



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

Welcome & Introductions

The council meeting was conducted via Zoom. Public Defense Director Patrick O'Connor called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Motion to approve minutes from the July 15, 2021 meeting made by Sherriff Snaza and seconded by Tumwater Councilmember Jefferson, unanimous approval by the council.

Updates from July 15th meeting

- **LEAD program update**

Jason Bean-Mortenson and Joe Avalos from Thurston Mason BHASO provided an update on the LEAD program. They have seen a steady increase in client volume, and referring partners such as Dept of Corrections, Olympia Crisis Response Unit and potentially adding city of Yelm. Funding from the Blake bill for recovery navigators will allow for new LEAD teams in Thurston and Mason counties. They aim to expand referrals from agencies such as firefighters and emergency medical services. Referrals can come from social contacts, not just arrest situations.

- **Tracking Defendants Discussion**

Public Defense and Prosecuting Attorney's office met to discuss process for better tracking defendants. Yelm Councilmember Carmody asked to see notes from this meeting, and to follow-up with Patrick.

Data Discussion

The committee reviewed the data subcommittee proposal from Leah Landon, Criminal Justice Program Manager. Collecting, analyzing, and communicating criminal justice data across the sector is a primary responsibility of the Law and Justice Council.

The proposed subcommittee would convene quarterly with two identified phases. Phase 1 to identify what data is held where, and what is missing, by bringing together data gatherers, such as public defense, prosecuting attorney, sheriff's office, and local police to break down the silos. Phase 2 is to create a data warehouse as a single data master data source for best analysis of programs and participants. During phase 2 the subcommittee is formalized as the Data Governance Council, who accepts/rejects requests for use of data.

No budget has been allocated for this project. Sheriff Snaza suggested connecting with Sole Source in Colorado who does this work. Judge Wilson asked that the Clerk and Superior Court Administrator be added to the subcommittee, and Councilmember Carmody asked if gathering data in this way has been addressed by the courts. Steve Tilley asked that we be clear about what we are trying to measure and why, and to identify what problems are we trying to solve with this data gathering. Carrie Hennen suggested running a parallel process of looking at what data is currently in existence.

Next steps include:

- Formalize subcommittee- send name and contact information to Leah Landon if interested in joining by 10/29
- Initial meetings to determine where to do we stand, what do we need to improve
- Aim to have skeleton outlined by the first part of 2022

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33pm.

Please Note: All minutes & materials from the Law and Justice Council meetings can be found online. Go to 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.