

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

Don Marlow
Chief of Corrections
Chair

Lisa Janicki
Commissioner
Vice-Chair

Jennifer Bononi
Clinical Supvr, PHS
Member-at-Large

Catherine Sisk
Jail/Court Coordinator
Secretary

WEDNESDAY, March 13, 2019
8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Attendance:

DON MCDERMOTT
LIN TUCKER
DONNELL AUSTIN
MARGARET ROJAS
DANIKA TROUPE

ANNETTE LINDQUIST
SAMANTHA RUSSELL
MATT MILLER
JERRY DODD
MIKE LUVERA

JULIA JOHNSON
KRISTEN EKSTRAN
PAUL WOLFE
DEANNIE NELSON
DEANNA RANDALL-
SECRET

CATHERINE SISK
JOHN SMALL
AMIE TIDRINGTON
TIM HOLLORAN

I. Welcome – Don McDermott, Sheriff

Sheriff Don McDermott called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. and welcomed the Council and guests.

II. Introductions

Attendees, present at the start of the meeting, introduced themselves. The list of names of those attending the meeting is listed above.

III. Review and approval of January minutes

The minutes from the January 9, 2019 Law & Justice Council meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve the minutes was brought by John Small. Second by Donnell Austin. Motion carries.

IV. Presentation: Opioid Crisis: Opportunities for Law Enforcement Agencies. By Kristen Ekstran, Community Planner, Skagit County Public Health

Washington State is currently experiencing an opioid overdose epidemic. The Washington State Opioid Response Plan outlines the goals, strategies, and actions that state agencies are implementing or planning to implement in the near future. The four priority goals are:

**Sheriff's Office Training Room, Public Safety Building
600 South Third Street, Mount Vernon**

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

1. Prevent opioid misuse and abuse
2. Identify and treat opioid use disorder
3. Reduce morbidity and mortality from opioid use disorder
4. Use data and information to detect opioid misuse/abuse, monitor morbidity and mortality, and evaluate interventions.

Opportunities/ideas for law enforcement agencies to become involved include:

- Diversion programs
- Therapeutic Courts
- Expand embedded social worker position to other LE agencies
- Release from incarceration: How well prepared are inmates after release
- Training
- Team approach

For a more detailed analysis of the presentation, please go to the Law and Justice website located at skagitcounty.net for a review of the presentation materials.

V. Announcements

SCSO Deputy Paul Wolfe discussed the burdens to impoverished families of the Concrete community, and surrounding vicinity, to travel the distance to court hearings in Mount Vernon. Deputy Wolfe would like to make a presentation to the Law & Justice Council on the possibility of having District Court travel to Concrete on a regular basis, so hearings could be held there for those who live in the vicinity.

Lt. Randall-Secret advised the jail must retrofit the jail bunks. The jail will need to reduce its current population to be at 250 inmates in order to accomplish this retrofit of the bunks. Plans to start work in early May 2019.

Jerry Dodd advised that MVPD is bringing on graduate students to work with their social worker, to be able to reach out to more people in need.

Samantha Russell discussed the secure medicine return program. It is free to participants who would like to switch out their current drug drop boxes.

Deannie Nelson – District Court has been working on getting Therapeutic Court going. She will check status on where it is at in the process.

Skagit County Law & Justice Council

Group discussion about starting up an Opioid Crisis Core Group – the group would meet and put forward steps to work on towards the common goals of dealing with the opioid crisis in Skagit County.

VI. Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 8, 2019

VII. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.