

**Skagit County Law and Justice Council
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 13th, 2012, 8:15 a.m.**

ATTENDANCE:

KEN BERGSMA	GREGG FREEMAN	CHARLIE WEND
JENNIFER KINGLSLEY	DON McDERMOTT	TIM HOLLORAN
LETTY ALVAREZ	JOE VALENTINE	WILL REICHARDT
DELILAH GEORGE	DALE RAGAN	MARC ESTVOLD
LaDESSA CROUCHER	DEANNIE NELSON	PAM SPRINGER
PETER BROWNING	LINSI BURTON	ROXANE GOSS
LAURIE JAROLIMEK	ALAN ERICKSON	LIN TUCKER
SARAH HINMAN		

Today's meeting began at 8:15 a.m. with introductions and a welcome from **Ken Bergsma**, *Mount Vernon Police Chief and Law & Justice Council Chairman*.

Previous Meeting Minutes:

There was a motion and second by the Council that the May 9th, 2012 meeting minutes be approved. The motion passed.

PROGRAM:

Dept of Fish & Wildlife – DFW Officer, RICHARD PHILLIPS, spoke to the Council on current issues and challenges DFW faces such as protecting local waters against invasive species, and exotic and/or dangerous wildlife problems, and how budget cuts have drastically reduced the number of DFW agents covering a very large geographical area.

Jail RSAT Program – Deputy Julie Zorn, Skagit County Jail RSAT Liaison, gave a presentation on the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment (RSAT) program currently operating in the jail. One of her duties is as a liaison between the Jail and Skagit Recovery Center. Inmates are selected for this program. Currently there are 2 programs of 12 inmates operating in the Skagit County Jail. The program helps inmates develop life skills to be able to change their substance abuse pattern, and continue their recovery once released, breaking the recidivism cycle.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES:

DOC UPDATE: Gregg Freeman, DOC Supervision, Due in part to budget cuts, and with new research findings (see handout), DOC is initiating a new policy of Swift and Certain punishment. Serious offenders will be immediately sanctioned for violations, and put in jail for 1-3 days. Studies are showing that immediate consequences are more effective than longer jail stays, and will also save money.

JAIL FACILITY TASK FORCE: Marc Estvold announced that the first meeting of the Jail Coordinating Council would meet on Thursday, June 14th. They hope to come up with a schedule to include significant milestones such as decisions on location, size of facility, financing, fee structure based on bed rate. A facilitator has been hired to preside over these meetings and speed up the process. The Jail program was presented to La Conner officials recently and was well received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

NEXT MEETING- The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 11th, 2012. There will be no meeting in AUGUST

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

Approved __7/11/12_____