



Law and Justice Council of Thurston County  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, January 21, 2021  
4:30 pm – 6:00 pm

Welcome and Introductions:

The Council Meeting was conducted over Zoom for Council members, and over the phone via conference call for members of the public to call in. Public Defense Director Patrick O'Connor called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM. Welcome and introductions were made and an electronic sign in sheet is on record.

The minutes from October 15, 2020 meeting were approved.

Restorative Justice:

Jon Tunheim led a discussion about the partnership with the Dispute Resolution Center (DRC) of Thurston County and Thurston County Drug Court. He introduced Jody Suhrbier, Executive Director of DRC. The goals discussed by Ms. Suhrbier were to engage in challenging conversations, deepen the ability to listen, what harm was experienced, voluntary process, coaching, intake, understanding, spirit of readiness and willingness. Using a similar model of victim/offender (without using the word victim) mediation, all that have been impacted and identified. This partnership will be an opportunity for those involved to make amends, accept responsibility and be directly involved in outcome and move on. There will be a thorough referral process, starting small, a handful of cases. Launching pilot this month, great opportunity, expect some growing pains.

APPR Project Update:

Patrick O'Connor introduced Pre-Trial Services Director, Marianne Clear to provide an update on the APPR project. She explained that it has been 18 months into the project and delays so far on progress has been due to COVID. Governing board needed for risk assessment tool; workgroup identified business need. Applied resource action site be able to have risk assessment tool eval in the fall. We will have two years of our data to look at as process to identify violence and mapped processes in superior court and district court. Work on therapeutic providers and going through communication workgroup and putting that together.

LEAD Overview:

Patrick O'Connor introduced Mary Ann O'Garro, Epidemiologist, Public Health and Social Services, to the council to provide a LEAD overview. She provided a thorough presentation on what LEAD is, and the opportunity Public Health had to apply for the pilot program to expand diversion in Thurston County. Still working with HCA, if fully approved bringing 6 full time staff members. Timeline when contract signed by BoCC end of March 60 day turnaround through spring.

### Resource Center Project Overview:

Patrick O'Connor introduced Thurston County Commissioner, Tye Menser to provide an overview on the resource center in Thurston County. The resource center was an idea looked into last year; a property was identified but the space was too big. Came across some unused county space (small space in building 4) that had potential. Board and Budget was earmarked; working with Diane from Olympia's Community Court and other stakeholders. Concept seems to work well, big vision, great synergy with LEAD, on campus where services are needed, start small, adjacent to Pre-Trial Services. More to come.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 PM.

**Please Note: All minutes & materials from the Law and Justice Council meetings can be found online. Go to [www.co.thurston.wa.us](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us) at top of page, click on commissioners and on left hand side, scroll down and click on Law and Justice Council.**