

MASON COUNTY CRIMINAL JUSTICE WORKING TEAM
June 18, 2014
MEETING MINUTES

Chair Jim Madsen called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m. in the Mason County Commission Chambers, Shelton, WA. An attendance roster was circulated. A quorum was present.

Adoption of Minutes

The May 21, 2014 minutes were accepted as published.

Jail Population Report

Chief Haugen gave the population reports. Currently Mason County is housing the following:

Males: 93

Females: 21

He also gave an update on the status of the jail and inmate populations since a state of emergency was declared. The average daily jail population for May 2014 was 114 with a goal of 104. They are still over their goal but are managing. He also commented that work on the Direct Supervision Unit (DSU) has not been started yet.

It was also mentioned that they only have six female staff so they may need to move some of the female inmates to other facilities if possible and ask the court to utilize the Non-violent Offender Program at sentencing.

Judge Sheldon responded that this alternative hasn't entirely been discussed and added that per RCW 9.94A.734 drug offenders cannot be on home monitoring and that they do use home monitoring and the DUI program as alternate sentencing.

Chief Haugen stated that this program has been discussed but is not utilized very much and should be utilized more often.

Undersheriff Barrett commented that the Non-Violent Offender Program is different than the home monitoring or DUI programs and feels that it would be good to utilize this program more often.

Everyone agrees that this program should be explained and discussed further at a separate meeting.

Judge Sheldon asked that they also discuss the Swift and Certain program at that time as these sanctions are also taking up bed space at the jail.

Jim Madsen agreed that further discussion is needed regarding the Non Violent Offender Program as an alternative to incarceration.

Department of Corrections County of Origin Notification Form

There were no DOC Reports

Public Safety and Criminal Justice Task Force: Cmmr. Jeffreys gave an update on the Public Safety and Criminal Justice Citizens Task Force. They have been discussing the staffing issues at the jail and alternatives in sentencing. The task force is new so they are still in the gathering of information stage and determining the best way to receive information. The next Criminal Justice Task Force meeting will be tonight at 6:00 p.m.

Agency/Department Updates

Dept of Corrections - Steve Demars thanked the Judges for using Web-Ex for hearings.

City of Shelton - Chief Les Watson commented that they are short staffed but doing the best they can.

Mason County Sheriff - Sheriff Salisbury mentioned that recruiting is difficult as the pay is not competitive. He also introduced Washington State Patrol Sgt. Kevin Bell.

George Steele stated that they are currently in the process of hiring a Community Coordinator. The city has signed a contract with Nisqually to assist with alternatives to Mason County Jail.

Washington State Patrol - Lieutenant Dennis Bosman commented that WSP has many vacant positions at this time as well.

Tom Davis informed everyone about Mason County Veterans Mentoring and shared that he is hoping this program will be an alternative to incarceration by allowing veterans to have mentors and programs in lieu of jail. He left some business cards and brochures.

Harris Haertel commented that the Veterans Mentor program is a great opportunity and may take time to get off the ground but progress in being made.

Court Clerk Ginger Brooks shared new information about offender legal financial obligations (LFOs).

Judge Toni Sheldon brought up concerns regarding the Mason County Juvenile Detention Center.

Undersheriff James Barrett thanked staff regarding ending arbitration. He also thanked all law enforcement as well as fire, medical and all who assisted with the incident at BHR a couple weeks ago.

Future Agenda Topics

The following items were brought up as future agenda topics:

1. Clarification on the Non Violent Offender Program.
2. Swift and Certain Sanctions act and how it effects jail population.

Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, July 16, 2014.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Almanzor
Clerk of the Board

