

# Skagit County Law & Justice Council

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**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  
Secretary

WEDNESDAY, October 12, 2016  
8:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

## Attendance:

LISA TREMBLAY  
ROXANE GOSS  
JERRY DODD  
FOREST JACOBSON

CHARLIE WEND  
JORGE MAZANERA  
CATHY SISK

WILL REICHARDT  
BONNIE BOWERS  
LETTY ALVAREZ

TIM HOLLORAN  
MICHELLE COOK  
LISA LEE

## 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.

## III. Review and approval of September 14, 2016 minutes

The minutes from September 14, 2016 Law & Justice Council meeting were reviewed. The minutes were approved as presented.

## IV. Jail Update

Work is ongoing regarding the naming monument at the corner of Suzanne Lane and Old 99. The name of the new jail facility will be the Skagit County Community Justice Center. This name reflects the presence of a courtroom in the complex, as well as helping focus attention on the robust programming intended to occur in the Justice Center.

Chief Wend talked about getting a tour of the new “Justice Center” together for this group. The challenge is getting a tour during construction, but Charlie will look into it and see what he can work out.

Roxane Goss of Information Services is working on a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Justice Center’s Inmate Communication System. Timelines have been set

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and we expect to have interest from a number of vendors. We are hoping to choose vendors for services early next year. A lot of new technology is going in that we haven't used before, like video conferencing and tablets for inmate use in visitation, medical, and, for example, filing grievances, and kites.

The retention pond water and soils have all come out clean. The hydro-seed went down yesterday. From the outside the jail is starting to look finished.

There continues to be a challenge with finding and hiring staff for the jail. We continue to seek applicants for open positions.

- V. The Spider Effect – a presentation by Michelle Cook, Superior Court Family Law Facilitator, about her role in helping pro-se (self-represented) litigants navigate the court system

Michelle Cook gave an informative presentation on her role as Superior Court Family Law Facilitator. The Family Law Facilitators provide assistance, coordination, development and direction of services relating to family law issues for unrepresented litigants.

## VI. Elections for the 2017 Executive Board

Charlie Wend has agreed to fulfill the role of Chair for the 2017 year.

Lisa Tremblay will fill the role of Vice-Chair and Rob Sullivan will continue as Member-at-Large.

Cathy Sisk will be vacating the position of Secretary to the Executive Board at the end of 2016. The Board is seeking a volunteer to take over beginning January 2017.

## VII. Announcements

Chair Lisa Tremblay announced that Judge Michael Rickert will be retiring on June 30, 2017. Judge Rickert is the longest serving Judge in the history of Skagit County.

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APD Chief Bonnie Bowers announced that APD Captain Lou D'Amelio is the new Police Chief at Swinomish PD. Chief Bowers is retiring April 3, 2017.

MVPD Chief Jerry Dodd mentioned they have three good candidates for the social worker position. They are currently in the polygraph phase. Background checks on applicants will start next week. They hope to have the position up and running within four weeks.

Sheriff Will Reichardt talked about the mall shooting and the collective response of the SMART team.

Chief Dodd added that having a SMART team allows law enforcement access to resources provided by federal partnerships.

Tim Holloran asked that people get out to the Cascade mall and show support.

VIII. **Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 8:15 a.m.**

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