Skagit County Law & Justice Council

Lisa Tremblay Sup/Juv Court Admin Chair **Charlie Wend** Jail Commander Vice-Chair **Rob Sullivan** Director PHS Member-at-Large **Cathy Sisk** Jail/Court Coordinator Executive Assistant

WEDNESDAY, January 13, 2016 8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Attendance:

| WILL REICHARDT | CHARLIE WEND | TIM HOLLORAN | LISA TREMBLAY |
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| DON MCDERMOTT | LISA JANICKI | DAVE NEEDY | DEANNIE NELSON |
| SARAH HINMAN | CATHY SISK | SHARON WHITTAKER | MARC ESTVOLD |
| LADESSA CROUCHER | AUDRA JUNG | MAREN ANDERSON | JOE VALENTINE |
| MARK RAAKA | MAVIS BETZ | REBECCA CLARK | ROB SULLIVAN |
| DALE RAGAN | LIN TUCKER | MISTY BARGANSKI | MATT MILLER |
| STEVE BERENSTSON | JOSIE BOGGS | | |
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I. Welcome – Lisa Tremblay, Chair

Chair Lisa Tremblay called the meeting to order at approximately 8:15 a.m. and welcomed the Council and guests.

II. Introductions

All present introduced themselves with the names listed above.

Chair Tremblay reviewed the purpose of the Law and Justice Council as set forth in RCW 72.09.300. She also introduced the new Executive Board for the 2016 year.

III. Review and approval of December 9, 2015 minutes

The minutes from December 9, 2015 Law & Justice Council meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved.

IV. Jail Update by Marc Estvold

The jail construction project is going along well with foundation work estimated to begin in the next few weeks. Crews are about halfway through installation of the 2,000 aggregate piers that will stabilize the site against settlement and earthquakes. Fill work is ongoing. Utilities are going in.

The jail will be built two feet above the floodplain, about five feet above the existing grade. Continue to work closely with Department of Ecology on initiatives including de-watering due to a seasonal high water table.

V. Presentation : Jail Transitions: Mental Health for the Jail by Josie Boggs, Pioneer Human Services

Josie Boggs gave an informative report on her work with inmates with mental health issues as they prepare to transition back to life outside of the jail. She works with an average of 25-30 individuals per month, assisting with issues ranging from enrollment in public health programs to housing and post-release services. She works with clients for a three month period, including those individuals who do not fall into the category of needing high contact support but still need a lot of contact.

Ms. Boggs works primarily with individuals in the community where they live, but future discussions may include case work and release plans on site at the jail prior to the individual's release.

Transitional housing is also a challenge with community resistance. Discussion regarding transitional housing needs ensued.

VI. Announcements

Sheriff Will Reichardt shared that the SCSO Pro-Active team started this week.

Anacortes Councilman Matt Miller shared that Xander, Anacortes Police drug dog, is now working.

County Administrator Tim Holloran thanked Ms. Boggs, and others like her, for doing what they can to help with the problem of inmates with mental health issues and preparing to transition back to life outside of the jail.

Joe Valentine shared that in April or May funding for drug and alcohol related issues, as well as for mental illness, will be accepted at North Sound Mental Health Administration.

Skagit County Public Health is hosting a Housing Summit on January 22, 2016 at McIntyre Hall to address the housing crisis in Skagit County.

VII. Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 10, 2016, 8:15 a.m.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.