

**Skagit County Law and Justice Council
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 13th, 2013, 8:15 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE:

CHARLIE WEND	RICH WEYRICH	JOAN CROMLEY
DAVE NEEDY	KEN DAHLSTEDT	TIM HOLLORAN
RON WESEN	SHARON DILLON	ROXANE GOSS
WILL REICHARDT	JENNIFER KINGSLEY	MARC ESTVOLD
BONNIE BOWERS	JOE VALENTINE	LADESSA CROUCHER
ALAN ERICKSON	RON COAKLEY	LAURIE JAROLIMEK

Today's meeting began at 8:20 a.m. with introductions and a welcome from **Chairman, Will Reichardt**.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

There was a motion and second by the Council that the February 13th, 2013 meeting minutes be approved. The motion passed.

PROGRAM: Bill Henkle with Community Action and **Melissa Self**, Housing Project Manager detailed the Coordinated Homeless Project for Skagit County which began in February. Their top priority is getting homeless housed and back to stability in the community. They accomplish this by capturing resources that were previously untapped and coordinating scattered resources. Right now there are 2 full time housing specialists on staff working with homeless who have been referred to them.

JAIL FACILITY TASK FORCE: Marc Estvold, Project Manager

To recap: 3 sites are still being considered for a proposed new 300-400 bed jail. Members and the public are agreed on the need for a new, larger jail. The remaining issue to resolve is funding. The Commissioners will have their funding plan ready to present at the next meeting of the Jail Coordinating Council on Friday, March 22, 2013. The goal is to have the new jail as a ballot item in August, 2013.

Tim Holloran and **Will Reichardt** both mentioned that a Citizen's Group to support this ballot item will need to be organized. The Group would be organized outside the County structure to handle: Publicity, such as a letter to the editor campaign; Advertising, such as yard signs; and Community support, such as a speakers group to ensure the new jail building will be on the ballot in the Fall, 2013. Anyone interested should contact **Marc Estvold** at the Commissioner's office.

ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Chief Bonnie Bowers urged support of HB1911 which relates to health care services for inmates in city, county, and regional jails

Tim Holloran thanked **Chief Bowers** and **Sheriff Reichardt** and all law enforcement and agencies who participated in support of the Special Olympics Polar Plunge, which raised \$9000 for their worthy cause.

Any organizations who would like to make announcements can either do so in person at the meeting, or submit the information to lauriej@co.skagit.wa.us ahead of time to ensure it is included on the agenda.

NEXT MEETING- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April, 10th, 2013.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:12.

Approved: 4/10/13_____