There were no major updates to report. Caseload numbers have been staying about the same.</p> <p>Dr. Natalie Bolin presented on HHSA’s use of CCP funds. HHSA has an Integrated Wellness Services (IWS) contract for medical and behavioral health services in jails. The IWS program follows Title 15 and Title 24 and is accredited by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.</p> <p>IWS falls under Precision Psychiatry, a psychiatric staffing company that has over 10 years of experience providing services in California. HHSA is contracting with them for both medical and behavioral health services. This is the vendor’s first year providing both services; previously they had only provided behavioral health services. Medical services include dental and vision, while behavioral health services include psychiatric assessments, crisis response, pharmaceutical management, substance use disorder treatment, a jail-based competency treatment program, and early access to stabilization services. The current vendor also has a court process in place to provide involuntary medication orders as needed. Services are being provided in-person to clients. This is a change from HHSA’s previous vendor, who would use telehealth to provide services and would not provide involuntary medication orders.</p> <p>HHSA just had an audit on this program. Competency restoration is trending at 86% restoration rate, whereas the state is trending at 72%. In-person psychiatric services and medication play a large factor in the high restoration rate. Additionally, only 4% of clients are sent to state hospitals vs the 24% that other programs are sending. The rejection rate for the IWS program is at 4% vs the 23% rejection rate across the state. HHSA performs regular reviews and adjusts as needed based on client needs and HHSA feedback. Trends show a slight increase in the current Average Daily Population. Prop 36 may impact these numbers in the future.</p>	Chief Vernon Dr. Natalie Bolin

	Discussion	Person(s) Responsible
IV. New Business (continued)		
b. HHSA – CCP funding presentation (continued)	The Public Defender’s Office will present at the upcoming meeting on their use of CCP funds.	Chief Vernon
V. Action Items		
a. Approve CCP Minutes		Chief Vernon
i. January 13, 2025	Motion to approve: Tim Ward. 2 nd : Jason Salazar. The action was unanimously approved.	
b. CCP Funding Distribution		
i. Sheriff Department Funding Request	The Sheriff’s Office requested CCP funds to purchase (2) new Body Scanners for its two booking facilities, the South County Detention Center and the Adult Pre-Trial Facility. The current body scanners are from 2014 and are non-serviceable, with one being non-operable. The CLEARPASS full-body X-ray scanners from LINEV systems would provide the booking facilities with advanced high-resolution imaging and detection capabilities. The system is designed to detect contraband via non-intrusive inspection and has drug detection software that provides real-time alerts. The scanner provides imaging in (3) seconds while the inspected person remains stationary; up to 200 incarcerated persons can be processed per hour. This fiscal year, the Sheriff’s Office is projecting to discover more weapons and narcotics than last year due to an increase in the 1170 population (approximately 1% as of 3/31) and the increasing sophistication of smuggling methods. The body scanners are projected to help reduce those numbers by up to 90% over traditional methods by detecting items such as weapons, electronics, narcotics, ceramics, and plastic. It also prevents smuggling by acting as a deterrent. A reduction in contraband smuggling would reduce costly investigations, legal issues, and violence. The body scanners can integrate with other detection technologies and provide a comprehensive approach to facility safety. They would reduce the need for physical contact and manual searches, which would lead to fewer confrontations and staff injuries. This would also enhance operational efficiency by freeing up staff for other important tasks.	Lt. Megan Pinheiro
V. Action Items (continued)		

	Discussion	Person(s) Responsible
b. CCP Funding Distribution (continued) i. Sheriff Department Funding Request (continued)	<p>The CCP committee was presented with a funding request of \$331,222 to cover the (2) full-body scanners. This amount will come from the CCP's funding reserves.</p> <p>Motion to approve: Jason Salazar. 2nd: Dr. Natalie Bolin.</p> <p>The action was unanimously approved.</p>	Lt. Megan Pinheiro
Next Meeting Date:	July 14, 2025, at 2:00 PM	Chief Vernon
Minutes Prepared By:	Yesenia Magaña-Rocha, Staff Services Analyst	
MINUTES READ / APPROVED BY: Kelly Vernon, Chief Probation Officer		